# Recognizability in Stochastic Monoids 

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#### Abstract

Stochastic monoids and stochastic congruences are introduced and the syntactic stochastic monoid $M_{L}$ associated to a subset $L$ of a stochastic monoid $M$ is constructed. It is shown that $M_{L}$ is minimal among all stochastic epimorphisms $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ whose kernel saturates $L$. The subset $L$ is said to be stochastically recognizable whenever $M_{L}$ is finite. The so obtained class is closed under boolean operations and inverse morphisms.


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## 1 Introduction

A stochastic subset of a set $M$ is a function $F: M \rightarrow[0,1]$ with the additional property $\Sigma_{m \in M} F(m)=1$, i.e., $F$ is a discrete probability distribution. The corresponding class is denoted by $\operatorname{Stoc}(M)$. Our subject of study, in the present paper, are stochastic monoids which were introduced in [4]. A stochastic monoid is a set $M$ equipped with a stochastic multiplication $M \times M \rightarrow \operatorname{Stoc}(M)$ which is associative and unitary. It can be viewed as a nondeterministic monoid (cf. [1, 2, 3]) with multiplication $M \times M \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(M)$ such that for all $m_{1}, m_{2} \in M$ a discrete probability distribution is assigned on the set $m_{1} \cdot m_{2}$.

A congruence on a stochastic monoid $M$ is an equivalence $\sim$ on $M$ such that $m_{1} \sim m_{1}^{\prime}$ and $m_{2} \sim m_{2}^{\prime}$ imply

$$
\sum_{n \in C}\left(m_{1} \cdot m_{2}\right)(n)=\sum_{n \in C}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} \cdot m_{2}^{\prime}\right)(n)
$$

for all $\sim$-classes $C$. The quotient $M / \sim$ admits a stochastic monoid structure rendering the canonical function $m \mapsto[m]$ an epimorphism of stochastic monoids. The classical Isomorphism Theorem of Algebra still holds in the stochastic setup, namely
for any epimorphism of stochastic monoids $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ and every stochastic congruence $\sim$ on $M^{\prime}$ its inverse image $h^{-1}(\sim)$ defined by

$$
m_{1} h^{-1}(\sim) m_{2} \quad \text { iff } \quad h\left(m_{1}\right) \sim h\left(m_{2}\right)
$$

is again a stochastic congruence and the quotient stochastic monoids $M / h^{-1}(\sim)$ and $M^{\prime} / \sim$ are isomorphic. In particular if $\sim$ is the equality, then $h^{-1}(=)$ is the kernel congruence of $h$ (denoted by $\sim_{h}$ )

$$
m_{1} \sim_{h} m_{2} \quad \text { iff } \quad h\left(m_{1}\right)=h\left(m_{2}\right)
$$

and the stochastic monoids $M / \sim_{h}$ and $M^{\prime}$ are isomorphic.
We show that stochastic congruences are closed under the join operation. This allows us to construct the greatest stochastic congruence included in an equivalence $\sim$. It is the join of all stochastic congruences on $M$ included into $\sim$ and it is denoted by $\sim^{\text {stoc }}$. The quotient stochastic monoid $M / \sim^{\text {stoc }}$ is denoted by $M^{\text {stoc }}$ and has the following universal property:
given an epimorphism of stochastic monoids $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ whose kernel $\sim_{h}$ saturates the equivalence $\sim$ there exists a unique epimorphism of stochastic monoids $h^{\prime}: M^{\prime} \rightarrow M^{\text {stoc }}$ such that $h^{\prime} \circ h=h^{\text {stoc }}$, where $h^{\text {stoc }}: M \rightarrow M^{\text {stoc }}$ is the canonical epimorphism into the quotient.

This result states that $h^{\text {stoc }}$ is minimal among all epimorphisms saturating $\sim$.
Let $M$ be a stochastic monoid and $L \subseteq M$. Denote by $\sim_{L}$ the greatest congruence of $M$ included in the partition (equivalence) $\{L, M-L\}$, i.e., $\sim_{L}=\{L, M-L\}^{\text {stoc }}$. The quotient stochastic monoid $M_{L}=M / \sim_{L}$ will be called the syntactic stochastic monoid of $L$ and it is characterized by the following universal property.

For every stochastic monoid $M$ and every epimorphism $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ verifying $h^{-1}(h(L))=L$, there exists a unique epimorphism $h^{\prime}: M^{\prime} \rightarrow$ $M_{L}$ such that $h^{\prime} \circ h=h_{L}$ where $h_{L}: M \rightarrow M_{L}$ is the canonical projection into the quotient.

## Recognizability in Stochastic Monoids

A subset $L$ of a stochastic monoid $M$ is stochastically recognizable if there exist a finite stochastic monoid $M^{\prime}$ and a morphism $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ such that $h^{-1}(h(L))=L$. By taking into account the previous result we get that $L$ is recognizable if and only if its syntactic stochastic monoid is finite. Moreover stochastically recognizable subsets are closed under boolean operations and inverse morphisms.

## 2 Stochastic Subsets

Some useful elementary facts are displayed. Let $\left(x_{i}\right)_{i \in I},\left(x_{i j}\right)_{i \in I, j \in J},\left(y_{j}\right)_{j \in J}$ be families of nonnegative reals, then

$$
\sup _{i \in I, j \in J} x_{i j}=\sup _{i \in I} \sup _{j \in J} x_{i j}=\sup _{j \in J} \sup _{i \in I} x_{i j}, \quad \sup _{i \in I, j \in J} x_{i} y_{j}=\sup _{i \in I} x_{i} \cdot \sup _{j \in J} y_{j},
$$

provided that the above suprema exist. If $\sup _{I^{\prime} \subset f i n} \Sigma_{i \in I^{\prime}} x_{i}$ exists, then we say that the sum $\Sigma_{i \in I} x_{i}$ exists and we put

$$
\sum_{i \in I} x_{i}=\sup _{I^{\prime} \subseteq \text { fin } I} \sum_{i \in I^{\prime}} x_{i}
$$

where the notation $I^{\prime} \subseteq_{f i n} I$ means that $I^{\prime}$ is a finite subset of $I$.
It holds

$$
\sum_{i \in I, j \in J} x_{i j}=\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} x_{i j}=\sum_{j \in J i \in I} \sum_{i j} x_{i j}, \quad \sum_{i \in I, j \in J} x_{i} y_{j}=\sum_{i \in I} x_{i} \sum_{j \in J} y_{j} .
$$

Let $M$ be a non empty set and $[0,1]$ the unit interval, a stochastic subset of $M$ is a function $F: M \rightarrow[0,1]$ with the additional property that the sum of its values exists and is equal to 1

$$
\sum_{m \in M} F(m)=1
$$

We denote by $\operatorname{Stoc}(M)$ the set of all stochastic subsets of $M$.
Let $F_{i}: M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+}, i \in I$, be a family of functions such that for every $m \in M$ the sum $\sum_{i \in I} F_{i}(m)$ exists. Then the assignment

$$
m \mapsto \sum_{i \in I} F_{i}(m)
$$

defines a function from $M$ to $\mathbb{R}_{+}$denoted by $\sum_{i \in I} F_{i}$, i.e.,

$$
\left(\sum_{i \in I} F_{i}\right)(m)=\sum_{i \in I} F_{i}(m), \quad m \in M .
$$

Now let $\left(\lambda_{i}\right)_{i \in I}$ be a family in $[0,1]$ such that $\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i}=1$ and $F_{i} \in \operatorname{Stoc}(M)$, $i \in I$. For any finite subset $I^{\prime}$ of $I$ and any $m \in M$, we have

$$
\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}(m)=\sup _{I^{\prime} \subseteq f i n} \sum_{i \in I^{\prime}} \lambda_{i} F_{i}(m) \leq 1 .
$$

Thus $\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}$ is defined and belongs to $\operatorname{Stoc}(M)$ because

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum_{m \in M}\left(\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}\right)(m) & =\sum_{m \in M} \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}(m)=\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{m \in M} \lambda_{i} F_{i}(m) \\
& =\left(\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i}\right)\left(\sum_{m \in M} F_{i}(m)\right)=1 \cdot 1=1
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus we can state:
Strong Convexity Lemma (SCL). The set $\operatorname{Stoc}(M)$ is a strongly convex set, i.e., for any stochastic family

$$
\lambda_{i} \in[0,1], \quad F_{i} \in \operatorname{Stoc}(M), i \in I
$$

the function $\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}$ is in $\operatorname{Stoc}(M)$.
For arbitrary sets $M, M^{\prime}$ any function $h: M \rightarrow \operatorname{Stoc}\left(M^{\prime}\right)$ can be extended into a function $\bar{h}: \operatorname{Stoc}(M) \rightarrow \operatorname{Stoc}\left(M^{\prime}\right)$ by setting

$$
\bar{h}(F)=\sum_{m \in M} F(m) \cdot h(m)
$$

In particular, any function $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ is extended into a function $\bar{h}$ : $\operatorname{Stoc}(M) \rightarrow \operatorname{Stoc}\left(M^{\prime}\right)$ by the same as above formula. This formula is legitimate since by the strong convexity lemma

$$
\sum_{m \in M} F(m)=1
$$

and $h(m)$ is a stochastic subset of $M$.
Hence, for any stochastic subset $F: M \rightarrow[0,1]$ we have the expansion formula

$$
F=\sum_{m \in M} F(m) \hat{m}
$$

where $\hat{m}: M \rightarrow[0,1]$ stands for the singleton function

$$
\hat{m}(n)= \begin{cases}1, & \text { if } n=m \\ 0, & \text { if } n \neq m\end{cases}
$$

Often $\hat{m}$ is identified with $m$ itself.

## 3 Stochastic Congruences

Our main interest is focused on equivalences in the stochastic setup. Any equivalence relation $\sim$ on the set $M$, can be extended into an equivalence relation $\approx$ on the set $\operatorname{Stoc}(M)$ as follows: for $F, F^{\prime} \in \operatorname{Stoc}(M)$ we set $F \approx F^{\prime}$ if and only if for each $\sim$-class $C$ it holds

$$
\sum_{m \in C} F(m)=\sum_{m \in C} F^{\prime}(m)
$$

that is both $F, F^{\prime}$ behave stochastically on $C$ in similar way. The above sums exist because $F, F^{\prime}$ are stochastic subsets of $M$ :

$$
\sum_{m \in C} F(m) \leq \sum_{m \in M} F(m)=1
$$

The equivalence $\approx$ has a fundamental property, it is compatible with strong convex combinations.

Proposition 3.1. Assume that $\left(\lambda_{i}\right)_{i \in I}$ is a stochastic family of numbers in $[0,1]$ and $F_{i}, F_{i}^{\prime} \in \operatorname{Stoc}(M)$, for all $i \in I$. Then

$$
F_{i} \approx F_{i}^{\prime}, \text { for all } i \in I, \quad \text { implies } \quad \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i} \approx \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}^{\prime} .
$$

Proof. By hypothesis we have

$$
\sum_{m \in C} F_{i}(m)=\sum_{m \in C} F_{i}^{\prime}(m)
$$

for any $\sim$-class $C$ in $M$, and thus

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum_{m \in C}\left(\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}\right)(m) & =\sum_{m \in C} \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}(m)=\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} \sum_{m \in C} F_{i}(m) \\
& =\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} \sum_{m \in C} F_{i}^{\prime}(m)=\sum_{m \in C} \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}^{\prime}(m) \\
& =\sum_{m \in C}\left(\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}^{\prime}\right)(m)
\end{aligned}
$$

that is

$$
\sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i} \approx \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_{i} F_{i}^{\prime}
$$

as wanted.

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## 4 Stochastic Monoids

A stochastic monoid is a set $M$ equipped with a stochastic multiplication, i.e. a function

$$
M \times M \rightarrow \operatorname{Stoc}(M), \quad\left(m_{1}, m_{2}\right) \mapsto m_{1} m_{2}
$$

which is associative

$$
\sum_{n \in M}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(n)\left(n m_{3}\right)=\sum_{n \in M}\left(m_{2} m_{3}\right)(n)\left(m_{1} n\right)
$$

and unitary i.e. there is an element $e \in M$ such that

$$
m e=m=e m, \quad \text { for all } m \in M .
$$

For instance any ordinary monoid can be viewed as a stochastic monoid. In the present study it is important to have a congruence notion. More precisely, let $M$ be a stochastic monoid and $\sim$ an equivalence relation on the set $M$, such that: $m_{1} \sim m_{1}^{\prime}$ and $m_{2} \sim m_{2}^{\prime}$ implies

$$
\sum_{m \in C}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m)=\sum_{m \in C}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}^{\prime}\right)(m)
$$

for all $\sim$-classes $C$, then $\sim$ is called a stochastic congruence on $M$. This condition can be reformulated as follows: $m_{1} \sim m_{1}^{\prime}$ and $m_{2} \sim m_{2}^{\prime}$ implies

$$
m_{1} m_{2} \approx m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}^{\prime}
$$

Proposition 4.1. The quotient set $M / \sim$ is structured into a stochastic monoid by defining the stochastic multiplication via the formula

$$
\left(\left[m_{1}\right]\left[m_{2}\right]\right)([n])=\sum_{m \in[n]}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m) .
$$

Proof. First observe that the above multiplication is well defined. Next for every $\sim$-class $[b]$ we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left(\left(\left[m_{1}\right]\left[m_{2}\right]\right)\left[m_{3}\right]\right)([b]) & =\sum_{[n] \in M / \sim}\left(\left[m_{1}\right]\left[m_{2}\right]\right)([n])\left([n]\left[m_{3}\right]\right)([b]) \\
& =\sum_{[n] \in M / \sim n_{1} \in[n]} \sum_{b_{1}}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)\left(n_{1}\right) \sum_{b^{\prime} \in[b]}\left(n m_{3}\right)\left(b^{\prime}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $n \sim n_{1}$ we get

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\sum_{[n] \in M / \sim} \sum_{n_{1} \in[n]}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)\left(n_{1}\right) \sum_{b^{\prime} \in[b]}\left(n_{1} m_{3}\right)\left(b^{\prime}\right) \\
& =\sum_{[n] \in M / \sim} \sum_{b^{\prime} \in[b]} \sum_{n_{1} \in[n]}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)\left(n_{1}\right)\left(n_{1} m_{3}\right)\left(b^{\prime}\right) \\
& =\sum_{b^{\prime} \in[b]} \sum_{n_{1} \in M}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)\left(n_{1}\right)\left(n_{1} m_{3}\right)\left(b^{\prime}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

By taking into account the associativity of $M$ we obtain:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\sum_{b^{\prime} \in[b]} \sum_{n_{1} \in M}\left(m_{2} m_{3}\right)\left(n_{1}\right)\left(m_{1} n_{1}\right)\left(b^{\prime}\right) \\
& =\left(\left[m_{1}\right]\left(\left[m_{2}\right]\left[m_{3}\right]\right)\right)([b])
\end{aligned}
$$

Congruences on an ordinary monoid $M$ coincide with stochastic congruences when $M$ is viewed as a stochastic monoid. The first question arising is whether stochastic congruence is a good algebraic notion. This is checked by the validity of the known isomorphism theorems in their stochastic variant.

Given stochastic monoids $M$ and $M^{\prime}$, a strict morphism from $M$ to $M^{\prime}$ is a function $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ preserving stochastic multiplication and units, i.e.,

$$
\bar{h}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)=h\left(m_{1}\right) h\left(m_{2}\right), \quad h(e)=e^{\prime},
$$

for all $m_{1}, m_{2} \in M$, where $e, e^{\prime}$ are the units of $M, M^{\prime}$ respectively, and $\bar{h}: \operatorname{Stoc}(M) \rightarrow \operatorname{Stoc}\left(M^{\prime}\right)$ the canonical extension of $h$ defined in Section 2.

Theorem 4.1. Given an epimorphism of stochastic monoids $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ and a stochastic congruence $\sim$ on $M^{\prime}$, its inverse image $h^{-1}(\sim)$ defined by

$$
m_{1} h^{-1}(\sim) m_{2} \quad \text { if } \quad h\left(m_{1}\right) \sim h\left(m_{2}\right)
$$

is also a stochastic congruence and the stochastic quotient monoids $M / h^{-1}(\sim$ ) and $M^{\prime} / \sim$ are isomorphic.

Proof. Assume that

$$
m_{1} h^{-1}(\sim) m_{1}^{\prime} \text { and } m_{2} h^{-1}(\sim) m_{2}^{\prime}
$$

that is

$$
h\left(m_{1}\right) \sim h\left(m_{1}^{\prime}\right) \text { and } h\left(m_{2}\right) \sim h\left(m_{2}^{\prime}\right) .
$$

Then

$$
\bar{h}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)=h\left(m_{1}\right) h\left(m_{2}\right) \approx h\left(m_{1}^{\prime}\right) h\left(m_{2}^{\prime}\right)=\bar{h}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}^{\prime}\right)
$$

that is for all $C \in M^{\prime} / \sim$, we have

$$
\sum_{c \in C} \bar{h}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(c)=\sum_{c \in C} \bar{h}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}^{\prime}\right)(c)
$$

but

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum_{c \in C} \bar{h}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(c) & =\sum_{c \in C} \sum_{m \in M}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m) h(m)(c)=\sum_{m \in M}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m) \sum_{c \in C} h(m)(c) \\
& =\sum_{m \in h^{-1}(C)}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Recall that all $h^{-1}(\sim)$-classes are of the form $h^{-1}(C), C \in M^{\prime} / \sim$. Consequently,

$$
=\sum_{m \in h^{-1}(C)}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m)=\sum_{m \in h^{-1}(C)}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}^{\prime}\right)(m)
$$

which shows that $h^{-1}(\sim)$ is indeed a congruence of the stochastic monoid $M$. The desired isomorphism $\hat{h}: M / h^{-1}(\sim) \rightarrow M^{\prime} / \sim$ is given by

$$
\hat{h}\left([m]_{h^{-1}(\sim)}\right)=[h(m)]_{\sim} .
$$

Corolary 4.1. Let $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ be an epimorphism of stochastic monoids. Then the kernel equivalence

$$
m_{1} \sim_{h} m_{2} \text { if } h\left(m_{1}\right)=h\left(m_{2}\right)
$$

is a congruence on $M$ and the stochastic quotient monoid $M / \sim_{h}$ is isomorphic to $M^{\prime}$.

Given stochastic monoids $M_{1}, \ldots, M_{k}$ the stochastic multiplication

$$
\left[\left(m_{1}, \ldots, m_{k}\right) \cdot\left(m_{1}^{\prime}, \ldots, m_{k}^{\prime}\right)\right]\left(n_{1}, \cdots, n_{k}\right)=\left(m_{1} m_{1}^{\prime}\right)\left(n_{1}\right) \cdots\left(m_{k} m_{k}^{\prime}\right)\left(n_{k}\right)
$$

structures the set $M_{1} \times \cdots \times M_{k}$ into a stochastic monoid so that the canonical projection

$$
\pi_{i}: M_{1} \times \cdots \times M_{k} \rightarrow M_{i}, \quad \pi_{i}\left(m_{1}, \ldots, m_{k}\right)=m_{i}
$$

becomes a morphism of stochastic monoids. Notice that the above multiplication is stochastic because

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum_{\substack{n_{i} \in M_{i} \\
1 \leq i \leq k}}\left(m_{1} m_{1}^{\prime}\right)\left(n_{1}\right) \cdots\left(m_{k} m_{k}^{\prime}\right)\left(n_{k}\right) & =\sum_{n_{1} \in M_{1}}\left(m_{1} m_{1}^{\prime}\right)\left(n_{1}\right) \cdots \sum_{n_{k} \in M_{k}}\left(m_{k} m_{k}^{\prime}\right)\left(n_{k}\right) \\
& =1 \cdots 1=1 .
\end{aligned}
$$

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Theorem 4.2. Let $\sim_{i}$ be a stochastic congruence on the stochastic monoid $M_{i}(1 \leq i \leq k)$. Then $\sim_{1} \times \cdots \times \sim_{k}$ is a stochastic congruence on the stochastic monoid $M_{1} \times \cdots \times M_{k}$ and the stochastic monoids $M_{1} \times \cdots \times M_{k} / \sim_{1}$ $\times \cdots \times \sim_{k}$ and $M_{1} / \sim_{1} \times \cdots \times M_{k} / \sim_{k}$ are isomorphic.

## 5 Greatest Stochastic Congruence Saturating an Equivalence

First observe that, due to the symmetric property which an equivalence relation satisfies, the sumability condition in the definition of a congruence can be replaced by the weaker condition: $m_{1} \sim m_{1}^{\prime}$ and $m_{2} \sim m_{2}^{\prime}$ implies

$$
\sum_{m \in C}\left(m_{1} m_{2}\right)(m) \leq \sum_{m \in C}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} m_{2}^{\prime}\right)(m)
$$

for all $\sim$-classes $C$.
Lemma 5.1. The equivalence $\sim$ on the stochastic monoid $M$ is a congruence if and only if the following condition is fulfilled: $m \sim m^{\prime}$, implies

$$
\sum_{b \in C}(m \cdot n)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m^{\prime} \cdot n\right)(b) \quad \text { and } \quad \sum_{b \in C}(n \cdot m)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(n \cdot m^{\prime}\right)(b) .
$$

Proof. One direction is immediate whereas for the opposite direction we have: $m_{1} \sim m_{1}^{\prime}$ and $m_{2} \sim m_{2}^{\prime}$ imply

$$
\sum_{b \in C}\left(m_{1} \cdot m_{2}\right)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} \cdot m_{2}\right)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m_{1}^{\prime} \cdot m_{2}^{\prime}\right)(b) .
$$

Next we demonstrate that stochastic congruences are closed under the join operation. We recall that the join $\bigvee_{i \in I} \sim_{i}$ of a family of equivalences $\left(\sim_{i}\right)_{i \in I}$ on a set $A$ is the reflexive and transitive closure of their union:

$$
\bigvee_{i \in I} \sim_{i}=\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} \sim_{i}\right)^{*} .
$$

Theorem 5.1. If $\left(\sim_{i}\right)_{i \in I}$ is a family of stochastic congruences on $M$, then their join $\bigvee_{i \in I} \sim_{i}$ is also a stochastic congruence.
Proof. Let $\sim_{1}, \sim_{2}$ be two congruences on $M$ and $\sim=\sim_{1} \vee \sim_{2}$. First we show that $m \sim_{1} m^{\prime}$ implies

$$
\sum_{b \in C}(m \cdot n)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m^{\prime} \cdot n\right)(b),
$$

for all $\sim$-classes $C$. From the inclusion $\sim_{1} \subseteq \sim$ we get that $C$ is the disjoint union

$$
C=\bigcup_{j=1}^{m} C_{j}^{1}
$$

where $C_{j}^{1}$ denote $\sim_{1}$-classes. Then

$$
\sum_{b \in C}(m \cdot n)(b)=\sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{b \in C_{j}^{1}}(m \cdot n)(b) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{b \in C_{j}^{1}}\left(m^{\prime} \cdot n\right)(b)=\sum_{b \in C}\left(m^{\prime} \cdot n\right)(b) .
$$

By a similar argument we show that $m \sim_{2} m^{\prime}$ implies

$$
\sum_{b \in C}(m \cdot n)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m^{\prime} \cdot n\right)(b),
$$

for all $\sim$-classes $C$. Now, if $m \sim m^{\prime}$, without any loss we may assume that

$$
m \sim_{1} m_{1} \sim_{2} m_{2} \sim_{1} \cdots \sim_{1} m_{2 \lambda-1} \sim_{2} m^{\prime}
$$

for some elements $m_{1}, \ldots, m_{2 \lambda-1} \in M$. Applying successively the previous facts, we obtain

$$
\sum_{b \in C}(m \cdot n)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m_{1} \cdot n\right)(b) \leq \cdots \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m_{2 \lambda-1} \cdot n\right)(b) \leq \sum_{b \in C}\left(m^{\prime} \cdot n\right)(b) .
$$

For an arbitrary set of congruences we proceed in a similar way.
The previous result leads us to introduce the greatest stochastic congruence included into an equivalence $\sim$ of $M$. It is the join of all stochastic congruences on $M$ included into $\sim$ and it is denoted by $\sim^{\text {stoc }}$. The quotient stochastic monoid $M / \sim^{\text {stoc }}$ is denoted by $M^{\text {stoc }}$ and has the following universal property
Theorem 5.2. Given an epimorphism of stochastic monoids $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ whose kernel $\sim_{h}$ saturates the equivalence $\sim$ there exists a unique epimorphism of stochastic monoids $h^{\prime}: M^{\prime} \rightarrow M^{\text {stoc }}$ rendering commutative the triangle


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where $h^{\text {stoc }}: M \rightarrow M^{\text {stoc }}$ is the canonical projection $m \mapsto[m]_{\text {stoc }}$ sending every element $m \in M$ on its $\sim^{\text {stoc }}$-class.

Proof. By virtue of the Isomorphism Theorem the stochastic monoid $M^{\prime}$ is isomorphic to the quotient $M / \sim_{h}$. Since by assumption $\sim_{h} \subseteq \sim^{\text {stoc }}, h^{\prime}$ is the following composition

$$
M^{\prime} \xrightarrow[\rightarrow]{\sim} M / \sim_{h} \xrightarrow{f} M / \sim^{\text {stoc }}=M^{\text {stoc }},
$$

with $f\left([m]_{h}\right)=[m]_{s t o c},[m]_{h}$ being the $\sim_{h}$-class of $m$.
The previous result states that $h^{\text {stoc }}$ is minimal among all epimorphisms saturating $\sim$.

## 6 Syntactic Stochastic Monoids

Let $M$ be a stochastic monoid and $L \subseteq M$. Denote by $\sim_{L}$ the greatest congruence of $M$ included in the partition (equivalence) $\{L, M-L\}$, i.e.,

$$
\sim_{L}=\{L, M-L\}^{\text {stoc }}
$$

The quotient stochastic monoid $M_{L}=M / \sim_{L}$ will be called the syntactic stochastic monoid of $L$ and it is characterized by the following universal property.

Theorem 6.1. For every stochastic monoid $M$ and every epimorphism $h$ : $M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ verifying $h^{-1}(h(L))=L$, there exists a unique epimorphism $h^{\prime}:$ $M^{\prime} \rightarrow M_{L}$ rendering commutative the triangle

where $h_{L}$ is the canonical morphism sending every element $m \in M$ to its $\sim_{L}$-class.

Proof. The hypothesis $h^{-1}(h(L))=L$ means that $\sim_{h}$ saturates $L$ and so the statement follows immediately by Theorem 5.2.

Given stochastic monoids $M, M^{\prime}$ we write $M^{\prime}<M$ if there is a stochastic monoid $\bar{M}$ and a situation

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$$
M^{\prime} \stackrel{h}{\leftrightarrows} \bar{M} \xrightarrow{i} M
$$

where $i$ (resp. $h$ ) is a monomorphism (resp. epimorphism).
Theorem 6.2. Given subsets $L_{1}, L_{2}, L$ of a stochastic monoid $M$ it holds
i) $M_{L_{1} \cap L_{2}}<M_{L_{1}} \times M_{L_{2}}$,
ii) $M_{L}=M_{\bar{L}}$, where $\bar{L}$ designates the set theoretic complement of $L$,
iii) $M_{L_{1} \cup L_{2}}<M_{L_{1}} \times M_{L_{2}}$,
iv) If $h: M \rightarrow N$ is an epimorphism of ND-monoids and $L \subseteq N$, then $M_{h^{-1}(L)}=M_{L}$.

Proof. The proof follows by applying Theorem 6.1.
A subset $L$ of a stochastic monoid $M$ is stochastically recognizable if there exist a finite stochastic monoid $M^{\prime}$ and a morphism $h: M \rightarrow M^{\prime}$ such that $h^{-1}(h(L))=L$. The class of stochastically recognizable subsets of $M$ is denoted by StocRec $(M)$. By taking into account Theorem 6.1 we get

Proposition 6.1. $L \subseteq M$ is recognizable if and only if its syntactic stochastic monoid is finite, $\operatorname{card}\left(M_{L}\right)<\infty$.

Putting this result together with Theorem 6.2 we yield
Proposition 6.2. The class StocRec $(M)$ is closed under boolean operations and inverse morphisms.

## References

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