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**Title:** On the variety of bands in completely regular semigroups

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Completely regular semigroups, enriched by the unary operation of inversion within their maximal subgroups, form a variety  $\mathcal{CR}$  whose lattice of subvarieties is denoted by  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CR})$ . Its subvariety  $\mathcal{B}$  of all bands plays a seminal role in any study of the structure of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CR})$ . We present some new aspects of  $\mathcal{B}$  relative to both  $\mathcal{CR}$  and the variety  $\mathcal{CS}$  of completely simple semigroups.

Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is neutral in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CR})$ , the latter is a subdirect product of the lattice  $(\mathcal{B})$  of subvarieties of  $\mathcal{B}$  and the lattice  $[\mathcal{B}]$  of supervarieties of  $\mathcal{B}$ . We determine the precise image of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CR})$  in  $(\mathcal{B}) \times [\mathcal{B}]$ .

For the relation  $\mathbf{B}^\vee$  defined on  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CR})$  by  $\mathcal{U}\mathbf{B}^\vee\mathcal{V}$  if  $\mathcal{U} \vee \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{V} \vee \mathcal{B}$ , we prove that each  $\mathbf{B}^\vee$ -class is embeddable into  $(\mathcal{B})$ .

We establish several results concerning the variety  $\mathcal{CS}$  in the context of the relation  $\mathbf{B}^\vee$  and the structure of the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{CS})$ .

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