

# CHAPTER 3

## MAIN RESULTS

In this chapter, we endow  $T(X, Y)$  with the natural order  $\leq$  and determine when two elements of  $T(X, Y)$  are related under this order, then find out elements of  $T(X, Y)$  which are compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$ . Also, the maximal and minimal elements and the covering elements are described.

Recall that for any semigroup  $S$ , we define  $\leq$  on  $S$  as follow:

$$a \leq b \text{ if and only if } a = xb = by, xa = a \text{ for some } x, y \in S^1.$$

### 3.1 Characterization

In this section, we investigate the condition under which  $\alpha \leq \beta$  for two elements  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ .

**Lemma 3.1.1** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ ;
- (2)  $(x\alpha)\beta^{-1} \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  for all  $x \in X$ ;
- (3) there exists  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha = \gamma\beta$ .

**Proof.** (1) implies (2). Assume that  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ . Let  $x \in X$ . Since  $x\alpha \in X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ , we have  $x\alpha = y\beta$  for some  $y \in Y$ . Therefore  $y \in (x\alpha)\beta^{-1} \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ .

(2) implies (3). Suppose that  $(x\alpha)\beta^{-1} \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then for each  $x \in X$ , there exists  $d_x \in (x\alpha)\beta^{-1} \cap Y$ . We define  $\gamma$  by  $x\gamma = d_x$  for all  $x \in X$ . So  $X\gamma \subseteq Y$  and  $x\gamma\beta = d_x\beta = x\alpha$  for all  $x \in X$ . Therefore  $\alpha = \gamma\beta$ .

(3) implies (1). Assume that  $\alpha = \gamma\beta$  for some  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$ . Let  $x\alpha \in X\alpha$ . Since  $x\alpha = x\gamma\beta \in Y\beta$ , therefore  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ . ■

To prove the next theorem, we need the following characterization of the natural partial order on any semigroups which is taken from H. Mitsch [3].

**Lemma 3.1.2** For any semigroups  $S$  and its natural partial order, the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $a \leq b$ ;
- (2)  $a = sb = bt$ ,  $at = a$  for some  $s, t \in S^1$ ;
- (3)  $a = ub = bv$ ,  $ua = av = a$  for some  $u, v \in S^1$ .

**Theorem 3.1.3** Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Then  $\alpha \leq \beta$  if and only if the following statements hold:

- (1)  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ ;
- (2)  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ ;
- (3) if  $x\beta \in X\alpha$ , then  $x\alpha = x\beta$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , then there exist  $\gamma, \mu \in T(X, Y)$ <sup>1</sup> such that  $\alpha = \gamma\beta = \beta\mu$  and  $\alpha = \alpha\mu$  by Lemma 3.1.2. Since  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , we get  $\gamma \neq 1 \neq \mu$ , thus by Lemma 3.1.1 and Lemma 2.4.1, we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  and  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . If  $x\beta \in X\alpha$ , then  $x\beta = y\alpha$  for some  $y \in X$  and therefore  $x\alpha = x\beta\mu = y\alpha\mu = y\alpha = x\beta$ .

Conversely, assume that the assumptions hold. Since  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  and  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ , by Lemma 3.1.1 and Lemma 2.4.1 there exist  $\gamma, \mu \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha = \gamma\beta = \beta\mu$ . For each  $x \in X$ ,  $x\alpha = x\gamma\beta = y\beta$  for some  $y \in Y$  since  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$ , so  $y\beta \in X\alpha$ . By (3), we have  $y\alpha = y\beta$  and thus  $x\alpha = y\beta = y\alpha = y\beta\mu = x\alpha\mu$ , hence  $\alpha = \alpha\mu$ . By Lemma 3.1.2, it is concluded that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . ■

**Example 3.1.4** (1) Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $Y = \{2, 4, 6\}$ . We define  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, \beta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then there are  $\gamma, \mu \in T(X, Y)$  such that

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, \mu = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $\alpha = \gamma\beta = \beta\mu$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha\mu$  which follows that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . In addition, we can check this by Theorem 3.1.3. Consider:

- (i)  $X\alpha = \{2, 6\} \subseteq \{2, 4, 6\} = Y\beta$ ;
- (ii)  $\pi_\beta = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 4), (4, 3), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$ , and  
 $\pi_\alpha = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (4, 4), (5, 5), (6, 6), (1, 2), (2, 1), (1, 3), (3, 1), (1, 4), (4, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2), (2, 4), (4, 2), (3, 4), (4, 3), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$ , thus  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ ;
- (iii)  $1\beta, 2\beta, 5\beta, 6\beta \in X\alpha$ , and  $1\alpha = 1\beta, 2\alpha = 2\beta, 5\alpha = 5\beta, 6\alpha = 6\beta$ . Thus  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .

(2) Let  $X$  be the set of all natural numbers,  $\mathbb{N}$ , and  $Y$  the set of all positive odd integers. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then by division algorithm there exist unique  $q_n, r_n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$n = 4q_n + r_n; 0 \leq r_n < 4.$$

Thus we define  $\alpha$  as follow:

$$n\alpha = \begin{cases} n - r_n + 1 & \text{if } r_n \neq 0 \\ n - 3 & \text{if } r_n = 0. \end{cases}$$

Similarly, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist unique  $t_n, s_n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$n = 2t_n + s_n; 0 \leq s_n < 2.$$

Thus we define  $\beta$  as follow:

$$n\beta = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } s_n = 1 \\ n - 1 & \text{if } s_n = 0. \end{cases}$$

So  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ . We check that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. By computation, we get

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 5 & 5 & 5 & 5 & 9 & 9 & 9 & 9 & \dots \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & \dots \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 5 & 5 & 7 & 7 & 9 & 9 & 11 & 11 & \dots \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that  $X\alpha = \{1, 5, 9, 13, 17, \dots\} \subseteq \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, \dots\} = Y\beta$ . Let  $(m, n) \in \pi_\beta$ . Then  $m\beta = n\beta$ . If  $s_m = 1 = s_n$  or  $s_m = 0 = s_n$ , then  $m = m\beta = n\beta = n$  or  $m-1 = m\beta = n\beta = n-1$ , respectively. Thus  $m = n$  which follows that  $m\alpha = n\alpha$ . If  $s_m = 1$  and  $s_n = 0$ , then  $m = m\beta = n\beta = n-1$ . Since  $s_n = 0$ , we have  $r_n = 0$  or 2. If  $r_n = 0$ , then  $r_m = 3$  since  $m = n-1$ . We get  $m\alpha = m - r_m + 1 = m - 3 + 1 = m - 2 = (n-1) - 2 = n - 3 = n\alpha$ . If  $r_n = 2$ , then  $r_m = 1$  since  $m = n-1$ . We have  $m\alpha = m - r_m + 1 = m - 1 + 1 = m = n - 1 = n - 2 + 1 = n - r_n + 1 = n\alpha$ . Therefore  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . Let  $n\beta \in X\alpha$ . If  $r_n = 0$ , then  $s_n = 0$  which implies that  $n\beta = n-1$ . Since  $r_n = 0$  we get  $n = 4k$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ . Then  $n\beta = n-1 = 4k-1$  which follows that  $n\beta = 3, 7, 11, 15, \dots \notin X\alpha$  which is a contradiction. If  $r_n = 3$ , then  $n = 4k+3$  for some integer  $k \geq 0$ . We have  $n = 2(2k+1) + 1$  which implies that  $s_n = 1$ . Then  $n\beta = n = 4k+3$ . Thus  $n\beta = 3, 7, 11, 15, \dots \notin X\alpha$  which is also a contradiction. So, it is concluded that  $r_n = 1$  or 2. If  $r_n = 1$ , then  $n = 4k+1$  for some integer  $k \geq 0$ . We have  $n = 2(2k) + 1$  which implies that  $s_n = 1$ . Then  $n\alpha = n - r_n + 1 = n - 1 + 1 = n = n\beta$ . If  $r_n = 2$ , then  $n = 4k+2$  for some integer  $k \geq 0$ . We have  $n = 2(2k+1)$  which follows that  $s_n = 0$ . Then  $n\alpha = n - r_n + 1 = n - 2 + 1 = n - 1 = n\beta$  and hence  $n\alpha = n\beta$ . Therefore  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . ■

We consider the case when  $X = Y$  which implies that  $T(X, Y) = T(X)$ .

By Theorem 3.1.3, we get the following result.

**Corollary 3.1.5** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X)$  such that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Then  $\alpha \leq \beta$  if and only if the following statements hold:*

- (1)  $X\alpha \subseteq X\beta$ ;
- (2)  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ ;
- (3) if  $x\beta \in X\alpha$ , then  $x\alpha = x\beta$ .

To prove the following corollary, we recall that  $F = \{\alpha \in T(X, Y) : X\alpha \subseteq Y\alpha\} = \{\alpha \in T(X, Y) : X\alpha = Y\alpha\}$ .

**Corollary 3.1.6** *Let  $\alpha \in F, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \neq \beta$  and let  $K(\alpha, \beta) = \{x \in X : x\alpha \neq x\beta\}$ . If the following properties hold:*

*(1)  $x\alpha \in Y\beta$  and  $x\beta \notin X\alpha$  for all  $x \in K(\alpha, \beta)$ ;*

*(2)  $x\beta \neq y\beta$  for all  $x, y \in K(\alpha, \beta)$  with  $x \neq y$ ,*

*then  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , we have  $K(\alpha, \beta)$  is nonempty. For each  $a\alpha \in X\alpha$ , if  $a \in K(\alpha, \beta)$  then  $a\alpha \in Y\beta$  by (1). If  $a \notin K(\alpha, \beta)$ , then  $a\alpha = a\beta$ . Since  $\alpha \in F$ , we have  $a\alpha \in X\alpha \subseteq Y\alpha$  which implies that  $a\alpha = b\alpha$  for some  $b \in Y$ . If  $b \in K(\alpha, \beta)$ , then  $a\alpha = b\alpha \in Y\beta$  by (1). If  $b \notin K(\alpha, \beta)$ , then  $b\alpha = b\beta$  which implies that  $a\alpha = b\alpha = b\beta \in Y\beta$ . Therefore  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ . Now, let  $(p, q) \in \pi_\beta$ . So  $p\beta = q\beta$ . If  $p \in K(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $q \notin K(\alpha, \beta)$ , then  $p\beta = q\beta = q\alpha \in X\alpha$ . By (1), we have  $p\beta \notin X\alpha$  which is a contradiction. If  $p, q \in K(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $p \neq q$ , then  $p\beta \neq q\beta$  by (2) and this contradicts  $p\beta = q\beta$ . It is concluded that  $p, q \notin K(\alpha, \beta)$ . So  $p\alpha = p\beta = q\beta = q\alpha$  which follows that  $(p, q) \in \pi_\alpha$  and therefore  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . Finally, if  $w\beta \in X\alpha$  then we have  $w \notin K(\alpha, \beta)$  by (1) which implies that  $w\alpha = w\beta$ . Therefore  $\alpha \leq \beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. ■

**Lemma 3.1.7** *If  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , then  $\alpha \in F$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  with  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Then by Theorem 3.1.3 we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  and  $x\beta \in X\alpha$  implies  $x\alpha = x\beta$ . Suppose that  $\alpha \notin F$ , then there is  $x \in X \setminus Y$  such that  $x\alpha \notin Y\alpha$ . Since  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ , we have  $x\alpha = y\beta$  for some  $y \in Y$ , thus  $y\beta = x\alpha \in X\alpha$  implies  $y\alpha = y\beta$ . Hence  $x\alpha = y\alpha \in Y\alpha$  which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\alpha \in F$ . ■

## 3.2 Compatibility

Recall that an element  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  is said to be *left compatible* with  $\leq$  if  $\gamma\alpha \leq \gamma\beta$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . *Right compatibility* with  $\leq$  is defined

dually. In this section, we will find out elements of  $T(X, Y)$  which are compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$ .

We note that if  $|Y| = 1$ , then  $|T(X, Y)| = 1$  which implies that an element in  $T(X, Y)$  is left and right compatible. So we assume that  $|Y| > 1$ .

**Theorem 3.2.1** *Let  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$ . Then  $\gamma$  is left compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$  if and only if  $Y = Y\gamma$ .*

**Proof.** We prove the only if part of the theorem by contrapositive. Assume that  $Y \neq Y\gamma$ , then there exists  $y \in Y \setminus Y\gamma$ . Since  $|Y| > 1$ , there is  $z \in Y$  such that  $z \neq y$ . We define  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  by  $x\alpha = y$  for all  $x \in X$  and

$$x\beta = \begin{cases} y & \text{if } x = y \\ z & \text{if } x \neq y. \end{cases}$$

We have  $X\alpha = \{y\} \subseteq \{y, z\} = Y\beta$ ,  $\pi_\beta \subseteq X \times X = \pi_\alpha$  and if  $x\beta \in X\alpha = \{y\}$ , then  $x\beta = y = x\alpha$ . Therefore  $\alpha \leq \beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Since  $X\gamma\alpha = \{y\} \not\subseteq \{z\} = Y\gamma\beta$  which implies that  $\gamma\alpha \not\leq \gamma\beta$ , we have  $\gamma$  is not left compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$ .

Conversely, assume that  $Y = Y\gamma$ . Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . We have  $X\gamma\alpha \subseteq X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta = Y\gamma\beta$ . Let  $(x, y) \in \pi_{\gamma\beta}$ , then  $x\gamma\beta = y\gamma\beta$ . So  $(x\gamma, y\gamma) \in \pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ , then  $x\gamma\alpha = y\gamma\alpha$ . Thus  $(x, y) \in \pi_{\gamma\alpha}$ , and that  $\pi_{\gamma\beta} \subseteq \pi_{\gamma\alpha}$ . Let  $x\gamma\beta \in X\gamma\alpha$ . Then  $x\gamma\beta \in X\alpha$ . So  $x\gamma\alpha = x\gamma\beta$ . Hence  $\gamma\alpha \leq \gamma\beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3, therefore  $\gamma$  is left compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$ . ■

**Example 3.2.2** Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . We define  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that  $Y\alpha = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} = Y$ . Thus  $\alpha$  is left compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$  by Theorem 3.2.1. ■

**Lemma 3.2.3** *If  $|Y| = 2$ , then  $\gamma$  is right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$  for all  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$ .*

**Proof.** Assume that  $|Y| = 2$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  with  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . We first prove that  $\alpha = \beta$  or  $|X\alpha| = 1$ . Suppose that  $|X\alpha| \geq 2$ . So  $2 \leq |X\alpha| \leq |Y| = 2$ , then  $X\alpha = Y$ . For each  $x \in X$ ,  $x\beta \in X\beta \subseteq Y = X\alpha$  and hence  $x\alpha = x\beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Thus  $\alpha = \beta$ . Now, let  $\gamma$  be any element in  $T(X, Y)$ . If  $\alpha = \beta$ , then  $\alpha\gamma = \beta\gamma$ . If  $|X\alpha| = 1$ , then  $\alpha$  is a constant map, this implies that  $\alpha\gamma$  is also a constant map and that  $\pi_{\alpha\gamma} = X \times X$ , so  $\pi_{\beta\gamma} \subseteq \pi_{\alpha\gamma}$ . Since  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  and thus  $X\alpha\gamma \subseteq Y\beta\gamma$ . If  $x\beta\gamma \in X\alpha\gamma$ , then  $x\beta\gamma = x\alpha\gamma$  since  $\alpha\gamma$  is a constant map. Hence  $\alpha\gamma \leq \beta\gamma$ . ■

In the proof of the following theorem, we shall use the notation

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

to mean that  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  and take as understood that the subscript  $i$  belongs to some (unmentioned) index set  $I$ , the abbreviation  $\{a_i\}$  denotes  $\{a_i : i \in I\} \subseteq Y$ , and that  $X\alpha = \{a_i\}$  and  $a_i\alpha^{-1} = X_i$ .

**Theorem 3.2.4** *Let  $|Y| > 2$  and  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$ .  $\gamma$  is right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$  if and only if  $|Y\gamma| = 1$  or  $\gamma|_Y$  is injective.*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  be such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . If  $|Y\gamma| = 1$ , then for each  $x \in X$  we have  $x\alpha\gamma = (x\alpha)\gamma \in Y\gamma$  and  $x\beta\gamma = (x\beta)\gamma \in Y\gamma$  which implies that  $x\alpha\gamma = x\beta\gamma$  since  $|Y\gamma| = 1$  and that  $\alpha\gamma = \beta\gamma$ . Next, we prove that if  $\gamma|_Y$  is injective, then  $\alpha\gamma \leq \beta\gamma$ . Since  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we get  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  which follows that  $X\alpha\gamma \subseteq Y\beta\gamma$ . Let  $(x, y) \in \pi_{\beta\gamma}$ . Then  $x\beta\gamma = y\beta\gamma$ . Since  $\gamma|_Y$  is injective, we have  $x\beta = y\beta$  which implies that  $(x, y) \in \pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . So  $x\alpha = y\alpha$ , then  $x\alpha\gamma = y\alpha\gamma$  which implies that  $(x, y) \in \pi_{\alpha\gamma}$ . Therefore  $\pi_{\beta\gamma} \subseteq \pi_{\alpha\gamma}$ . Let  $x\beta\gamma \in X\alpha\gamma$ . Then  $x\beta\gamma = y\alpha\gamma$  for some  $y \in X$ . Since  $\gamma|_Y$  is injective, we have  $x\beta = y\alpha \in X\alpha$ . By Theorem 3.1.3,  $x\alpha = x\beta$ . Thus  $x\alpha\gamma = x\beta\gamma$ . Therefore  $\alpha\gamma \leq \beta\gamma$  by Theorem 3.1.3.

Conversely, we prove by contrapositive. Assume that  $|Y\gamma| > 1$  and  $\gamma|_Y$  is not injective. Since  $\gamma|_Y$  is not injective, there exist  $b, c \in Y$  such that  $b \neq c$  and  $b\gamma = c\gamma = y$  for some  $y \in Y$ . Since  $|Y\gamma| > 1$  and  $|Y| > 2$ , so there exists  $a \in Y, b \neq a \neq c$  such that  $a\gamma = x$  for some  $x \in Y$  and  $x \neq y$ . We write

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 & X_i \\ x & y & y_i \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a \in A_1$  and  $b, c \in A_2$ . We define  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \{a, b\} & X \setminus \{a, b\} \\ a & c \end{pmatrix}, \beta = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & X \setminus \{a, b\} \\ a & b & c \end{pmatrix}.$$

Next, we show that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . We see that  $X\alpha = \{a, c\} = Y\alpha$  which follows that  $\alpha \in F$ . Then we can prove by Corollary 3.1.6. We see that  $K(\alpha, \beta) = \{x \in X : x\alpha \neq x\beta\} = \{b\}$ . Let  $x \in K(\alpha, \beta) = \{b\}$ . Then  $x\beta = b\beta = b \notin X\alpha$  and  $x\alpha = b\alpha = a = a\beta \in Y\beta$ . Thus  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and we can see that

$$\alpha\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \{a, b\} & X \setminus \{a, b\} \\ x & y \end{pmatrix}, \beta\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & X \setminus \{a\} \\ x & y \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that  $b\beta\gamma = y \in X\alpha\gamma$  but  $b\alpha\gamma = x \neq y = b\beta\gamma$ . Therefore  $\alpha\gamma \not\leq \beta\gamma$  which implies that  $\gamma$  is not right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$ . ■

**Example 3.2.5** Let  $X$  be the set of all integers,  $Y$  a set of all nonnegative integers.

(1) We define  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  by  $n\alpha = |n|$ . Then

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & -6 & -5 & -4 & -3 & -2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \dots \\ \dots & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \dots \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that  $\alpha|_Y$  is injective. Thus  $\alpha$  is right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$  by Theorem 3.2.4.

(2) Let  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  which is defined by

$$n\beta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \geq 0 \\ n & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & -6 & -5 & -4 & -3 & -2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \dots \\ \dots & -6 & -5 & -4 & -3 & -2 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \dots \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $Y\beta = \{1\}$  which follows that  $|Y\beta| = 1$ . Thus  $\beta$  is right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X, Y)$  by Theorem 3.2.4. ■

Now, let  $X = Y$ . We get the following corollaries which are from Lemma 3.2.3, Theorem 3.2.1 and Theorem 3.2.4. The second corollary below first appeared in [2].

**Corollary 3.2.6** *If  $|X| = 2$ , then the following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\gamma$  is left compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X)$  if and only if  $\gamma$  is surjective;
- (2)  $\gamma$  is right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X)$  for all  $\gamma \in T(X)$ .

**Corollary 3.2.7** *Let  $|X| \geq 3$  and  $\gamma \in T(X)$ . Then the following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\gamma$  is left compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X)$  if and only if  $\gamma$  is surjective;
- (2)  $\gamma$  is right compatible with  $\leq$  on  $T(X)$  if and only if  $\gamma$  is injective or constant.

### 3.3 Maximal and Minimal Elements

In this section, we will study the maximal and minimal elements of the semigroup  $T(X, Y)$  with the natural order. We also prove that every element in  $T(X, Y)$  must lie between maximal and minimal.

**Lemma 3.3.1** *Let  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ . If  $\alpha \notin F$  or  $\alpha$  is surjective or  $\alpha$  is injective, then  $\alpha$  is a maximal element.*

**Proof.** Let  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  be such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . If  $\alpha \notin F$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$  by Lemma 3.1.7. If  $\alpha$  is surjective, then we have  $x\beta \in Y = X\alpha$  for all  $x \in X$ , thus by Theorem 3.1.3  $x\alpha = x\beta$ , hence  $\alpha = \beta$ . Now, consider the case  $\alpha$  is injective. For each  $x \in X$ , we have  $x\alpha \in X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  since  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . That is  $x\alpha = y\beta$  for some  $y \in Y$  which implies that  $y\beta \in X\alpha$ . By Theorem 3.1.3, we have  $y\alpha = y\beta$ . Thus  $x\alpha = y\alpha$ . Since  $\alpha$  is injective, we get  $x = y$ . It follows that  $x\alpha = x\beta$ , and that  $\alpha = \beta$ . Therefore  $\alpha$  is a maximal element. ■

**Theorem 3.3.2** *Let  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ . Then  $\alpha$  is maximal if and only if  $\alpha \notin F$  or  $\alpha$  is surjective or  $\alpha$  is injective.*

**Proof.** Assume that  $\alpha \in F$ ,  $X\alpha \neq Y$  and  $\alpha$  is not injective. Since  $X\alpha \neq Y$ , we have there exists  $a \in Y$  such that  $a \notin X\alpha$ .

**Case I:**  $\alpha|_Y : Y \rightarrow Y$  is injective. Then  $X \neq Y$ . We choose  $x \in X \setminus Y$  and define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z \neq x \\ a & \text{if } z = x. \end{cases}$$

Since  $x\beta = a \notin X\alpha$ , it follows that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . We show that  $\alpha < \beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Since  $\alpha \in F$ ,  $X\alpha = Y\alpha = Y\beta$ . Let  $(m, n) \in \pi_\beta$ . Then  $m\beta = n\beta$ . If  $m = x$  and  $n \neq x$ , we have  $n\alpha = n\beta = m\beta = a \notin X\alpha$  which is a contradiction. It is concluded that  $m = x = n$  or  $m \neq x \neq n$ , thus  $m\alpha = n\alpha$ . So  $(m, n) \in \pi_\alpha$ . Let  $y\beta \in X\alpha$ . If  $y = x$ , then  $y\beta = a \notin X\alpha$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $y \neq x$ , then  $y\beta = y\alpha$ . Therefore  $\alpha < \beta$ .

**Case II:**  $\alpha|_Y : Y \rightarrow Y$  is not injective. Then there exist  $p, q \in Y$  such that  $p\alpha = q\alpha$  and  $p \neq q$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z \neq p \\ a & \text{if } z = p. \end{cases}$$

Since  $a \in X\beta$  but  $a \notin X\alpha$ , we get  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . We show that  $\alpha < \beta$  by Corollary 3.1.6. It is not hard to see that  $K(\alpha, \beta) = \{x \in X : x\alpha \neq x\beta\} = \{p\}$ . Let  $x \in K(\alpha, \beta) = \{p\}$ . We get  $x\beta = p\beta = a \notin X\alpha$  and  $x\alpha = p\alpha = q\alpha = q\beta \in Y\beta$ . Therefore  $\alpha < \beta$ . It is concluded that  $\alpha$  is not maximal.

The converse is Lemma 3.3.1.

**Example 3.3.3** Let  $X$  be the set of all integers and  $Y$  the set of all even numbers.

(1) We define  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$n\alpha = \begin{cases} n-1 & \text{if } 2 \nmid n \\ n & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We see that

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & -6 & -5 & -4 & -3 & -2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & \dots \\ \dots & -6 & -6 & -4 & -4 & -2 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 6 & \dots \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\alpha$  is surjective. By Theorem 3.3.2,  $\alpha$  is maximal.

(2) Consider  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  which is defined by  $n\beta = 4n$  for all integers  $n$ .

Then  $\beta$  is injective. By Theorem 3.3.2, we have  $\beta$  is maximal.

(3) Let  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  which is defined by

$$n\gamma = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } 2 \mid n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

We see that  $Y\gamma = \{2\} \subsetneq \{0, 2\} = X\gamma$ . Then  $\gamma \notin F$  which follows that  $\gamma$  is maximal by Theorem 3.3.2. ■

**Theorem 3.3.4** *Let  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ .  $\alpha$  is minimal if and only if  $|X\alpha| = 1$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\alpha : X \rightarrow \{a\}$  for some  $a \in Y$ . Let  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  be such that  $\beta \leq \alpha$ . By Theorem 3.1.3, we have  $X\beta \subseteq Y\alpha$ . Let  $x \in X$ . Then  $x\beta \in X\beta \subseteq Y\alpha = \{a\}$ . Hence  $x\beta = a = x\alpha$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$ .

Conversely, we prove by contrapositive. Assume that  $|X\alpha| > 1$ . We choose  $y \in Y\alpha$  and define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by  $z\beta = y$  for all  $z \in X$ . Since  $|X\beta| = |\{y\}| = 1 < |X\alpha|$ , it follows that  $\beta \neq \alpha$ . We show that  $\beta \leq \alpha$  by Theorem 3.1.3. We can see that  $X\beta = \{y\} \subseteq Y\alpha$ ,  $\pi_\alpha \subseteq X \times X = \pi_\beta$ . Let  $x\alpha \in X\beta = \{y\}$ . Then  $x\alpha = y = x\beta$ . Thus  $\beta \leq \alpha$  which follows that  $\alpha$  is not minimal. ■

**Example 3.3.5** Let  $X$  be the set of all real numbers,  $Y$  the set of all natural numbers. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We define  $\alpha_n \in T(X, Y)$  by  $x\alpha_n = n$  for all  $x \in X$ . Thus  $|X\alpha_n| = |\{n\}| = 1$  which follows that  $\alpha_n$  is minimal by Theorem 3.3.4. ■

If  $X = Y$ , it follows that  $T(X) = F$ . Thus by Theorem 3.3.2 and Theorem 3.3.4 we have the following corollary which first appeared in [2].

**Corollary 3.3.6** *An element  $\alpha \in T(X)$  is maximal with  $\leq$  on  $T(X)$  if and only if  $\alpha$  is surjective or injective;  $\alpha$  is minimal if and only if  $\alpha$  is a constant map.*

**Lemma 3.3.7** *Let  $|Y| \geq 2$  and  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ , then there exists  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\beta \not\leq \alpha$ .*

**Proof.** We consider  $\alpha$  in two cases:

**Case I:**  $\alpha$  is not injective. Then there exist  $x, y \in X$  such that  $x\alpha = y\alpha = a$  for some  $a \in Y$  and  $x \neq y$ . Since  $|Y| \geq 2$ , there exists  $b \in Y$  such that  $b \neq a$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z \neq x \\ b & \text{if } z = x. \end{cases}$$

We see that  $x\alpha = y\alpha = y\beta \in X\beta$  but  $x\alpha = a \neq b = x\beta$ . Therefore  $\beta \not\leq \alpha$ .

**Case II:**  $\alpha$  is injective. Since  $|Y| \geq 2$ , we choose  $p, q \in Y$  such that  $p \neq q$ . Then  $p\alpha \neq q\alpha$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} q\alpha & \text{if } z = p \\ p\alpha & \text{if } z \neq p. \end{cases}$$

We see that  $p\alpha \in X\beta$  but  $p\beta = q\alpha \neq p\alpha$ , then  $\beta \not\leq \alpha$ . ■

**Remark 3.3.8** If  $|Y| \geq 2$ , then  $T(X, Y)$  has no maximum element.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  is a maximum element, then  $\beta \leq \alpha$  for all  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  which contradicts Lemma 3.3.7. ■

**Lemma 3.3.9** Let  $|Y| \geq 2$  and  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ , then there exists  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \not\leq \beta$ .

**Proof.** If  $|X\alpha| \geq 2$ , then there exist  $x, y \in X$  and  $x \neq y$  such that  $x\alpha \neq y\alpha$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by  $z\beta = x\alpha$  for all  $z \in X$ , then  $y\alpha \in X\alpha$  but  $y\alpha \notin \{x\alpha\} = Y\beta$ . Therefore  $X\alpha \not\subseteq Y\beta$  which follows that  $\alpha \not\leq \beta$ .

If  $|X\alpha| = 1$ , then  $\alpha : X \rightarrow \{a\}$  for some  $a \in Y$ . Since  $|Y| \geq 2$ , there exists  $b \in Y$  such that  $b \neq a$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by  $z\beta = b$  for all  $z \in X$ . Then  $X\alpha = \{a\} \not\subseteq \{b\} = Y\beta$  which implies that  $\alpha \not\leq \beta$ . ■

**Remark 3.3.10** If  $|Y| \geq 2$ , then  $T(X, Y)$  has no minimum element.

**Proof.** Similarly to Remark 3.3.8. ■

**Theorem 3.3.11** Let  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ . Then there exists a maximal element  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ .

**Proof.** If  $\alpha$  is a maximal element, then we let  $\beta = \alpha$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . Now, suppose that  $\alpha$  is not maximal. We have  $\alpha \in F$  and  $\alpha$  is not surjective and injective by Theorem 3.3.2. Let  $C(\alpha) = \{x\alpha^{-1} : x \in Y \text{ and } |x\alpha^{-1}| > 1\}$ . Since  $\alpha$  is not injective, we have  $C(\alpha)$  is nonempty. Since  $\alpha \in F$  and  $\alpha$  is not surjective, we get  $Y\alpha = X\alpha \subsetneq Y$ , thus  $Y \setminus X\alpha \neq \emptyset$ . For each  $C \in C(\alpha)$ , choose  $d_C \in C \cap Y$ , then  $C \setminus \{d_C\} \neq \emptyset$ . We consider in two cases.

**Case I:**  $|\bigcup_{C \in C(\alpha)} (C \setminus \{d_C\})| \geq |Y \setminus X\alpha|$ . Then there exists an injection  $\gamma$  such that

$$\gamma : Y \setminus X\alpha \rightarrow \bigcup_{C \in C(\alpha)} (C \setminus \{d_C\}).$$

For each  $z \in \text{im} \gamma$ ,  $|z\gamma^{-1}| = 1$  since  $\gamma$  is injective, so let  $z\gamma^{-1} = \{g_z\}$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} g_z & \text{if } z \in \text{im} \gamma \\ z\alpha & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $K(\alpha, \beta) = \text{im} \gamma$ . Let  $x \in K(\alpha, \beta)$ . We have  $x\beta = g_x \in Y \setminus X\alpha$ . Since  $x \in K(\alpha, \beta)$ , we get  $x \in C \setminus \{d_C\}$  for some  $C \in C(\alpha)$ . Then  $x\alpha = d_C\alpha = d_C\beta \in Y\beta$  since  $d_C \notin \text{im} \gamma$ . For each  $p, q \in K(\alpha, \beta) = \text{im} \gamma$  with  $p \neq q$ , we have  $p\beta = g_p \in Y \setminus X\alpha$ , and  $p\beta = g_p \neq g_q = q\beta$  since  $\gamma$  is a function. Therefore  $\alpha \leq \beta$  by Corollary 3.1.6. Next, we show that  $\beta$  is surjective by letting  $y \in Y$ . If  $y \in X\alpha$ , then  $y = x\alpha$  for some  $x \in X$ . For if  $x \in \text{im} \gamma$ , then  $y = x\alpha = d_{C_0}\alpha = d_{C_0}\beta$  for some  $C_0 \in C(\alpha)$ , but if  $x \notin \text{im} \gamma$ , then  $y = x\alpha = x\beta$ . In the other hand, if  $y \in Y \setminus X\alpha$ , then  $y\gamma \in \text{im} \gamma$  and that  $(y\gamma)\beta = g_{y\gamma} \in (y\gamma)\gamma^{-1} = \{y\}$ , thus  $(y\gamma)\beta = y$ . Therefore

$\beta$  is surjective which implies that  $\beta$  is maximal by Theorem 3.3.2.

**Case II:**  $|\bigcup_{C \in C(\alpha)} (C \setminus \{d_C\})| < |Y \setminus X\alpha|$ . Then there exists an injection  $\gamma$  such that

$$\gamma : \bigcup_{C \in C(\alpha)} (C \setminus \{d_C\}) \rightarrow Y \setminus X\alpha.$$

We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\gamma & \text{if } z \in \text{dom}\gamma \\ z\alpha & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In this case we have  $K(\alpha, \beta) = \text{dom}\gamma$ . Let  $x \in K(\alpha, \beta)$ . Then  $x\beta = x\gamma \in Y \setminus X\alpha$  and  $x\alpha = d_C\alpha = d_C\beta \in Y\beta$  for some  $C \in C(\alpha)$ . For each  $p, q \in K(\alpha, \beta)$  with  $p \neq q$  we have,  $p\beta = p\gamma \neq q\gamma = q\beta$  since  $\gamma$  is injective. Therefore  $\alpha \leq \beta$  by Corollary 3.1.6. Next, we show that  $\beta$  is injective. Let  $x\beta = y\beta$ . If  $x \in \text{dom}\gamma$ , then  $y\beta = x\beta = x\gamma \in Y \setminus X\alpha$ , so  $y \in \text{dom}\gamma$  (if  $y \notin \text{dom}\gamma$ , then  $y\beta = y\alpha \in X\alpha$ ) and thus  $x\gamma = x\beta = y\beta = y\gamma$ , hence  $x = y$  since  $\gamma$  is injective. If  $x \notin \text{dom}\gamma$ , then  $y\beta = x\beta = x\alpha \in X\alpha$ , thus  $y \notin \text{dom}\gamma$  (if  $y \in \text{dom}\gamma$ , then  $y\beta = y\gamma \notin X\alpha$ ) and hence  $x\alpha = x\beta = y\beta = y\alpha$ . From  $x, y \notin \text{dom}\gamma$ , we get  $x, y \in \{d_C : C \in C(\alpha)\} \cup \{x : |x\alpha^{-1}| = 1\}$ , thus  $x = y$ . Therefore,  $\beta$  is injective and  $\beta$  is maximal by Theorem 3.3.2. ■

**Example 3.3.12** Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $Y = \{1, 3, 5\}$ . We define  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 5 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have  $X\alpha = \{1, 5\} = Y\alpha$  which follows that  $\alpha \in F$ . And we see that  $\alpha$  is not surjective and injective. By Theorem 3.3.2,  $\alpha$  is not maximal. Then there is  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 5 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and  $X\beta = \{1, 3, 5\} = Y$  which follow that  $\beta$  is surjective. By Theorem 3.3.2,  $\beta$  is maximal. Therefore  $\alpha$  lies below some maximal elements.

**Theorem 3.3.13** *Let  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$ . Then there exists a minimal element  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\beta \leq \alpha$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $Y\alpha \neq \emptyset$ , we choose  $a \in Y\alpha$ . Let  $\beta$  be the constant map with image  $\{a\}$ . Then  $\beta$  is a minimal element by Theorem 3.3.4. We see that  $X\beta = \{a\} \subseteq Y\alpha$  and  $\pi_\alpha \subseteq X \times X = \pi_\beta$ . Let  $x\alpha \in X\beta = \{a\}$ . Then  $x\alpha = a = x\beta$ . Therefore  $\beta \leq \alpha$  by Theorem 3.1.3. ■

**Example 3.3.14** Let  $X$  be the set of all real numbers,  $Y$  the set of all nonnegative real numbers. We define  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  by  $x\alpha = |x|$  for all  $x \in X$ . We see that  $|X\alpha| > 1$  which implies that  $\alpha$  is not minimal by Theorem 3.3.4. Let  $c$  be a nonnegative real number. Consider  $\beta_c \in T(X, Y)$  which is defined by  $x\beta_c = c$  for all  $x \in X$ . We see that  $\beta_c \leq \alpha$ . Since  $|X\beta_c| = |\{c\}| = 1$ , we get  $\beta_c$  is minimal by Theorem 3.3.4. Therefore  $\alpha$  lies above some minimal elements. ■

By Theorem 3.3.11 and Theorem 3.3.13, we have the following result immediately.

**Corollary 3.3.15** *Every element in  $T(X, Y)$  must lie below some maximal and lie above some minimal elements.*

### 3.4 Covering Elements

Recall that an element  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  is called an upper cover for  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  if  $\alpha < \beta$  and there exists no  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$ . Lower cover

is defined dually. In this section, we describe the covering elements in  $T(X, Y)$  where  $|Y| > 1$ . We first give the following remark.

**Remark 3.4.1** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ . Then  $\alpha$  is a lower cover for  $\beta$  if and only if  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha$  be a lower cover for  $\beta$ . Then  $\alpha < \beta$  and there exists no  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  such that  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$ . Therefore  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$  by the definition.

The converse is similar to the first part. ■

**Lemma 3.4.2** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . If  $X\alpha = X\beta$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $x \in X$ . Since  $x\beta \in X\beta = X\alpha$ , we have  $x\alpha = x\beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Thus  $\alpha = \beta$ . ■

**Lemma 3.4.3** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ . If  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ , then  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or 1.*

**Proof.** Let  $\beta$  be an upper cover for  $\alpha$ . It follows that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  and that  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ . Suppose that  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| \geq 2$  which implies that there exist  $a, b \in Y\beta \setminus X\alpha$  such that  $a \neq b$ . We define  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\gamma = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z \notin a\beta^{-1} \\ a & \text{if } z \in a\beta^{-1}. \end{cases}$$

Since  $a \in X\gamma$  but  $a \notin X\alpha$ , we have  $\alpha \neq \gamma$ . Since  $b \in Y\beta$ , we have  $b \in X\beta$ . Since  $X\gamma \subseteq X\alpha \cup \{a\}$ , we get  $b \notin X\gamma$ , then  $\gamma \neq \beta$ . Therefore  $\alpha \neq \gamma \neq \beta$ . Next, we show that  $\alpha \leq \gamma \leq \beta$ .

Firstly, we prove that  $\alpha \leq \gamma$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Let  $x\alpha \in X\alpha$ . Since  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ , we have  $x\alpha = y\beta$  for some  $y \in Y$  which follows that  $y\beta \in X\alpha$ . Thus  $y\alpha = y\beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Since  $a \notin X\alpha$ , we have  $y\beta = x\alpha \neq a$ . Then  $y \notin a\beta^{-1}$  which implies that  $x\alpha = y\beta = y\alpha = y\gamma$ . Therefore  $x\alpha \in Y\gamma$  which implies that

$X\alpha \subseteq Y\gamma$ . Let  $(x, y) \in \pi_\gamma$ , then  $x\gamma = y\gamma$ . If  $x \notin a\beta^{-1}$  and  $y \in a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $x\gamma = x\alpha \neq a = y\gamma$  which is a contradiction. That is  $x, y \notin a\beta^{-1}$ ; or  $x, y \in a\beta^{-1}$ . If  $x, y \notin a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $x\alpha = x\gamma = y\gamma = y\alpha$  and  $(x, y) \in \pi_\alpha$ . If  $x, y \in a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $x\beta = a = y\beta$  and  $(x, y) \in \pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . Thus  $\pi_\alpha \subseteq \pi_\gamma$ . Let  $x\gamma \in X\alpha$ . If  $x \in a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $x\gamma = a \notin X\alpha$  which is a contradiction, so  $x \notin a\beta^{-1}$  which implies that  $x\gamma = x\alpha$ . Therefore  $\alpha \leq \gamma$ .

Finally, we show that  $\gamma \leq \beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Let  $x\gamma \in X\gamma$ . We have  $X\gamma \subseteq X\alpha \cup \{a\} \subseteq Y\beta \cup \{a\} = Y\beta$  since  $a \in Y\beta$ . Thus  $X\gamma \subseteq Y\beta$ . Let  $(x, y) \in \pi_\beta$ , then  $x\beta = y\beta$ . Since  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ , we have  $x\alpha = y\alpha$ . If  $x \notin a\beta^{-1}$  and  $y \in a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $y\beta = a \neq x\beta$  which is a contradiction. So  $x, y \notin a\beta^{-1}$ ; or  $x, y \in a\beta^{-1}$ . If  $x, y \notin a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $x\gamma = x\alpha = y\alpha = y\gamma$  and that  $(x, y) \in \pi_\gamma$ . If  $x, y \in a\beta^{-1}$ , then  $x\gamma = a = y\gamma$  and that  $(x, y) \in \pi_\gamma$ . Therefore  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\gamma$ . Let  $x\beta \in X\gamma$ . Then  $x\beta \in X\alpha \cup \{a\}$ . If  $x\beta = a$ , then  $x \in a\beta^{-1}$  which implies that  $x\gamma = a = x\beta$ . If  $x\beta \in X\alpha$ , then  $x\beta = x\alpha$  (since  $\alpha \leq \beta$ ). Thus  $x\beta = x\alpha = x\gamma$  (since  $x \notin a\beta^{-1}$ ). Therefore  $\gamma \leq \beta$ .

It is concluded that  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$ . This contradicts the hypothesis that  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ . Therefore  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or 1. ■

**Lemma 3.4.4** *Let  $\beta$  be an upper cover for  $\alpha$ . If  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ , then  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$  and  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| \neq 1$ . If  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$ , then  $X\beta \subseteq X\alpha$ . Since  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta \subseteq X\beta$ , thus  $X\beta = X\alpha$ . By Lemma 3.4.2, we have  $\alpha = \beta$  which is a contradiction, then  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| \geq 2$ . Let  $y\beta \in Y\beta \setminus X\alpha$  for some  $y \in Y$ . We define  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\gamma = \begin{cases} y\beta & \text{if } z\beta = y\beta \\ z\alpha & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since  $y\beta \notin X\alpha$  but  $y\beta = y\gamma \in X\gamma$ , we have  $\alpha \neq \gamma$ . Since  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| \geq 2$  and  $y\beta \in Y\beta \setminus X\alpha \subseteq X\beta \setminus X\alpha$ , there exists  $x\beta \in X\beta \setminus X\alpha$  such that  $x\beta \neq y\beta$  and  $x \notin Y$  (if  $x \in Y$ , then  $x\beta \in Y\beta \setminus X\alpha$  and  $x\beta = y\beta$  since  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ ). We have

$x\gamma = x\alpha \in X\alpha$  since  $x\beta \neq y\beta$  but  $x\beta \notin X\alpha$ , we have  $x\gamma \neq x\beta$  which implies that  $\gamma \neq \beta$ . Next, we show that  $\alpha \leq \gamma \leq \beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3.

Firstly, we prove that  $\alpha \leq \gamma$ . Let  $p\alpha \in X\alpha$ . Since  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ , we have  $p\alpha = q\beta$  for some  $q \in Y$ . Since  $q\beta = p\alpha \in X\alpha$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have  $q\beta = q\alpha$ . If  $q\beta = y\beta$ , then  $p\alpha = q\beta = q\gamma \in Y\gamma$ . If  $q\beta \neq y\beta$ , then  $p\alpha = q\beta = q\alpha = q\gamma \in Y\gamma$ . Therefore  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\gamma$ . Let  $(u, v) \in \pi_\gamma$ . Then  $u\gamma = v\gamma$ . Suppose that  $u\beta = y\beta$  and  $v\beta \neq y\beta$ , then  $u\gamma = y\beta$  and  $v\gamma = v\alpha$ . Since  $u\gamma = y\beta \notin X\alpha$  and  $v\gamma = v\alpha \in X\alpha$ , we have  $u\gamma \neq v\gamma$  which is a contradiction. Thus this case is impossible. So  $u\beta = y\beta = v\beta$  or  $u\beta \neq y\beta \neq v\beta$ . If  $u\beta = y\beta = v\beta$ , then  $(u, v) \in \pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . If  $u\beta \neq y\beta \neq v\beta$ , then  $u\alpha = u\gamma = v\gamma = v\alpha$  which implies that  $(u, v) \in \pi_\alpha$ . Therefore  $\pi_\gamma \subseteq \pi_\alpha$ . Let  $w\gamma \in X\alpha$ . We have  $w\beta \neq y\beta$  (if  $w\beta = y\beta$ , then  $y\beta = w\gamma \in X\alpha$ ), then  $w\gamma = w\alpha$ .

Finally, we show that  $\gamma \leq \beta$ . Let  $p\gamma \in X\gamma$ . If  $p\beta = y\beta$ , then  $p\gamma = y\beta \in Y\beta$ . If  $p\beta \neq y\beta$ , then  $p\gamma = p\alpha \in X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ . Therefore  $X\gamma \subseteq Y\beta$ . Let  $(u, v) \in \pi_\beta$ . Then  $u\beta = v\beta$ . If  $u\beta = y\beta = v\beta$ , then  $u\gamma = u\beta = v\beta = v\gamma$  which follows that  $(u, v) \in \pi_\gamma$ . If  $u\beta \neq y\beta \neq v\beta$ , then  $u\gamma = u\alpha = v\alpha = v\gamma$  which implies that  $(u, v) \in \pi_\gamma$ . Therefore  $\pi_\beta \subseteq \pi_\gamma$ . Let  $w\beta \in X\gamma$ . Since  $X\gamma \subseteq X\alpha \cup \{y\beta\}$ , we have  $w\beta \in X\alpha$  or  $w\beta = y\beta$ . If  $w\beta \in X\alpha$ , then  $w\beta \neq y\beta$  since  $y\beta \notin X\alpha$ . Thus  $w\gamma = w\alpha$ . Since  $w\beta \in X\alpha$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have  $w\alpha = w\beta$ . Then  $w\gamma = w\beta$ . If  $w\beta = y\beta$ , then  $w\gamma = y\beta = w\beta$ .

It is concluded that  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$  which contradicts the hypothesis that  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ . Therefore  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ . ■

**Theorem 3.4.5** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ . Then  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$  if and only if the following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\alpha < \beta$ ;
- (2)  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ .

**Proof.** Firstly, assume that (1) and (2) hold. Let  $\gamma \in T(X, Y)$  be such that  $\alpha \leq \gamma \leq \beta$ . If  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$ , then  $Y\beta \subseteq X\alpha$ . Since  $\alpha < \beta$ , we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$ , thus  $Y\beta = X\alpha$ . We have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\gamma \subseteq X\gamma \subseteq Y\beta = X\alpha$ , thus  $X\alpha = X\gamma$  and that

$\alpha = \gamma$ . Now, we consider the case  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ . Since  $\alpha \leq \gamma \leq \beta$ , we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\gamma \subseteq X\gamma \subseteq Y\beta \subseteq X\beta$ . Since  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ , it follows that  $X\alpha = X\gamma$  or  $X\gamma = X\beta$ . Thus  $\alpha = \gamma$  or  $\gamma = \beta$  by Remark 3.4.2.

To prove the converse, assume that  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ . Then  $\alpha < \beta$  and  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or  $1$  by Lemma 3.4.3. Suppose that  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| \neq 0$ , then  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ . By Lemma 3.4.4, we have  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ . ■

**Theorem 3.4.6** *Let  $\alpha, \beta \in T(X, Y)$ . Then  $\alpha$  is a lower cover for  $\beta$  if and only if the following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\alpha < \beta$ ;
- (2)  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ .

**Proof.** If  $\alpha$  is a lower cover for  $\beta$ , then  $\alpha < \beta$ . By Remark 3.4.1,  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ , and by Theorem 3.4.5 we get  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ .

If (1) and (2) hold, then by Theorem 3.4.5 we have  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$  and Remark 3.4.1 gives  $\alpha$  is a lower cover for  $\beta$ . ■

**Example 3.4.7** Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $Y = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . We define  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Consider  $\beta, \gamma \in T(X, Y)$  which are defined by

$$\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can see that  $\alpha < \beta$  and  $\alpha < \gamma$ . Since  $Y\beta = \{1, 2\} = X\alpha$ , we get  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  which follows that  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$  by Theorem 3.4.5. Since  $X\gamma = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $X\alpha = \{1, 2\}$ , then  $|X\gamma \setminus X\alpha| = |\{3\}| = 1$  which follows that  $\gamma$  is also an upper cover for  $\alpha$  by Theorem 3.4.5.

Conversely, we can see that  $\alpha$  is a lower cover for  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  by Theorem 3.4.6. ■

**Theorem 3.4.8** *Every nonmaximal element in  $T(X, Y)$  has an upper cover.*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha$  be a nonmaximal element in  $T(X, Y)$ . By Theorem 3.3.2,  $\alpha \in F$  is not injective and surjective. Then there exist  $u, v \in X$  such that  $u \neq v$  and  $u\alpha = v\alpha$ . Since  $X\alpha \neq Y$ , there exists  $w \in Y \setminus X\alpha$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z \neq x \\ w & \text{if } z = x. \end{cases}$$

Then  $w \in X\beta$  but  $w \notin X\alpha$ , thus  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . We prove that  $\alpha \leq \beta$  by Corollary 3.1.6. We see that  $K(\alpha, \beta) = \{x \in X : x\alpha \neq x\beta\} = \{u\}$ . Let  $a \in K(\alpha, \beta) = \{u\}$ . We have  $a\beta = u\beta = w \notin X\alpha$  and  $a\alpha = u\alpha = v\alpha = v\beta \in Y\beta$ . Therefore  $\alpha < \beta$ .

Next, we show that  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$  or  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$  by considering  $u \in Y$  or  $u \notin Y$ .

If  $u \in Y$ , we show that  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ . By the definition of  $\beta$ , we get  $w \in X\beta \setminus X\alpha$ . To prove the uniqueness, assume that there is  $b \in X\beta \setminus X\alpha$ , then  $b = c\beta$  for some  $c \in X$ . If  $c \neq u$ , then  $c\beta = c\alpha$ . Thus  $b = c\alpha \in X\alpha$  which is a contradiction. Hence  $c = u$ , then  $b = c\beta = u\beta = w$ . Therefore  $|X\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 1$ .

If  $u \notin Y$ . We prove that  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$ . Let  $y\beta \in Y\beta$  for some  $y \in Y$ . Since  $u \notin Y$ , we have  $y \neq u$  which follows that  $y\beta = y\alpha \in X\alpha$ . Then  $Y\beta \subseteq X\alpha$ . Since  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have  $X\alpha \subseteq Y\beta$  by Theorem 3.1.3. Therefore  $Y\beta = X\alpha$  which implies that  $|Y\beta \setminus X\alpha| = 0$ .

By Theorem 3.4.5,  $\beta$  is an upper cover for  $\alpha$ . ■

**Theorem 3.4.9** *Every nonminimal element in  $T(X, Y)$  has a lower cover.*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha$  be any nonminimal element in  $T(X, Y)$ . By Theorem 3.3.4,  $|X\alpha| > 1$ .

**Case I:**  $\alpha \in F$ . Since  $|X\alpha| > 1$ , there exist  $x, y \in X\alpha$  such that  $x \neq y$ . We define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z \notin x\alpha^{-1} \\ y & \text{if } z \in x\alpha^{-1}. \end{cases}$$

We show that  $\beta \leq \alpha$  by Theorem 3.1.3. It is obvious that  $X\beta \subseteq X\alpha = Y\alpha$  (since  $\alpha \in F$ ). Let  $(a, b) \in \pi_\alpha$ . Then  $a\alpha = b\alpha$ . If  $a, b \in x\alpha^{-1}$ , then  $a\beta = y = b\beta$ . If  $a, b \notin x\alpha^{-1}$ , then  $a\beta = a\alpha = b\alpha = b\beta$ . Therefore  $\pi_\alpha \subseteq \pi_\beta$ . Let  $a\alpha \in X\beta$ . If  $a \in x\alpha^{-1}$ , then  $a\alpha = x \notin X\beta$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $a \notin x\alpha^{-1}$  which implies that  $a\alpha = a\beta$ . Therefore  $\beta \leq \alpha$ . Next, we show that  $|X\alpha \setminus X\beta| = 1$ . We know that  $x \in X\alpha \setminus X\beta$ . Assume that there is  $u \in X\alpha \setminus X\beta$ , then  $u = v\alpha$  for some  $v \in X$ . If  $v \notin x\alpha^{-1}$ , then  $v\beta = v\alpha$ . Thus  $u = v\beta \in X\beta$  which is a contradiction. Hence  $v \in x\alpha^{-1}$  which follows that  $u = v\alpha = x$ . Therefore  $|X\alpha \setminus X\beta| = 1$ . Since  $x \in X\alpha \setminus X\beta$ , we have  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

By Theorem 3.4.6,  $\beta$  is a lower cover for  $\alpha$ .

**Case II:**  $\alpha \notin F$ . Then  $Y\alpha \subsetneq X\alpha$ . We choose  $y \in Y\alpha$  and define  $\beta \in T(X, Y)$  by

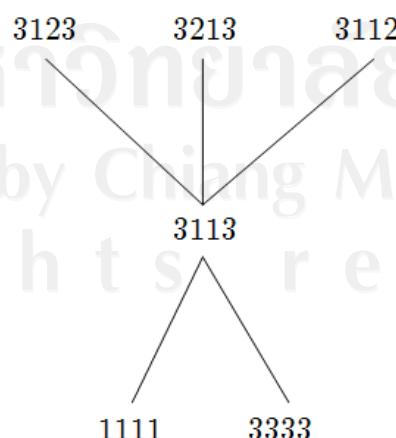
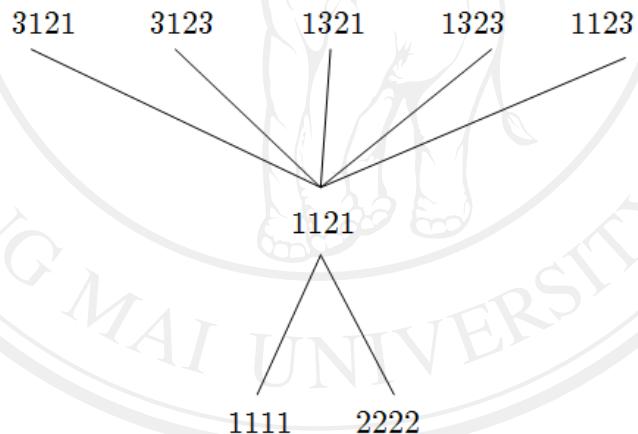
$$z\beta = \begin{cases} z\alpha & \text{if } z\alpha \in Y\alpha \\ y & \text{if } z\alpha \notin Y\alpha. \end{cases}$$

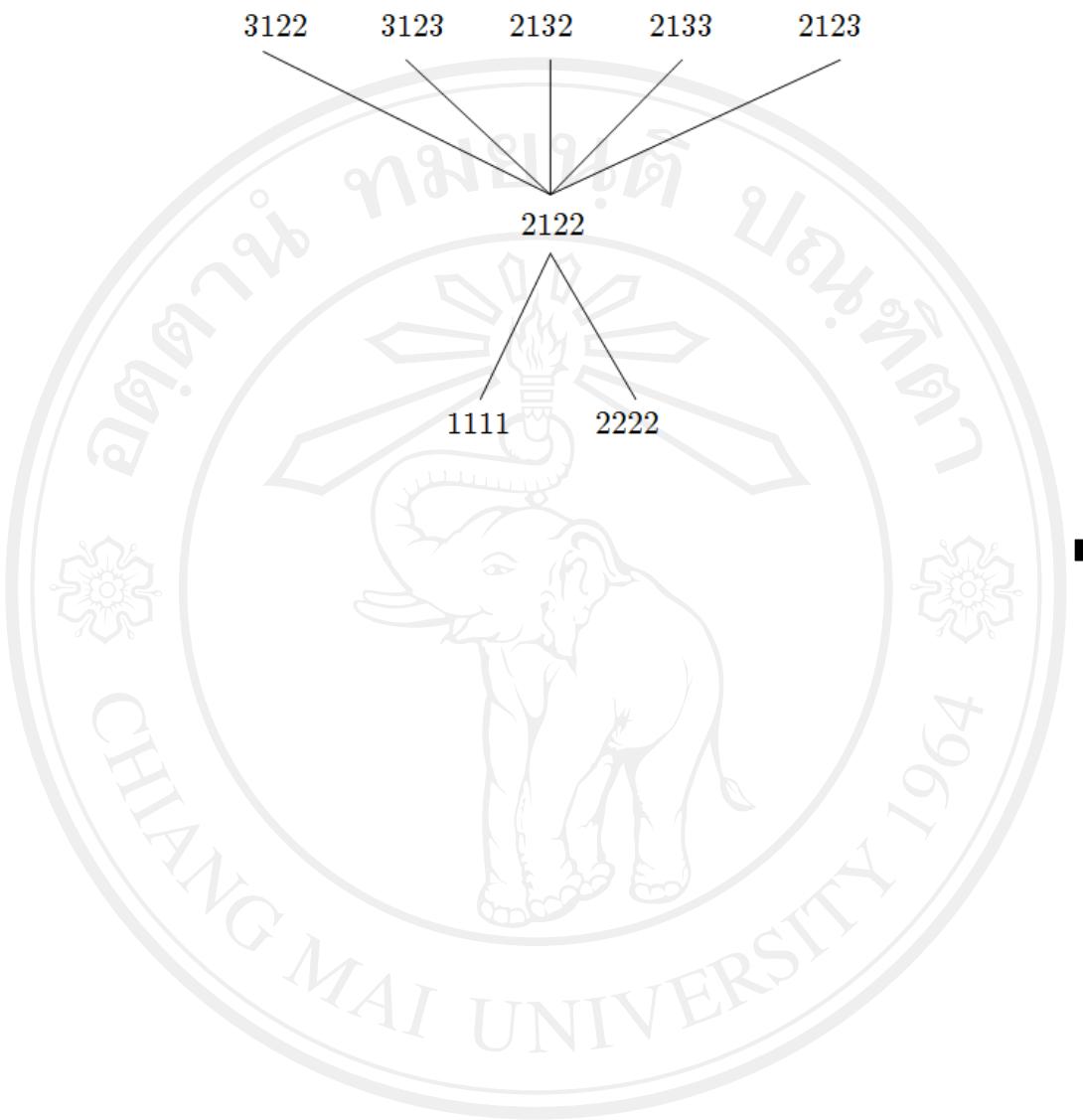
We show that  $\beta \leq \alpha$  by Theorem 3.1.3. By the definition of  $\beta$ , we have  $X\beta \subseteq Y\alpha$ . Let  $(a, b) \in \pi_\alpha$ . Then  $a\alpha = b\alpha$ . If  $a\alpha = b\alpha \in Y\alpha$ , then  $a\beta = a\alpha = b\alpha = b\beta$  which implies that  $(a, b) \in \pi_\beta$ . If  $a\alpha = b\alpha \notin Y\alpha$ , then  $a\beta = y = b\beta$  which follows that  $(a, b) \in \pi_\beta$ . Hence  $\pi_\alpha \subseteq \pi_\beta$ . Let  $a\alpha \in X\beta$ . Since  $X\beta \subseteq Y\alpha$ , we have  $a\alpha \in Y\alpha$  which implies that  $a\alpha = a\beta$ . Therefore  $\beta \leq \alpha$ . Next, we show that  $|Y\alpha \setminus X\beta| = 0$ . Let  $a\alpha \in Y\alpha$ . By the definition of  $\beta$ , we get  $a\alpha = a\beta \in X\beta$ . Hence  $Y\alpha \subseteq X\beta$ , and that  $|Y\alpha \setminus X\beta| = 0$ . Since  $\alpha \notin F$ , we have  $Y\alpha \neq X\alpha$ . Then there is  $p \in X\alpha \setminus Y\alpha$ . Since  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , we get  $X\beta \subseteq Y\alpha$  and  $p \notin Y\alpha$  implies  $p \notin X\beta$ . Thus  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .

Therefore  $\beta$  is a lower cover for  $\alpha$  by Theorem 3.4.6. ■

**Example 3.4.10** Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $Y = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . The notation  $abcd$  for a map  $\alpha \in T(X, Y)$  means that  $1\alpha = a, 2\alpha = b, 3\alpha = c, 4\alpha = d$ . We have:

- (1) the set of all maximal elements in  $T(X, Y)$  is  $\{1231, 1232, 1233, 1321, 1322, 1323, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2311, 2312, 2313, 3121, 3122, 3123, 3211, 3212, 3213, 1213, 1223, 1312, 1332, 2113, 2123, 2321, 2331, 3112, 3132, 3221, 3231, 1123, 1132, 2213, 2231, 3312, 3321, 2221, 3331, 1112, 3332, 1113, 2223\}$ ;
- (2) the set of all minimal elements in  $T(X, Y)$  is  $\{1111, 2222, 3333\}$ ;
- (3) the following diagrams show upper and lower covers for some nonmaximal and nonminimal elements: 1121, 3113 and 2122.





ลิขสิทธิ์มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
Copyright<sup>©</sup> by Chiang Mai University  
All rights reserved