



## CHAPTER IV

### MAXIMAL COMMUTATIVE SUBSEMIGROUPS OF MATRIX SEMIGROUPS

Let  $S$  be a commutative semiring with  $0,1$  and  $n$  a positive integer. If  $n > 1$ , then the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$  is not commutative since  $0 \neq 1$ . Let  $D_n(S)$  and  $C_n(S)$  denote the set of all diagonal  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  and the set of all circulant  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$ , respectively, where a circulant  $n \times n$  matrix over  $S$  is a matrix over  $S$  in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_n \\ a_n & a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_{n-1} \\ a_{n-1} & a_n & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & \dots & a_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Kim Jin Bai proved in [5] that  $D_n(S)$  and  $C_n(S)$  are maximal commutative subsemigroups of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$  if  $S$  is the semiring  $([0,1], \max, \min)$ . It can be seen easily from his proofs that  $D_n(S)$  and  $C_n(S)$  are maximal commutative subsemigroups of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$  for any commutative semiring  $S$  with  $0,1$ .

In this chapter we shall introduce three other maximal commutative subsemigroups of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$  with  $S$  any commutative semiring with  $0,1$  and  $n$  any positive integer. Also, we give one different maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(R)$  with  $R$  any commutative ring with identity and  $n$  any positive integer.

Theorem 4.1. Let  $S$  be a commutative semiring with  $0, 1$  and  $n$  a positive integer. Then the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & a_2 & \dots & b_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & b_2 & \dots & a_2 & 0 \\ b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ .

Proof. Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the above form. If  $n = 1$  then  $\mathcal{U} = M_1(S)$ , so we are done. Assume  $n > 1$  and let

$$\Lambda = \begin{cases} \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n-1}{2}\} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Then for  $A \in M_n(S)$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{U}$  if and only if  $A_{ii} = A_{(n-i)+1, (n-i)+1}$ ,  $A_{i, (n-i)+1} = A_{(n-i)+1, i}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$  and  $A_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $j \neq i$  and  $j \neq (n-i)+1$ . Clearly,  $aI_n \in \mathcal{U}$  for all  $a \in S$  where  $I_n$  is the identity  $n \times n$  matrix over  $S$ .

To show that  $\mathcal{U}$  is a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ , let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & a_2 & \dots & b_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & b_2 & \dots & a_2 & 0 \\ b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A' = \begin{bmatrix} a'_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b'_1 \\ 0 & a'_2 & \dots & b'_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & b'_2 & \dots & a'_2 & 0 \\ b'_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a'_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

be elements of  $\mathcal{U}$ . Then

$$AA' = \begin{bmatrix} a_1\bar{a}_1 + b_1\bar{b}_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1\bar{b}_1 + b_1\bar{a}_1 \\ 0 & a_2\bar{a}_2 + b_2\bar{b}_2 & \dots & a_2\bar{b}_2 + b_2\bar{a}_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & b_2\bar{a}_2 + a_2\bar{b}_2 & \dots & b_2\bar{b}_2 + a_2\bar{a}_2 & 0 \\ b_1\bar{a}_1 + a_1\bar{b}_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1\bar{b}_1 + a_1\bar{a}_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A'A = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{a}_1a_1 + \bar{b}_1b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \bar{a}_1b_1 + \bar{b}_1a_1 \\ 0 & \bar{a}_2a_2 + \bar{b}_2b_2 & \dots & \bar{a}_2b_2 + \bar{b}_2a_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \bar{b}_2a_2 + \bar{a}_2b_2 & \dots & \bar{b}_2b_2 + \bar{a}_2a_2 & 0 \\ \bar{b}_1a_1 + \bar{a}_1b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \bar{b}_1b_1 + \bar{a}_1a_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

so  $AA' = A'A$  which is an element of  $\mathcal{U}$ , since  $S$  is commutative.

To show that  $\mathcal{U}$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ , it suffices to show that if  $X$  is an element of

$M_n(S)$  such that  $AX = XA$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{U}$ , then  $X \in \mathcal{U}$ . Let  $X =$

$(x_{ij}) \in M_n(S)$  be such that  $XA = AX$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{U}$ . For each  $k \in \Lambda$ ,

let  $A^{(k)}$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix over  $S$  defined by

$$A_{ij}^{(k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j = k \text{ or } i = j = (n-k)+1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \text{Then } A^{(k)} \in \mathcal{U} \text{ for}$$

every  $k \in \Lambda$ , so  $XA^{(k)} = A^{(k)}X$  for every  $k \in \Lambda$ . If  $k \in \Lambda, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,

$j \neq k$  and  $j \neq (n-k)+1$ , then

$$A_{kt}^{(k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = k, \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq k, \end{cases}$$

$$A_{(n-k)+1,t}^{(k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = n-k+1, \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq n-k+1, \end{cases}$$

$$A_{tj}^{(k)} = 0 \quad \text{for every } t \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

hence

$$(A^{(k)}x)_{kj} = \sum_{t=1}^n A_{kt}^{(k)} x_{tj} = x_{kj},$$

$$(xA^{(k)})_{kj} = \sum_{t=1}^n x_{kt} A_{tj}^{(k)} = 0,$$

$$(A^{(k)}x)_{(n-k)+1,j} = \sum_{t=1}^n A_{(n-k)+1,t}^{(k)} x_{tj} = x_{(n-k)+1,j},$$

$$(xA^{(k)})_{(n-k)+1,j} = \sum_{t=1}^n x_{(n-k)+1,t} A_{tj}^{(k)} = 0.$$

Therefore  $x_{kj} = 0 = x_{(n-k)+1,j}$  for all  $k \in \Lambda$  and for all  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $j \neq k$  and  $j \neq (n-k)+1$  which implies that  $x_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $j \neq i$  and  $j \neq n-i+1$ . Now we have

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{1n} \\ 0 & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2,n-1} & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & x_{n-1,2} & \dots & x_{n-1,n-1} & 0 \\ x_{n1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $B$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix over  $S$  defined by  $B_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = (n-i)+1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Then  $B \in \mathcal{U}$ , so  $BX = XB$ . Since

$$BX = \begin{bmatrix} x_{n1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{nn} \\ 0 & x_{n-1,2} & \dots & x_{n-1,n-1} & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2,n-1} & 0 \\ x_{11} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{1n} \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $XB = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1n} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{11} \\ 0 & x_{2,n-1} & \dots & x_{22} & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & x_{n-1,n-1} & \dots & x_{n-1,2} & 0 \\ x_{nn} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{n1} \end{bmatrix}$

we have that  $x_{ii} = x_{(n-i)+1,(n-i)+1}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ ,  $x_{i,(n-i)+1} = x_{(n-i)+1,i}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . Hence  $X \in \mathbb{U}$ . #

Theorem 4.2. Let  $S$  be a commutative semiring with  $0, 1$  and  $n$  a positive integer. Then the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_n \\ 0 & a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ .

Proof. Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the above form, that is, for  $A \in M_n(S)$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{V}$  if and only if  $A_{ij} = 0$  if  $i > j$  and  $A_{i,i+k-1} = A_{1,1+k-1} = A_{1k}$  for all  $i, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $i+k-1 < n$ . Then  $aI_n \in \mathbb{V}$  for every  $a \in S$ .

To show that  $\mathbb{V}$  is a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ , let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_n \\ 0 & a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & \dots & b_n \\ 0 & b_1 & b_2 & \dots & b_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & b_1 & \dots & b_{n-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & b_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

be elements of  ${}^a V$ . Then

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 b_1 & a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1 & a_1 b_3 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_1 & \dots & a_1 b_n + \dots + a_n b_1 \\ 0 & a_1 b_1 & a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1 & \dots & a_1 b_{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & a_1 b_1 & \dots & a_1 b_{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-2} b_1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_1 b_1 \\ b_1 a_1 & b_1 a_1 + b_2 a_1 & b_1 a_3 + b_2 a_2 + b_3 a_1 & \dots & b_1 a_n + \dots + b_n a_1 \\ 0 & b_1 a_1 & b_1 a_2 + b_2 a_1 & \dots & b_1 a_{n-1} + \dots + b_{n-1} a_1 \\ 0 & 0 & b_1 a_1 & \dots & b_1 a_{n-2} + \dots + b_{n-2} a_1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & b_1 a_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$BA = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 a_1 & b_1 a_1 + b_2 a_1 & b_1 a_3 + b_2 a_2 + b_3 a_1 & \dots & b_1 a_n + \dots + b_n a_1 \\ 0 & b_1 a_1 & b_1 a_2 + b_2 a_1 & \dots & b_1 a_{n-1} + \dots + b_{n-1} a_1 \\ 0 & 0 & b_1 a_1 & \dots & b_1 a_{n-2} + \dots + b_{n-2} a_1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & b_1 a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so  $AB \in {}^a V$  and  $AB = BA$  since  $S$  is commutative.

To show  ${}^a V$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ , let  $X \in M_n(S)$  be such that  $XA = AX$  for every  $A \in {}^a V$ . For each  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , let  $D^{(k)} \in {}^a V$  be defined by

$$D_{ij}^{(k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = n-k+i, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

that is,

$$D^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} & & & & n-k+1 \text{ th col.} \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow k \text{ th row},$$

$$\text{Then } XD^{(k)} = D^{(k)}X.$$

To show that  $x_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $i > j$ , let  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $i > j$ . Then  $XD^{(j)} = D^{(j)}X$ , so  $(XD^{(j)})_{in} = (D^{(j)}X)_{in}$ .

$$\text{Since } D_{tn}^{(j)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = j, \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq j, \end{cases} \text{ we have that}$$

$$(XD^{(j)})_{in} = \sum_{t=1}^n x_{it} D_{tn}^{(j)} = x_{ij}.$$

Since  $i > j$ ,  $D_{it}^{(j)} = 0$  for every  $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , so we have

$$(D^{(j)}X)_{in} = \sum_{t=1}^n D_{it}^{(j)} x_{tn} = 0.$$

Hence  $x_{ij} = 0$ .

Next, we shall show that  $x_{i,i+k-1} = x_{1k}$  for all  $i, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $i+k-1 < n$ . Let  $i, k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $i+k-1 < n$ . Then  $D^{(n-i+1)}X = XD^{(n-i+1)}$ , so  $(D^{(n-i+1)}X)_{1,i+k-1} = (XD^{(n-i+1)})_{1,i+k-1}$ . Since

$$D_{1t}^{(n-i+1)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = n-(n-i+1)+1 = i, \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq i, \end{cases}$$

$$(D^{(n-i+1)}X)_{1,i+k-1} = \sum_{t=1}^n D_{1t}^{(n-i+1)} x_{t,i+k-1} = x_{i,i+k-1}.$$

If  $i+k-1 = n-(n-i+1)+t$  then  $t = k$ . Thus  $D_{t,i+k-1}^{(n-i+1)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = k, \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq k, \end{cases}$  so

$$(xD^{(n-i+1)})_{1,i+k-1} = \sum_{t=1}^n x_{1t} d_{t,i+k-1}^{(n-i+1)} = x_{1k}.$$

Hence  $x_{i,i+k-1} = x_{1k}$ , as required.

Therefore,  $x \in {}^w V$ .

Hence  ${}^w V$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ . #

Lemma 4.3. Let  $S$  be a commutative semiring and  $n$  a positive integer.

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup

$M_n(S)$ , then the set  $\mathcal{M}^T = \{A^T / A \in \mathcal{M}\}$  is also a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ .

Proof. If  $\mathcal{T}$  is a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ , then for  $A, B \in \mathcal{T}$ ,  $AB = BA \in \mathcal{T}$ , so  $A^T B^T = (BA)^T = (AB)^T = B^T A^T \in \mathcal{T}^T$ , hence  $\mathcal{T}^T$  is a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$  where  $\mathcal{T}^T = \{A^T / A \in \mathcal{T}\}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}^T$  is a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ . To show  $\mathcal{M}^T$  is maximal, let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$  and  $\mathcal{M}^T \subseteq \mathcal{T}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{M}^T)^T \subseteq \mathcal{T}^T$ , so  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{T}^T$  since  $\mathcal{T}^T$  is a commutative subsemigroup of  $M_n(S)$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of  $M_n(S)$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{M}^T = (\mathcal{T}^T)^T = \mathcal{T}$ . #

Theorem 4.4. Let  $S$  be a commutative semiring with  $0, 1$  and  $n$  is positive integer. Then the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ a_2 & a_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ a_3 & a_2 & a_1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_n & a_{n-1} & a_{n-3} & \dots & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ .

Proof. Let  ${}^a W$  be the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the above form. Then  ${}^a W^T$  is the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $S$  in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_n \\ 0 & a_2 & a_2 & \dots & a_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

By Theorem 4.2,  ${}^a W^T$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ . Then by Lemma 4.3,  ${}^a W = ({}^a W^T)^T$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ . #

Theorem 4.5 Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with 1 and  $n$  a positive integer. Then the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $R$  in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & a_2 & \dots & b_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & -b_2 & \dots & a_2 & 0 \\ -b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

with  $(\frac{n+1}{2}, \frac{n+1}{2})$ -entry arbitrary for  $n$  being odd, is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ .

Proof. Let  $\chi$  be the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $R$  in the above form, that is, for  $A \in M_n(R)$ ,  $A \in \chi$  if and only if  $A_{ii} = A_{(n-i)+1, (n-i)+1}$ ,  $A_{i, (n-i)+1} = -A_{(n-i)+1, i}$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$  and  $A_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $j \neq i$  and  $j \neq (n-i)+1$  where

$$\Lambda = \begin{cases} \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n-1}{2}\} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $aI_n \in \chi$  for every  $a \in R$  where  $I_n$  is the identity  $n \times n$  matrix over  $R$ .

To show that  $\chi$  is a commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(S)$ , let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & a_2 & \dots & b_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & -b_2 & \dots & a_2 & 0 \\ -b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A' = \begin{bmatrix} a'_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b'_1 \\ 0 & a'_2 & \dots & b'_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & -b'_2 & \dots & a'_2 & 0 \\ -b'_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a'_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

be elements of  $\chi$ . Then

$$AA' = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 a'_1 - b_1 b'_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 b'_1 + b_1 a'_1 \\ 0 & a_2 a'_2 - b_2 b'_2 & \dots & a_2 b'_2 + b_2 a'_2 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & -b_2 a'_2 - a_2 b'_2 & \dots & -b_2 b'_2 + a_2 a'_2 & 0 \\ -b_1 a'_1 - a_1 b'_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -b_1 b'_1 + a_1 a'_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\tilde{A}A = \begin{bmatrix} a'_1 a_1 - b'_1 b_1 & 0 & 0 & a'_1 b_1 + b'_1 a_1 \\ 0 & a'_2 a_2 - b'_2 b_2 & \dots & a'_2 b_2 + b'_2 a_2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & -b'_2 a_2 - a'_2 b_2 & \dots & -b'_2 b_2 + a'_2 a_2 \\ -b'_1 a_1 - a'_1 b_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -b'_1 b_1 + a'_1 a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so  $\tilde{A}A = A\tilde{A} \in \mathcal{X}$  since  $R$  is commutative.

To show that  $\mathcal{X}$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(R)$ , let  $X = (x_{ij}) \in M_n(R)$  be such that  $AX = XA$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{X}$ . For  $k \in \Lambda$ , define  $A^{(k)}$  as in the proof of Theorem 4.1,

that is,  $A_{ij}^{(k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j = k \text{ or } i = j = (n-k)+1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$  Then  $A^{(k)} \in \mathcal{X}$

for every  $k \in \Lambda$ , so  $A^{(k)}X = XA^{(k)}$  for every  $k \in \Lambda$ . As in the proof of Theorem 4.1, we have that  $x_{ij} = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $j \neq i$  or  $j \neq (n-i)+1$ , thus

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{1n} \\ 0 & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2,n-1} & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & x_{n-1,2} & \dots & x_{n-1,n-1} & 0 \\ x_n & 0 & \dots & 0 & x_{nn} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $B$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix over  $R$  defined by  $B_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in \Lambda \text{ and } j = (n-i)+1, \\ -1 & \text{if } j \in \Lambda \text{ and } i = (n-j)+1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Then  $B \in \mathcal{X}$ , so  $BX = XB$ . If  $i \in \Lambda$ , then

$$B_{t,(n-i)+1} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = i, \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq i, \end{cases}$$

$$B_{it} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t = (n-i)+1 , \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq (n-i)+1 , \end{cases}$$

$$B_{ti} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } t = (n-i)+1 , \\ 0 & \text{if } t \neq (n-i)+1 , \end{cases}$$

so  $(XB)_{i,(n-i)+1} = \sum_{t=1}^n x_{it} B_{t,(n-i)+1} = x_{ii}$ ,

$$(BX)_{i,(n-i)+1} = \sum_{t=1}^n B_{it} x_{t,(n-i)+1} = x_{(n-i)+1,(n-i)+1},$$

$$(BX)_{ii} = \sum_{t=1}^n B_{it} x_{ti} = x_{(n-i)+1,i},$$

$$(XB)_{ii} = \sum_{t=1}^n x_{it} B_{ti} = -x_{i,(n-i)+1},$$

which imply  $x_{ii} = x_{(n-i)+1,(n-i)+1}$ ,  $x_{i,(n-i)+1} = -x_{(n-i)+1,i}$ . Hence  $x \in \chi$ .

Therefore,  $\chi$  is a maximal commutative subsemigroup of the matrix semigroup  $M_n(R)$ . #