



FIGURE 1. The rectangular band.

Then  $*$  is associative (check this) so  $S \cup \{1\}$  is a monoid with identity 1. Multiplication in  $S \cup \{1\}$  extends that in  $S$ .

The monoid  $S^1$  is defined by

$$S^1 = \begin{cases} S & \text{if } S \text{ is a monoid,} \\ S \cup \{1\} & \text{if } S \text{ is not a monoid.} \end{cases}$$

DEFINITION 1.8.  $S^1$  is “ $S$  with a 1 adjoined if necessary”.

EXAMPLE 1.9. Let  $T$  be the rectangular band on  $\{a\} \times \{b, c\}$ . Then  $T^1 = \{1, (a, b), (a, c)\}$ , which has multiplication table

	1	$(a, b)$	$(a, c)$
1	1	$(a, b)$	$(a, c)$
$(a, b)$	$(a, b)$	$(a, b)$	$(a, c)$
$(a, c)$	$(a, c)$	$(a, b)$	$(a, c)$

### The Bicyclic Semigroup/Monoid $B$

If  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ , such that  $|A| < \infty$ , then  $\max A$  is the greatest element in  $A$ . i.e.

$$\max\{a, b\} = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } a \geq b, \\ b & \text{if } b \geq a. \end{cases}$$

We note some further things about  $\max$ :