

## Supporting information

**S1 Note Proof** There exists a homomorphism  $h^*$  from the semigroup generated by  $\{ab, ba\}$  with the operation “append” to the one generated by  $\{pqr, rqp\}$  with the same operation. This homomorphism extends  $h'$  and satisfies  $h^* \circ \sigma = \sigma \circ h^*$ . Since the operation “symmetry” satisfies  $\sigma(\lambda(x_1, x_2)) = \lambda(\sigma(x_2), \sigma(x_1))$ ,  $h^*$  restricted to the domain generated by  $\{ab\}$  is the homomorphism  $h$  we are looking for.