## A note on (m,n)-ideals in regular duo ordered semigroups

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**Abstract** The purpose of this note is to prove that, for a regular duo ordered semigroup, every (m, n)-ideal is a two-sided ideal. The result obtained is more general than that of the result for regular duo semigroups (without order) proved by Lajos.

## 1. Introduction

Let S be a semigroup (without order). Then S is said to be *regular* if  $a \in aSa$  for any  $a \in S$ , i.e., if for any  $a \in S$  there exists  $x \in S$  such that a = axa. The semigroup S is called a *duo semigroup* if every one-sided (left or right) ideal of S is a two-sided ideal of S. In [9], S. Lajos introduced the concept of (m, n)-ideal of S as follows: let m, n be non-negative integers. A subsemigroup A of S is called an (m, n)-ideal of S if

$$A^m S A^n \subseteq A.$$

Here,  $A^0S = SA^0 = S$ . The author proved in [10] that every (m, n)-ideal of a regular duo semigroup is two-sided ideal.

In this paper, using the concept of (m, n)-ideals for ordered semigroups introduced and studied by J. Sanborisoot and the second author in [11], we extend the results obtained by S. Lajos in [10] to ordered semigroups.

A semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  together with a partial order  $\leq$  that is *compatible* with the semigroup opration, that is, for any a, b, c in S,

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow ac \leq bc, \ ca \leq cb$$

is called an ordered semigroup.

The subset (A] of S is defined to be the set of all elements  $x \in S$  such that  $x \leq a$  for some  $a \in A$ , that is,

$$(A] = \{ x \in S \mid x \leq a \text{ for some } a \in A \}.$$

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Note that the following conditions hold: (1)  $A \subseteq (A]$ ; (2)  $(A](B] \subseteq (AB]$ ; (3) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $(A] \subseteq (B]$  (cf. [6]).

A non-empty subset A of an ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is called a *left* (resp. *right*) *ideal* of S if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $SA \subseteq A$  (resp.  $AS \subseteq A$ );
- (ii) (A] = A.

And, A is called a *two-sided ideal*, or simply an *ideal* of S if it is both a left and a righ ideal of S [6, 8].

A subsemigroup B of an ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is called a *bi-ideal* [7] of S if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $BSB \subseteq B$ ;
- (ii) (B] = B.

Let m, n be non-negative integers. A subsemigroup A of an ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is called an (m, n)-*ideal* of S if it satisfies the following conditions:

(i)  $A^m S A^n \subseteq A$ ;

(ii) (A] = A.

Here, let  $A^0 S = S A^0 = S$  [11].

An ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is regular if, for every  $a \in S$ ,  $a \in (aSa]$ , i.e., if for any  $a \in S$ ,  $a \leq axa$  for some  $x \in S$  [7]. It was proved in [3] that the following holds for a regular ordered semigroup.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  be a regular ordered semigroup. Then a non-empty subset A of S is a bi-ideal of S if and only if there exists a left ideal L of S and a right ideal R of S such that A = (RL].

As in [9], the concept of  $\pi$ -ideal of an ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  are defined by: a subsemigroup  $S_n$  of S will be called *attainable* if there are subsemigroups  $S_i$ (i = 1, 2, ..., n - 1) of S such that

$$S_n \subseteq S_{n-1} \subseteq \ldots \subseteq S_2 \subseteq S_1 \subseteq S_0 = S$$

holds, where  $S_i$  (i = 1, 2, ..., n) is an one-sided (left or right) ideal of  $S_{i-1}$ . With every such chain above, we use the letters l (resp. r) in which the *i*-th for a subsemigroup  $S_i$  of S which is contained in  $S_{i-1}$  is a left (resp. a right) ideal of  $S_{i-1}$ . If  $S_i$  is a two-sided ideal of  $S_{i-1}$ , then either of l and of r can be choosen. And, a product of the letters l and r will be denoted by  $\pi$ . Now, a subsemigroup A of S will be called a  $\pi$ -*ideal* of S if A is attainable.

In what follows, for the product  $\pi$ , we let m and n be the numbers of the factors l and r, respectively. The following two theorems can be found in [2].

**Theorem 1.2.** Let A be a subset of an ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$ . Then the following three statements are equivalent:

(1) A is an lr-ideal of S;

- (2) A is an rl-ideal of S;
- (3) A is an (1,1)-ideal of S.

Consequently,

**Corollary 1.3.** Let A be a subset of an ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$ . Then A is a  $\pi$ -ideal of S if and only if A is an  $r^m l^n$ -ideal of S.

**Theorem 1.4.** Let  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  be an ordered semigroup. Then a subset A of S is a  $\pi$ -ideal of S if and only if A is an (m, n)-ideal of S.

## 2. Main results

An ordered semigroup  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  will be called a *duo ordered semigroup* if every onesided (left or right) ideal of S is a two-sided ideal of S. An ordered semigroup S will be called a *regular duo ordered semigroup* if it is both regular and duo [3].

**Example 2.1.** Let  $S = \{a, b, c, d\}$  be an ordered semigroup such that the multiplication and the partial order are defined by:

•	a	b	c	d
a	c	d	d	d
b	c	c	d	d
c	d	d	d	d
d	d	d	d	d

 $\leq = \{(a,a), (b,b), (c,c), (d,d), (a,d), (b,d), (c,d)\}$ 

We give a covering relation and the figure of S by:

$$\prec = \{(a,d), (b,d), (c,d)\}$$

Then we obtain  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is a regular duo ordered semigroup.

**Example 2.2.** Let  $S = \{a, b, c, d\}$  be an ordered semigroup such that the multiplication and the partial order are defined by:

•	a	b	c	d
a	d	b	b	d
b	b	b	b	b
c	b	b	c	b
d	d	b	b	d

$$\leq = \{(a, a), (b, b), (c, c), (d, d), (a, b), (a, c), (b, c), (d, b), (d, c)\}$$

We give a covering relation and the figure of S by:



Then we obtain  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is a regular duo ordered semigroup.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $S = \{a, b, c, d\}$  be an ordered semigroup such that the multiplication and the partial order are defined by:

We give a covering relation and the figure of S as follows:

$$\prec = \{(a,d), (b,d), (c,d)\}$$

Then we obtain that  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  is a regular duo ordered semigroup.

The following theorem was shown in [3].

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  be a regular duo ordered semigroup. Then every biideal of S is a two-sided ideal of S.

We now present the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$  be a regular duo ordered semigroup, and let m, n be non-negative integers such that m + n > 0. Then every (m, n)-ideal of S is a two-sided ideal of S.

*Proof.* Let A be an (m, n)-ideal of S; thus  $A^m S A^n \subseteq A$  and (A] = A. There are four cases to consider:

CASE 1:  $m = 0, n \neq 0$ . If n = 1, then A is a left ideal of S; hence A is a two-sided ideal of S, since S is a regular duo ordered semigroup. Suppose that every (0, k)-ideal of S is a two-sided ideal of S for integers  $k \geq 1$ . Assume now that A is an (0, k + 1)-ideal of S. By Theorem 1.4, there are subsemigroups  $L_i(i = 1, 2, ..., k)$  of S such that

$$A = L_{k+1} \subseteq L_k \subseteq L_{k-1} \subseteq \ldots \subseteq L_2 \subseteq L_1 \subseteq L_0 = S$$

where  $L_{i-1}L_i \subseteq L_i (i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, k+1)$ . We have

$$SA^{k} = SAA^{k-1} \subseteq S(ASA]A^{k-1} \subseteq (SASA^{k}] \subseteq (L_{1}A^{k}] \subseteq (L_{1}L_{2}A^{k-1}]$$
$$\subseteq (L_{2}A^{k-1}] \subseteq \ldots \subseteq (L_{k}A] \subseteq (A] = A.$$

Hence A is an (0, k)-ideal of S, and so A is a two-sided ideal of S.

CASE 2:  $m \neq 0, n = 0$ . This can be proceed as the case before.

CASE 3:  $m \neq 0, n \neq 0$ . Let A be an (1, n)-ideal of S. If n = 1, then A is a bi-ideal of S. By Theorem 2.4, A is a two-sided ideal of S.

Let n > 1. By Theorem 1.4, there are subsemigroups  $R, L_i (i = 1, 2, ..., n - 1)$  of S such that

$$A = L_n \subseteq L_{n-1} \subseteq L_{n-2} \subseteq \ldots \subseteq L_2 \subseteq L_1 \subseteq R \subseteq S$$

where  $L_{i-1}L_i \subseteq L_i$  (i = 2, 3, ..., n),  $RL_1 \subseteq L_1$ ,  $RS \subseteq S$ . We consider

$$SA^{n} \subseteq S(ASA]A^{n-1} \subseteq (SASA^{n}] \subseteq (RA^{n}] \subseteq (RL_{1}A^{n-1}]$$
$$\subseteq (L_{1}A^{n-1}] \subseteq \ldots \subseteq (L_{n-1}A] \subseteq (A] = A.$$

Then A is an (0, n)-ideal of S, and so A is a two-sided ideal of S.

Suppose that every (k, n)-ideal of S is a two-sided ideal of S for integer  $k \ge 1$ . Assume that A is an (k+1, n)-ideal of S. By Theorem 1.4, there are subsemigroups  $R_j$  (j = 1, 2, ..., k + 1),  $L_i$  (i = 1, 2, ..., n - 1) of S such that

$$A = L_n \subseteq L_{n-1} \subseteq L_{n-2} \subseteq \ldots \subseteq L_2 \subseteq L_1$$
$$\subseteq R_{k+1} \subseteq R_k \subseteq \ldots \subseteq R_2 \subseteq R_1 \subseteq R_0 = S_1$$

where

$$L_{i-1}L_i \subseteq L_i \quad (i = 2, 3, \dots, n),$$
$$R_{k+1}L_1 \subseteq L_1,$$
$$R_jR_{j-1} \subseteq R_j \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, k+1).$$

Consider:

$$A^{k}SA^{n} \subseteq A^{k-1}(ASA]SA^{n} \subseteq (A^{k}SASA^{n}] \subseteq (A^{k}R_{1}A^{n}] \subseteq (A^{k-1}R_{2}R_{1}A^{n}]$$
$$\subseteq (A^{k-1}R_{2}A^{n}] \subseteq \ldots \subseteq (R_{k+1}A^{n}] \subseteq (R_{k+1}L_{1}A^{n-1}] \subseteq (L_{1}A^{n-1}]$$
$$\subseteq (L_{1}L_{2}A^{n-2}] \subseteq (L_{2}A^{n-2}] \subseteq \ldots \subseteq (L_{n-1}A] \subseteq (A] = A.$$

Hence A is an (k, n)-ideal of S. Therefore, A is a two-sided ideal of S. This completes the proof of the theorem.

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