# Characterization of inverse ordered semigroups by their ordered idempotents and bi-ideals

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**Abstract.** We prove that an ordered semigroup is complete semilattice of group-like ordered semigroups if and only if it is completely regular and inverse. The relation between principal biideals generated by two inverses of an element in an inverse ordered semigroup has been presented here. Furthermore we bring the opportunity to study complete regularity on an inverse ordered semigroups by their bi-ideals.

## 1. Introduction

Inverse semigroups have a natural ordering which has deep impact on their structure. The study of behavior of inverses of an element in ordered semigroups had been an area of interest among the semigroup theorists since last fifty years. Bhuniya and Hansda [1] have deal with ordered semigroups in which any two inverses of an element are  $\mathcal{H}$ -related. Class of these ordered semigroups are natural generalization of class of inverse semigroups (without order). We call these ordered semigroups as inverse ordered semigroups.

We characterize inverse ordered semigroups by their ordered idempotents. We study complete regularity in an inverse ordered semigroup and explore the look of resulting ordered semigroup. Keeping in mind that bi-ideals have been studied more, we give several characterizations of inverse ordered semigroups by their biideals.

# 2. Preliminaries

An ordered semigroup is a partially ordered set  $(S, \leq)$ , and at the same time a semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  such that for all  $a, b, x \in S$   $a \leq b$  implies  $xa \leq xb$  and  $ax \leq bx$ . It is denoted by  $(S, \cdot, \leq)$ .

For every  $H \subseteq S$ , we define  $(H] = \{t \in S : t \leq h, \text{ for some } h \in H\}$ .

Throughout this paper unless otherwise stated S stands for an ordered semigroup. An equivalence relation  $\rho$  is called a *left (right) congruence* on S if for  $a, b, c \in S \ a\rho b$  implies  $ca\rho cb$  ( $ac\rho bc$ ). By a *congruence* we mean both left and

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right congruence. A congruence  $\rho$  is called a *semilattice congruence* on S if for all  $a, b \in S \ a\rho a^2$  and  $ab\rho ba$ . By a *complete semilattice congruence* on S we mean a semilattice congruence  $\sigma$  on S such that for  $a, b \in S \ a \leq b$  implies that  $a\sigma ab$ . An ordered semigroup S is called a *complete semilattice of subsemigroups* of type  $\tau$  if there exists a complete semilattice congruence  $\rho$  such that  $(x)_{\rho}$  is a type  $\tau$ subsemigroup of S.

Let I be a nonempty subset of an ordered semigroup S. I is a left (right) ideal of S, if  $SI \subseteq I$  ( $IS \subseteq I$ ) and (I] = I. I is an ideal of S if it is both a left and a right ideal of S.

Following Kehayopulu [4], a nonempty subset B of an ordered semigroup S is called a *bi-ideal* of S if  $BSB \subseteq B$  and (B] = B. Here our aim is to study completely regular and inverse ordered semigroups by their bi-ideals.

The principal [5] left ideal, right ideal, ideal and bi-ideal [4] generated by  $a \in S$  are denoted by L(a), R(a), I(a) and B(a) respectively and have form

 $L(a) = (a \cup Sa], R(a) = (a \cup aS], I(a) = (a \cup Sa \cup aS \cup SaS] \text{ and } B(a) = (a \cup aSa].$ 

Kehayopulu [5] defined Greens relations  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}$ ,  $\mathcal{J}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  on an ordered semigroup S as follows:

$$a\mathcal{L}b$$
 if  $\mathcal{L}(a) = \mathcal{L}(b)$ ,  
 $a\mathcal{R}b$  if  $R(a) = R(b)$ ,  
 $a\mathcal{J}b$  if  $I(a) = I(b)$ ,  
 $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L} \cap \mathcal{R}$ .

These four relations are equivalence relations on S.

A regular ordered semigroup S is said to be a group-like (resp. left group-like) [1] ordered semigroup if for every  $a, b \in S$ ,  $a \in (Sb]$  and  $b \in (aS]$  (resp.  $a \in (Sb]$ ). A right group-like ordered semigroup can be defined dually. Two elements  $a, b \in S$  are said to  $\mathcal{H}$ -related if  $a\mathcal{H}b$ . An ordered semigroup S is called an regular (completely regular) [3] if for every  $a \in S$ ,  $a \in (aSa]$  ( $a \in (a^2Sa^2]$ ). An element  $b \in S$  is inverse of a if  $a \leq aba$  and  $b \leq bab$ . The set of all inverses of an element  $a \in S$  is denoted by  $V_{\leq}(a)$ . Two elements  $a, b \in S$  are said to  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative [1] if  $ab \leq bxa$  for some  $x \in S$ . A regular ordered semigroup S is called inverse [1] if for every  $a \in S$  and  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a), a'\mathcal{H}a''$ , that is, any two inverses of a are  $\mathcal{H}$ -related.

By an ordered idempotent [1] in an ordered semigroup S, we shall mean an element  $e \in S$  such that  $e \leq e^2$ . We denote the set of all ordered idempotents of S by  $E_{\leq}(S)$ .

For the convenience of readers we state the following three results from [1].

**Lemma 2.1.** Let S be completely regular ordered semigroup. Then for every  $a \in S$  there is  $x \in S$  such that  $a \leq axa^2$  and  $a \leq a^2xa$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** An ordered semigroup S is completely regular if and only if for all  $a \in S$  there exists  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that  $aa' \leq a'ua$  and  $a'a \leq ava'$  for some  $u, v \in S$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Let S be a completely regular ordered semigroup. Then following statements hold in S:

- 1.  $\mathcal{J}$  is the least complete semilattice congruence on S.
- 2. S is a complete semilattice of completely simple ordered semigroups.

## 3. Inverse ordered semigroup

Let S be an ordered semigroup and  $\rho$  be an equivalence on S. We say that an ideal I of S is generated by a  $\rho$ -unique element  $b \in S$  if  $b\rho x$  for any generator x of I.

**Definition 3.1.** A regular ordered semigroup S is called *inverse* if for every  $a \in S$ , any two inverses of a are  $\mathcal{H}$ -related.

**Example 3.2.** The ordered semigroup  $S = \{a, e, f\}$  with the multiplication defined below and with the discrete order is an inverse ordered semigroup.

·	a	e	f
a	a	e	f
e	f	e	a
f	e	a	f

We present a role of ordered idempotents in an inverse ordered semigroup in the next theorem.

**Theorem 3.3.** An ordered semigroup S is inverse if and only if every principal left ideal and every principal right ideal of S are generated by an  $\mathcal{H}$ -unique ordered idempotent.

Proof. Suppose that S is inverse. Let I be a principal left ideal of S. Then there exists  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  such that I = (Se]. If possible let I = (Sf] for some  $f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Then  $e\mathcal{L}f$  and thus  $e \leq xf$  and  $f \leq ye$  for some  $x, y \in S$ . Now  $e \leq ee \leq eee \leq exfe$ . Therefore  $exf \leq exfexf$  so that  $exf \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Also  $exf \leq exfexf \leq exf(fe)exf$  and  $fe \leq feee \leq fexfe \leq fe(exf)fe$ . Therefore  $fe \in V_{\leq}(exf)$ . Also  $exf \in V_{\leq}(exf)$ . Since S is inverse, we have  $fe\mathcal{H}exf$ . Then  $e \leq ee \leq exffe \leq fezexf$  for some  $z \in S$ , and so  $e \leq fz_1$ , where  $z_1 = ezexf$ . Similarly  $f \leq ez_2$  for some  $z_2 \in S$ . So  $e\mathcal{R}f$ . Hence  $e\mathcal{H}f$ . Likewise every principal right ideal of S generated by certain  $\mathcal{H}$ -unique ordered idempotent.

Conversely assume that given condition holds in S. Let  $a \in S$  and  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ . Clearly (Sa] = (Sa'a] = (Sa''a]. Since  $a'a, a''a \in E_{\leq}(S)$  we have that  $a'a\mathcal{H}a''a$ , by given condition. Then there are  $s, t \in S$  such that  $a' \leq a''asa'$  and  $a'' \leq a'ata''$ . Thus  $a'\mathcal{R}a''$ . Likewise  $a'\mathcal{L}a''$ , that is  $a'\mathcal{H}a''$ . Hence S is an inverse ordered semigroup.

In the following we show that an ordered semigroup S is inverse if and only if any two ordered idempotents of S are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative.

**Theorem 3.4.** The following conditions are equivalent on an ordered semigroup S.

- (1) S is an inverse semigroup;
- (2) S is regular and its idempotents are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative;
- (3) For every  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ ,  $e\mathcal{L}f(e\mathcal{R}f)$  implies  $e\mathcal{H}f$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Obviously S is regular. Let us assume that  $a \in S$  and  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ .

Consider  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Since S is regular, so there is  $x \in S$  such that  $x \in V_{\leq}(ef)$ . Now  $x \leq xefx$  implies that  $fxe \leq fxe(ef)fxe$  and  $ef \leq efxef$  implies  $ef \leq ef(fxe)ef$ . Thus  $ef \in V_{\leq}(fxe)$ . Also  $fxe \leq fxefxe$  that is  $fxe \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . So  $fxe \in V_{\leq}(fxe)$ . Since S is inverse, so  $fxe\mathcal{H}ef$ . Then there are  $s_1, s_2 \in S$  such that  $ef \leq fxes_1$  and  $ef \leq s_2fxe$ . Now  $ef \leq efxef$  implies that  $ef \leq f(xes_1xs_2fx)e$ . Therefore  $ef \leq fye$ , where  $y = xes_1xs_2fx$ . Similarly there is  $z \in S$  such that  $fe \leq ezf$ . Hence any two idempotents are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ : Let  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$  be such that  $e\mathcal{L}f$ . Then  $e \leq xf$  and  $f \leq ye$ for some  $x, y \in S$ . Now  $e \leq xf$  implies  $e \leq exf$ , and so  $e \leq ee \leq exfe$  which implies that  $exf \leq exfexf$ . So  $exf \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Similarly  $fye \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $e \leq exf \leq exff \leq exffye$ . Since  $exf, fye \in E_{\leq}(S)$ , by condition (2) we have  $exffye \leq (fye)z(exf)$  for some  $z \in S$ . Hence  $e \leq ft$ , where t = yezexf. Similarly  $f \leq ew$  for some  $w \in S$ , so that  $e\mathcal{R}f$ . Hence  $e\mathcal{H}f$ . If  $e\mathcal{R}f$  then  $e\mathcal{H}f$  can be done dually.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (1)$ : Let  $a \in S$  and  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ . Now  $aa' \leq aa''aa'$  and  $aa'' \leq aa'aa''$ . So  $aa'\mathcal{R}aa''$  which implies that  $aa'\mathcal{H}aa''$ , by the condition (3). Also  $a'a\mathcal{H}a''a$ . Then  $a' \leq a'aa'$  gives that  $a' \leq a''axa$  for some  $x \in S$ . Therefore  $a' \leq a''t$  where t = axa. In similar way it is possible to obtained  $u, v, w \in S$  such that  $a' \leq ua''$ ,  $a'' \leq a'v$  and  $a'' \leq wa'$ . So  $a'\mathcal{H}a''$ . Hence S is an inverse ordered semigroup.

**Lemma 3.5.** Let S be an inverse ordered semigroup. Then following statements hold in S.

- (1) all b if and only if  $a'a\mathcal{H}b'b$  for some  $a, b \in S$  and  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$   $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ ;
- (2) a  $\mathcal{R}b$  if and only if  $aa'\mathcal{H}bb'$  for some  $a, b \in S$  and  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$   $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ ;
- (3) for any  $a \in S$  and  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  there are  $x, y \in S$  such that  $aexa', a'eya \in E_{\leq}(S)$ ; where  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ .
- (4) for any  $a, b \in S$  there are  $x, y \in S$  such that  $ab \leq abb'xa'ab$  and  $b'a' \leq b'a'aybb'a'$ , where  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  and  $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ .

*Proof.* (1): Let  $a, b \in S$  be such that  $a\mathcal{L}b$ . Let  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ ,  $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ . Since  $a \leq aa'a$  and  $a'a \leq a'aa'a$ , we have  $a\mathcal{L}a'a$  which implies that  $b\mathcal{L}a'a$ . Also  $b\mathcal{L}b'b$ . Hence  $a'a\mathcal{L}b'b$ . Since  $a'a, b'b \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and S is inverse we have  $a'a\mathcal{H}b'b$ , by Theorem 3.4(3).

Conversely suppose that given condition holds in S. Let  $a, b \in S$  with  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  and  $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ . Then by given condition  $aa'\mathcal{H}bb'$ . Also we have  $a\mathcal{L}a'a$  and  $b\mathcal{L}b'b$  so that  $a\mathcal{L}b$ .

(2): This is similar to (1).

(3): Let  $a \in S$  and  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Also  $a'a \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Since S is an inverse, there is an  $x \in S$  such that  $a'ae \leq exa'a$ , by Theorem 3.4(2). Now  $aexa' \leq aa'aeexa' \leq aexa'aexa'$ . So  $aexa' \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Likewise  $a'eya \in E_{\leq}(S)$ ; for some  $y \in S$ .

(4): Let  $a, b \in S$  with  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ ,  $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ . So  $a'a, b'b \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $ab \leq aa'abb'b \leq and a'abb' \leq b'bxa'a$ , by Theorem 3.4(2). Thus  $ab \leq abb'xa'ab$ . Likewise  $b'a' \leq b'a'aybb'a'$ ; for some  $y \in S$ .

In the following theorem an inverse ordered semigroup has been characterized by the inverse of an element of the set (eSf].

**Theorem 3.6.** Let S be an ordered semigroup and  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Then S is inverse if and only if for every  $x \in (eSf]$  implies  $x' \in (fSe]$ , where  $x' \in V_{\leq}(x)$ .

*Proof.* First suppose that S is an inverse ordered semigroup and  $x \in (eSf]$ . Then  $x \leq es_1 f$  for some  $s_1 \in S$ . Let  $x' \in V_{\leq}(x)$ . Now  $x' \leq x'xx' \leq x'es_1fx'$ , and so  $es_1fx' \leq es_1fx'es_1fx'$ . Hence  $es_1fx' \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Similarly  $x'es_1f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now there is  $s_2 \in S$  such that  $x'es_1fx' \leq x'es_1ffx' \leq fs_2x'es_1fx'$ , by Theorem 3.4(2). Also  $fs_2x'es_1fx' \leq fs_2x'es_1fx' \leq fs_2x'es_1fx' \leq s_3 \in S$ . Then  $x' \leq x'xx'$  implies that  $x' \leq fs_2x'es_1fx' \leq fs_2x'es_1fx's_3e$ . Hence  $x' \in (fSe]$ .

Conversely assume that the given conditions hold in S. First consider a left ideal L of S such that L = (Se] = (Sf] for  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Then  $e\mathcal{L}f$ , so that  $e \leq ee \leq ezf$  for some  $z \in S$ . Therefore  $e \in (eSf]$ . Since  $e \in V_{\leq}(e)$  we have  $e \in (fSe]$ , by given condition. Likewise  $f \in (eSf]$ . This implies that  $e\mathcal{R}f$  and so  $e\mathcal{H}f$ . Similarly it can be shown that every principal right ideal of S generated by  $\mathcal{H}$ -unique ordered idempotent. Thus by Theorem 3.3, S is an inverse ordered semigroup.

**Corollary 3.7.** The following conditions are equivalent on a regular ordered semigroup S.

- (1) S is an inverse ordered semigroup;
- (2) for any  $a \in S$  and for any  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ , aa', a'a are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative;
- (3) for any  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$ , any two inverses of e are  $\mathcal{H}$ -related;
- (4) for any  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and all its inverses are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative;

5) for any  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and  $e' \in V_{\leq}(e)$ , ee' and e'e are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative.

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2), (2) \Rightarrow (3), (3) \Rightarrow (4), and (4) \Rightarrow (5)$ : These are obvious.

We study inverse ordered semigroup together with complete regularity in the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.8.** The following conditions are equivalent on a regular ordered semigroup S.

- (1) S is inverse and completely regular;
- (2) S is a complete semilattice of group like ordered semigroups;
- (3)  $ab\mathcal{H}ba$  whenever  $ab, ba \in E_{\leq}(S)$ ;
- (4) any ordered idempotent of S is  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative to any element of S;
- (5) for any  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$   $e\mathcal{J}f$  implies  $e\mathcal{H}f$ ;
- (6)  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{J}.$

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): Let S be a completely regular and inverse ordered semigroup. Then by Lemma 2.3,  $\mathcal{J}$  is the complete semilattice congruence on S and every  $\mathcal{H}$ -class is a group-like ordered semigroup. We now prove  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{J}$ . Let  $a, b \in S$  be such that  $a\mathcal{J}b$ . So there are  $x, y, u, v \in S$  such that  $a \leqslant xby$  and  $b \leqslant uav$ . Since S is completely regular, so there are  $h, g, f \in S$  such that  $x \leqslant x^2hx, b \leqslant b^2gb, b \leqslant bgb^2, y \leqslant yfy^2$ , by Lemma 2.3. Now  $a \leqslant x^2hxb^2gbyfy^2 \leqslant x^2hxb^2gbgb^2yfy^2$ .

Let 
$$p \in V_{\leq}(x^2hxb^2g)$$
. S

$$x^2hxb^2g \leqslant x^2hxb^2gpx^2hxb^2g \leqslant x^2hxb^2g(b^2gpx^2h)x^2hxb^2g$$

and

$$b^2gpx^2h \leq b^2gpx^2hxb^2gpx^2h \leq b^2gpx^2h(x^2hxb^2g)b^2gpx^2h.$$

This shows that  $b^2 g p x^2 h \in V_{\leq}(x^2 h x b^2 g)$ . Also

 $x^2hxb^2g\leqslant x^2hxb^2gpx^2hxb^2g\leqslant x^2hxb^2g(x^2hxb^2gp^2)x^2hxb^2g$  and

 $x^2hxb^2gp^2 \leqslant x^2hxb^2gpx^2hxb^2gp^2 \leqslant x^2hxb^2gp^2(x^2hxb^2g)x^2hxb^2gp^2,$ 

which implies that  $x^2hxb^2gp^2 \in V_{\leq}(x^2hxb^2g)$ . Similarly  $p^2x^2hxb^2g \in V_{\leq}(x^2hxb^2g)$ . Since  $b^2gpx^2h, x^2hxb^2gp^2 \in V_{\leq}(x^2hxb^2g)$  and S is inverse, so there is  $t \in S$  such that  $x^2hxb^2gp^2 \leq b^2gpx^2ht$ . Thus  $x^2hxb^2g\leqslant x^2hxb^2gpx^2hxb^2g\leqslant x^2hxb^2gp^2(x^2hxb^2g)^2$ 

implies that  $x^2hxb^2g \leq b^2gpx^2hxt(x^2hxb^2g)^2 = bs$  where  $s = bgpx^2ht(x^2hxb^2g)^2$ . Similarly there is  $s_1 \in S$  such that  $b^2gyfy^2 \leq s_1b$ . Hence  $a \leq x^2hxb^2gbyfy^2 \leq bsbyfy^2 = bs_2$ , where  $s_2 = sbyfy^2$ . Similarly  $a \leq s_3b$  for some  $s_3 \in S$ . Likewise  $b \leq s_4a$  and  $b \leq as_5$ , for some  $s_4, s_5 \in S$ . So  $a\mathcal{H}b$ . Thus  $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ . Also  $\mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{J}$ , and Hence  $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{H}$ . Therefore S is complete semilattice of group-like ordered semigroups.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ : Suppose that S is a complete semilattice Y of group like ordered semigroups  $\{S_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in Y}$ . Let  $a, b \in S$  such that  $ab, ba \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Let  $\rho$  be the corresponding semilattice congruence on S. Then there is  $\alpha \in Y$  such that  $ab, ba \in S_{\alpha}$ . Since  $S_{\alpha}$  is group like ordered semigroups, so  $ab\mathcal{H}ba$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4): Let  $a \in S$  and  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Since S is regular there is an  $x \in S$  such that  $a \leq axa$ . Clearly  $ax, xa \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Thus by condition (3)  $ax\mathcal{H}xa$ . So  $xa \leq axu$  and  $ax \leq vxa$ , for some  $u, v \in S$ . Then we have  $a \leq axa \leq axaxa \leq axaxaxa \leq aaxuxvaa = a^2ta^2$ , where t = xuxvx. Now  $a \leq a^2ta^2 \leq a(a^2ta^2ta^2ta^2ta^2)a \leq a^2(a^2ta^2ta^2ta^2ta^2)a$ , that is  $a \leq a^2ya$ , where  $y = a^2ta^2ta^2ta^2ta^2$ . Similarly  $a \leq aya^2$ . Clearly  $a^2y, ya^2 \in E_{\leq}(S)$ .

Let  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and  $x \in V_{\leq}(ef)$ . Then we have  $x \leq xefx$ . So  $fxe \leq fxefxe \leq fxeeffxe$  and  $ef \leq efxef \leq effxeef$ . So  $ef \in V_{\leq}(fxe)$ . Also  $ef \leq effxeef$  implies that  $effxe \leq effxeeffxe$ , and  $fxeef \leq fxeeffxeef$ . So  $effxe, fxeef \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and thus  $effxe\mathcal{H}fxeef$ , by the condition (3). Then there are  $u, v \in S$  such that  $effxe \leq fxeefu$  and  $fxeef \leq veffxe$ . Now  $ef \leq effxefxeef \leq fxeefuveffxe = fce$ ; where  $c = xe^2fuvef^2x$ . Likewise  $fe \leq edf$ , for some  $d \in S$ .

Now  $ae \leq a^2 yae$ . Let  $z \in V_{\leq}(a^2 yae)$ . So

$$a^2yae \leqslant a^2yaeza^2yae \leqslant a^2yae(eza^2y)a^2yae.$$

Clearly  $a^2yaeeza^2y, eza^2ya^2yae \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and thus  $a^2yaeeza^2y\mathcal{H}eza^2ya^2yae$ , by condition (3). Now  $ae \leq a^2yae \leq a^2yaeeza^2ya^2yae \leq eza^2ys_1a^2yaea^2yae$ , for some  $s_1 \in S$ . So  $ae \leq es_2ae$ , where  $s_2 = za^2ys_1a^2yaea^2y$ . Again  $ae \leq es_2aya^2e \leq es_2aes_3ya^2$ , for some  $s_3 \in S$ , since  $ya^2, e \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . That is  $ae \leq es_4a$ , for some  $s_4 \in S$ . Similarly  $ea \leq as_5e$ , for some  $s_5 \in S$ . So a, e are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative.

 $(4) \Rightarrow (5)$ : Let  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$  such that  $e\mathcal{J}f$ . Then there are  $x, y, z, u \in S$  such that  $e \leq xfy$  and  $f \leq zeu$ . Now  $e \leq xfy$  implies that  $e \leq fhxy$  and  $e \leq xykf$  by the given condition for some  $h, k \in S$ . Similarly  $f \leq zeu$  gives  $f \leq es_1zu$  and  $f \leq zus_2e$  for some  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ . Hence  $e\mathcal{H}f$ .

 $(5) \Rightarrow (6)$ : Let  $a, b \in S$  such that  $a\mathcal{J}b$ . Then there are  $s, t, u, v \in S$  such that  $a \leq sbt$  and  $b \leq uav$ . Since S is regular so  $a \leq axa$  and  $b \leq byb$  for some  $x, y \in S$  so that  $ax \leq axax$  and  $by \leq byby$ . Now  $axax \leq axsbtx \leq axsbybtx$  that is  $ax \leq axsbybtx$ . Likewise  $by \leq byuaxavy$ . Thus  $ax\mathcal{J}by$ , and so from given condition  $ax\mathcal{H}by$ . Similarly  $xa\mathcal{H}yb$ . So there is  $c \in S$  such that  $ax \leq byc$ , that is  $a \leq byca = bd$ , for some  $d = yca \in S$ . Likewise  $a \leq pb$ ,  $b \leq qa$  for some  $p, q \in S$ .

Thus  $a\mathcal{H}b$ . So  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{J}$ . Now  $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L} \cap \mathcal{R}$  gives  $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{J} = \mathcal{R}$ .

 $(6) \Rightarrow (1)$ : Let  $a \in S$ . Since S is regular so there exists  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ . Clearly  $a\mathcal{L}a'a$  and  $a\mathcal{R}aa'$ . So by the given condition  $a\mathcal{R}a'a$  and  $a\mathcal{L}aa'$ . Now  $a \leq aa'a \leq aa'aa'a \leq aa'aa'aa'a \leq aas_1a's_2aa$  for some  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ . So  $a \leq a^2pa^2$  where  $p = s_1a's_2$ . So S is completely regular.

Also let  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ . Now  $a\mathcal{L}a'a\mathcal{L}a''a$  implies that  $a\mathcal{R}a'a\mathcal{R}a''a$ . Also by the given condition we can show that  $a\mathcal{L}aa'\mathcal{L}a''a$ . So it is to check that  $a'\mathcal{R}a''$  and  $a'\mathcal{L}a''$ . So  $a'\mathcal{H}a''$ . Hence S is inverse ordered semigroup.

### 4. Bi-ideals in inverse ordered semigroups

Following Hansda [2] an ordered semigroup S is completely regular if and only if for every  $a \in S$  there is some  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  such that  $a \leq ae$ ,  $a \leq ea$  and B(a) = B(e). Here our approach allows one to see the role of principal bi-ideal generated by an inverse of an element in an inverse ordered semigroup.

**Lemma 4.1.** Let S be a regular ordered semigroup. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) S is a completely regular ordered semigroup;
- (2) for any  $a \in S$  there is  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that B(a) = B(a');
- (3) for any  $a \in S$  there is  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that  $B(aa') = B(a) \cap B(a') = B(a') \cap B(a) = B(a'a);$
- (4)  $B(a) = B(a^2)$  for any  $a \in S$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): First suppose that *S* is completely regular ordered semigroup. Let  $a \in S$ . Then by Theorem 2.2 there is  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that  $aa' \leq a'ua$  and  $a'a \leq ava'$  for some  $u, v \in S$ . Let  $x \in B(a)$ . Therefore  $x \leq a$  or  $x \leq as_1a$  for some  $s_1 \in S$ . If  $x \leq a$  then  $x \leq aa'a \leq aa'aa'a \leq a'uaaava' = a'za'$  where z = uaaav. Again if  $x \leq as_1a$  then there is  $t \in S$  such that  $x \leq a'ta'$ . Therefore in either case  $x \in B(a')$ . Also  $a \in B(a')$ . So  $B(a) \subseteq B(a')$ . Similarly  $B(a') \subseteq B(a)$ . Hence B(a) = B(a').

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ : Suppose that condition (2) holds. Let  $a \in S$ . Then there is  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that  $a \leq aa'a$ . Let  $x \in B(aa')$ . Then  $x \leq aa'$  or  $x \leq aa'saa'$  for some  $s \in S$ . By given condition  $a' \in B(a)$ . So  $a' \leq a$  or there is  $y \in S$  such that  $a' \leq aya$ . If  $x \leq aa'saa'$  and  $a' \leq aya$  then  $x \leq aa'saaya$ . If  $x \leq aa'saa'$  and  $a' \leq aa'$  and  $a' \leq a$  then  $x \leq aa'saa'$  and  $a' \leq aya$  then  $x \leq aa$ . Also if  $x \leq aa'$  and  $a' \leq aya$  then  $x \leq aa$ . Also if  $x \leq aa'$  and  $a' \leq aya$  then  $x \leq aaa'$ . Let  $x \in B(a)$ . Hence  $B(aa') \subseteq B(a)$ . Likewise  $B(aa') \subseteq B(a')$  and hence  $B(aa') \subseteq B(a) \cap B(a')$ .

Let  $w \in B(a) \cap B(a')$ . So  $w \in B(a)$  and  $w \in B(a')$ . Therefore  $w \leq a$  or  $w \leq as_2a$  and  $w \leq a'$  or  $w \leq a's_3a'$  for some  $s_2, s_3 \in S$ . Since S is regular, there is  $d \in S$ 

such that  $w \leq wdw$ . If  $w \leq a$  and  $w \leq a'$  then  $w \leq wdw \leq ada' \leq aa'ada'aa'$ . If  $w \leq as_{2}a$  and  $w \leq a'$  then  $w \leq wdw \leq as_{2}ada' \leq aa'as_{2}ada'aa'$ . If  $w \leq as_{2}a$  and  $w \leq a's_{3}a'$  then  $w \leq wdw \leq as_{2}ada's_{3}a' \leq aa'as_{2}ada's_{3}a'aa'$ . If  $w \leq a$  and  $w \leq a's_{3}a'$  then  $w \leq wdw \leq ada's_{3}a' \leq aa'ada's_{3}a'aa'$ . Therefore in either case  $w \in B(aa')$ . Hence  $B(a) \cap B(a') \subseteq B(aa')$ . Thus  $B(aa') = B(a) \cap B(a')$ .

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ : Suppose that condition (3) holds. Let  $a \in S$ . Then there exists  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that B(aa') = B(a'a). Now  $a \leq aa'a \leq aa'aa'a = a(a'a)a'(aa')a$ . Now by condition (3)  $a'a \leq aa'zaa'$  and  $aa' \leq a'awa'a$  for some  $z, w \in S$ . Then  $a \leq a(a'a)a'(aa')a$  implies that  $a \leq a(aa'zaa')a'(a'awa'a)a = a^2(a'zaa'a'a'awa')a^2$ . Thus  $B(a) \subseteq B(a^2)$ . It is evident that  $B(a^2) \subseteq B(a)$  and hence  $B(a) = B(a^2)$ .

 $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$ : Suppose condition (4) holds. Therefore  $a \leq a^2$  or  $a \leq a^2 s_2 a^2$  and  $a^2 \leq a$  or  $a^2 \leq a s_3 a$  for some  $s_2, s_3 \in S$ . Therefore in either case  $a\mathcal{H}a^2$ . Since S is regular, so  $a \leq a za$  for some  $z \in S$ . So  $a \leq a za \leq a^2 s_4 z s_5 a^2$  for some  $s_4, s_5 \in S$ . Hence S is completely regular ordered semigroup.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 4.2.** A regular ordered semigroup S is completely regular if and only if for any  $a \in S$  there is  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$  such that  $B(aa') = B(a) \cap B(a') = B(a'a) = B(a) = B(a')$ .

Proof. This follows from Lemma 4.1 .

**Theorem 4.3.** Let S be a regular ordered semigroup. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) S is an inverse ordered semigroup;
- (2) for any  $a \in S$ , B(a') = B(a'') for every  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ ;
- (3) for any  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ ,  $B(ef) = B(e) \cap B(f)$ ;
- (4) for any  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and  $x \in V_{\leq}(e)$ , B(ex) = B(xe).

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): First suppose that S is an inverse ordered semigroup. Let  $a \in S$  and  $a', a'' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ . Suppose  $x \in B(a')$ . Therefore  $x \leq a'$  or  $x \leq a'ya'$  for some  $y \in S$ . Since S is inverse, so  $a'\mathcal{H}a''$ . If  $x \leq a'$  then  $x \leq a'aa' \leq a''s_1as_2a''$  for some  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ . Therefore  $x \leq a''sa''$  where  $s = s_1as_2$ . Again if  $x \leq a'ya'$  then there is  $s_3 \in S$  such that  $x \leq a''s_3a''$ . Therefore in either case  $x \in B(a'')$ . Also  $a' \in B(a'')$ . So  $B(a') \subseteq B(a'')$ . Similarly  $B(a'') \subseteq B(a')$ . Hence B(a') = B(a'').

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ : First suppose that condition (2) holds and let  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Let  $x \in V_{\leq}(ef)$ . Therefore  $ef \leq efxef$  and  $x \leq xefx$ . So  $fxe \leq fxefxe$ . Therefore  $fxe \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Also  $ef \leq ef(fxe)ef$  and  $fxe \leq fxe(ef)fxe$ . Therefore  $ef, fxe \in V_{\leq}(fxe)$ . So by the condition B(ef) = B(fxe). Clearly  $ef\mathcal{H}fxe$ .

Let  $w \in B(ef)$ . Therefore  $w \leq ef$  or  $w \leq efs_1ef$  for some  $s_1 \in S$ . If  $w \leq ef$ then  $w \leq ef \leq efxef \leq efxs_2fxe$  for some  $s_2 \in S$ . Again if  $w \leq efs_1ef$  then  $w \leq efs_1ef \leq efs_1s_2fxe$ . So in either case  $w \in B(e)$ . Similarly  $w \in B(f)$ . Hence  $w \in B(e) \cap B(f)$ . Therefore  $B(ef) \subseteq B(e) \cap B(f)$ . Again let  $y \in B(e) \cap B(f)$ . So  $y \leq e$  or  $y \leq es_4e$  and  $y \leq f$  or  $y \leq fs_5f$ , for some  $s_4, s_5 \in S$ . Since S is inverse, there exists  $z \in V_{\leq}(y)$  such that  $z \leq zyz$ and  $y \leq yzy$ . If  $y \leq es_4e$  and  $y \leq fs_5f$  then  $z \leq zyz \leq zes_4ez$ . Therefore  $es_4ez \leq es_4ezes_4ez$ . So  $es_4ez \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Similarly  $zfs_5f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $es_4ez \leq$  $es_4ezes_4ez \leq es_4ez(yz)es_4ez$  and  $yz \leq yzyz \leq yz(es_4ez)yz$ . Therefore  $es_4ez, yz \in$  $V_{\leq}(es_4ez)$ . So condition (2)  $B(es_4ez) = B(yz)$ . Similarly  $B(zfs_5f) = B(zy)$ . Clearly  $es_4ez\mathcal{H}yz$  and  $zfs_5f\mathcal{H}zy$ . Now  $y \leq yzy \leq es_4ezfs_5f \leq es_4ezyzfs_5f \leq$  $ees_4ezyzfs_5ff \leq eyzs_6ys_7zyf \leq efs_5fzs_6ys_7zes_4ef$  for some  $s_6, s_7 \in S$ . If  $y \leq e$ and  $y \leq f$  then clearly B(ez) = B(yz) and B(zf) = B(zy). Now  $y \leq yzy \leq$  $ezf \leq eezyzff \leq eyzs_8ys_9zyf \leq efzs_8ys_9zef$  for some  $s_8, s_9 \in S$ . If  $y \leq e$ and  $y \leq fs_5f$  then  $zfs_5f \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $y \leq yzy \leq ezfs_5f \leq eezfs_5ff \leq$  $ezfs_5fs_{10}ef \leq ezfs_5ffs_{10}ef \leq efs_{11}zfs_5fs_{10}ef$  for some  $s_{10}, s_{11} \in S$ . Again if  $y \leq es_4e$  and  $y \leq f$  then  $es_4ez \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $y \leq yzy \leq es_4ezf \leq ees_4ezff \leq$  $efs_{12}es_4ezf \leq efs_{12}ees_4ezf \leq efs_{12}es_4ezs_{13}ef$  for some  $s_{12}, s_{13} \in S$ . Therefore in either case  $y \in B(ef)$  and so  $B(e) \cap B(f) \subseteq B(ef)$ . Hence  $B(e) \cap B(f) = B(ef)$ .

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ : First suppose that condition (3) holds in S. Let  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and  $x \in V_{\leq}(e)$  so  $e, xe, ex \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . By condition (3)  $B(exe) = B(e) \cap B(xe)$ , that is,  $B(e) = B(e) \cap B(xe)$ . Therefore  $B(e) \subseteq B(xe)$ . Again  $B(xee) = B(e) \cap B(xe)$  that is  $B(xe) = B(e) \cap B(xe)$ . So  $B(xe) \subseteq B(e)$ . Therefore B(e) = B(xe). Similarly B(e) = B(ex). Therefore B(xe) = B(ex).

 $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$ : Suppose that condition (4) holds in S. Now  $ex \in B(e)$  and  $ex \in B(x)$ . So  $ex \leq e$  or  $ex \leq eb_1e$ , and  $ex \leq x$  or  $ex \leq xb_2x$  for some  $b_1, b_2 \in S$ . If  $ex \leq e$  and  $ex \leq x$  then  $ex \leq exex \leq xe \leq xexe = xae$  where a = ex. If  $ex \leq e$  and  $ex \leq xb_2x$  then  $ex \leq exex \leq xb_2xe = xbe$  where  $b = b_2x$ . If  $ex \leq eb_1e$  and  $ex \leq xb_2x$  then  $ex \leq exex \leq xb_2xe = xbe$  where  $b = b_2x$ . If  $ex \leq eb_1e$  and  $ex \leq xb_2x$  then  $ex \leq exex \leq xb_2xeb_1e = xce$  where  $c = eb_1$ . Again if  $ex \leq eb_1e$  and  $ex \leq xb_2x$  then  $ex \leq exex \leq xb_2xeb_1e = xde$  where  $d = b_2xeb_1$ . Therefore in either case  $ex \leq xse$  for some  $s \in S$ . Similarly  $xe \leq etx$  for some  $t \in S$ . Hence e, x are  $\mathcal{H}$ -commutative. So S is an inverse ordered semigroup, by Corollary 3.7.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 4.4.** A regular ordered semigroup S is inverse if and only if for any  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and  $x \in V_{\leq}(e)$ ,  $B(ex) = B(e) \cap B(x) = B(xe) = B(e) = B(x)$ .

**Corollary 4.5.** A regular ordered semigroup S is inverse if and only if for any  $e, f \in E_{\leq}(S), e\mathcal{L}f(e\mathcal{R}f)$  implies B(e) = B(f).

*Proof.* Let S be an inverse ordered semigroup. Since S is inverse,  $e\mathcal{L}f(e\mathcal{R}f)$  implies  $e\mathcal{H}f$  by Theorem 3.4. So it is easy to check that B(e) = B(f).

Conversely suppose that the condition holds in S. Now B(e) = B(f) gives that  $e \in B(f)$  and  $f \in B(e)$ . Therefore  $e \leq f$  or  $e \leq fxf$  and  $f \leq e$  or  $f \leq eye$ . In either case  $e\mathcal{R}f$ . So  $e\mathcal{L}f$  implies  $e\mathcal{H}f$ . Hence S is inverse ordered semigroup by Theorem 3.4.

**Lemma 4.6.** Let S be an inverse ordered semigroup and  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ ,  $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ , where  $a, b \in S$ . Then following conditions hold on S:

- (1)  $a\mathcal{L}b$  if and only if B(a'a) = B(b'b).
- (2)  $a\mathcal{R}b$  if and only if B(aa') = B(bb').

*Proof.* (1): Let S be an inverse ordered semigroup and  $a' \in V_{\leq}(a)$ ,  $b' \in V_{\leq}(b)$ where  $a, b \in S$ . So by Lemma 3.5  $a'a\mathcal{H}b'b$ . Let  $x \in B(a'a)$ . Therefore  $x \leq a'a$ or  $x \leq a'as_1a'a$  for some  $s_1 \in S$ . So it is easy to verify that  $x \in B(b'b)$ . Also  $a'a \in B(b'b)$ . So  $B(a'a) \subseteq B(b'b)$ . Similarly  $B(b'b) \subseteq B(a'a)$ . So B(a'a) = B(b'b).

The converse statement is obvious.

(2): Analogously as (1).

Characterization of ordered semigroups which are both completely regular and inverse have been presented in the next theorem.

**Theorem 4.7.** Let S be a regular ordered semigroup. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) S is completely regular and inverse ordered semigroup;
- (2) for any  $a, b \in S$ ,  $B(ab) = B(ba) = B(a) \cap B(b)$ ;
- (3) B(ab) = B(ba) where  $a, b \in S$  and  $ab, ba \in E_{\leq}(S)$ ;
- (4) for any  $a, b \in S$ ,  $a\mathcal{L}b$  implies B(a) = B(b).

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): First suppose that *S* is completely regular and inverse ordered semigroup. Then any ordered idempotent of *S* is  $\mathcal{H}$  commutative to any element of *S* by Theorem 3.8. Let  $a, b \in S$ . Since *S* is regular, so there are  $p, q, r \in S$  such that  $a \leq apa, b \leq bqb$  and  $ab \leq abrab$ . Clearly  $bq, pa \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $ab \leq abrab \leq abqbrapab \leq bqp_1abrabp_2pa = bs_2a$  where  $s_2 = qp_1abrabp_2pa$ . Let  $x \in B(ab)$ . Therefore  $x \leq ab$  or  $x \leq abs_1ab$  for some  $s_1 \in S$ . If  $x \leq abs_1ab$ , then  $x \leq abs_1bs_2a$ . So  $x \leq aya$  where  $y = bs_1bs_2$ . Again if  $x \leq ab$ , then  $x \leq abrab \leq abrbs_2a$ . So in either case  $x \in B(a)$ . Also  $ab \in B(a)$ . Similarly  $x \in B(b)$  and  $ab \in B(b)$ . Hence  $B(ab) \subseteq B(a) \cap B(b)$ .

Again let  $y \in B(a) \cap B(b)$ . So  $y \leq a$  or  $y \leq as_4a$  and  $y \leq b$  or  $y \leq bs_5b$ for some  $s_4, s_5 \in S$ . Since S is regular, So there is  $z \in S$  such that  $y \leq yzy$ . Now if  $y \leq as_4a$  and  $y \leq bs_5b$  then  $y \leq yzy \leq as_4azbs_5b \leq as_4azbqbs_5b \leq abqs_6s_4azbs_5b \leq abqs_6s_4azbs_5b \leq abqs_6s_4azbs_5s_7pab$  for some  $s_6, s_7 \in S$ . Again if  $y \leq a$  and  $y \leq b$  then  $y \leq yzy \leq azb \leq apazbqb \leq abqs_8pazb \leq abqs_8zs_9pab$ for some  $s_8, s_9 \in S$ . Again if  $y \leq a$  and  $y \leq bs_5b$  then  $y \leq yzy \leq azbs_5b \leq abqs_{10}zbs_5b \leq abqs_{10}zbs_5b \leq abqs_{10}zbs_5b \leq abqs_{10}zbs_5b \leq abqs_{10}zbs_5b \leq abqs_{10}zbs_5s_{11}pab$  for some  $s_{10}, s_{11} \in S$ . Also if  $y \leq as_4a$  and  $y \leq b$  then  $y \leq yzy \leq as_4azb \leq as_4apazbqb \leq abqs_{12}z_4apazb \leq abqs_{12}s_4azs_{13}pab$  for some  $s_{12}, s_{13} \in S$ . Therefore in either case  $y \in B(ab)$ . Hence  $B(a) \cap B(b) \subseteq B(ab)$ . Therefore  $B(ab) = B(a) \cap B(b) = B(b) \cap B(a) = B(ba)$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): Suppose that the given condition (2) holds. Therefore  $B(ab) = B(a) \cap B(b) = B(b) \cap B(a) = B(ba)$ .

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ : First suppose that condition (3) holds and let  $a\mathcal{L}b$ . So there exists  $s, t \in S$  such that  $a \leq sb$  and  $b \leq ta$ . Since S is regular,  $a \leq aza$  and  $z \leq zaz$  for some  $z \in V_{\leq}(a)$ . Clearly  $az, za \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Now  $z \leq zaz \leq zsbz$ . So  $zsb \leq zsbzsb$ . Therefore  $zsb \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . Similarly  $bzs \in E_{\leq}(S)$ . So by the condition (3) B(zsb) = B(bzs). Clearly  $zsb\mathcal{H}bzs$ . Similarly  $za\mathcal{H}az$ . Let  $x \in B(a)$ . Therefore  $x \leq a$  or  $x \leq as_1a$  for some  $s_1 \in S$ . If  $x \leq a$  then  $x \leq a \leq aza \leq azsb \leq zas_2sb \leq zsbs_2sb \leq bzss_3s_2sb$  for some  $s_2, s_3 \in S$ . Similarly if  $x \in as_1a$  then  $x \leq bs_4b$  for some  $s_4 \in S$ . So in either case  $x \in B(b)$ . Therefore  $B(a) \subseteq B(b)$ . Similarly  $B(b) \subseteq b(a)$ . Therefore B(a) = B(b).

Conversely suppose that the given condition holds, that is  $a\mathcal{L}b$  implies B(a) = B(b) for any  $a, b \in S$ . Now B(a) = B(b) implies that  $a\mathcal{R}b$ . So  $a\mathcal{L}b$  implies that  $a\mathcal{R}b$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ . Also  $\mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ . Hence  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{H}$ . So S is completely regular and an inverse ordered semigroup by Theorem 3.8.

**Corollary 4.8.** A regular ordered semigroup S is completely regular and inverse if and only if for any  $e \in E_{\leq}(S)$  and for any  $a \in S$ ,  $B(ea) = B(e) \cap B(a)$ .

*Proof.* For b = e we obtain the result.

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