

## ON LEFT REGULAR $po$ -SEMIGROUPS

SANG KEUN LEE AND JAE HONG JUNG

ABSTRACT. The paper refers to ordered semigroups in which  $x^2(x \in S)$  are left ideal elements. We mainly show that this  $po$ -semigroup is left regular if and only if  $S$  is a union of left simple subsemigroups of  $S$ .

### 1. Introduction

The concept of left regular  $poe$ -semigroups has been introduced in [2] and extends the concept of left regular  $po$ -semigroups not having the greatest element “ $e$ ” in [1]. Recently, Kehayopulu [3] showed that: a  $poe$ -semigroup  $S$  is left regular if and only if  $S$  is a union of left simple subsemigroups of  $S$ . Now we consider a  $po$ -semigroup which does not necessarily have a greatest element “ $e$ ”.

In this paper, the main result is that: a  $po$ -semigroup  $S$  in which every  $x^2(x \in S)$  is a left ideal element, is left regular if and only if  $S$  is a union of left simple subsemigroups of  $S$ .

A  $po$ -semigroup (ordered semigroup) is an ordered set  $(S, \leq)$  which is a semigroup such that for  $a, b \in S$

$$a \leq b \implies xa \leq xb \text{ and } ax \leq bx$$

for all  $x \in S$ .

DEFINITION 1. ([4]). Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup and  $\emptyset \neq I \subseteq S$ .  $I$  is called a *left ideal* of  $S$  if

- 1)  $SI \subseteq I$ .
- 2)  $a \in I, S \ni b \leq a \implies b \in I$ .

---

Received April 30, 1997. Revised November 3, 1997.

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification: 03G25, 06F35.

Key words and phrases:  $poe$ -semigroup,  $po$ -semigroup, left ideal, left regular, semiprime, left simple, right congruence.

This note was supported in part by the Basic Science Research Institute Program, Ministry of Education, Korea, 1997, Project No. BSRI-97-14111.

DEFINITION 2. ([5]). A  $po$ -semigroup  $S$  is called *left(right) regular* if for every  $a \in S$  there exists  $x \in S$  such that

$$a \leq xa^2 \text{ (resp. } a \leq a^2x).$$

DEFINITION 3. ([5]). Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup. A subset  $T$  of  $S$  is called *semiprime* if for  $a \in S$

$$a^2 \in T \implies a \in T.$$

DEFINITION 4. ([3]). An element  $t$  of a  $po$ -semigroup  $S$  is called *semi-prime* if  $a^2 \leq t$  for some  $a \in S$  implies that  $a \leq t$ .

DEFINITION 5. ([5]). Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup. A subsemigroup  $T$  of  $S$  is called *left simple* if for every left ideal  $L$  of  $T$  we have  $L = T$ .

**Notation.** Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup. For  $H \subseteq S$ ,

$$(H) := \{t \in S \mid t \leq h \text{ for some } h \in H\}.$$

We denote by  $L(x)$  the left ideal of  $S$  generated by  $x(x \in S)$ . For a  $po$ -semigroup  $S$  one can easily prove that

$$\begin{aligned} L(x) &= \{t \in S : t \leq x \text{ or } t \leq ax \text{ for some } a \in S\} \\ &= (x \cup Sx). \end{aligned}$$

We define a relation “ $\mathcal{L}$ ” on  $S$  as follows:

$$a\mathcal{L}b \iff L(a) = L(b).$$

DEFINITION 6. (CF. [2]). An element  $t$  of  $S$  is called a *left ideal element* if  $xt \leq t$  for all  $x \in S$ .

Kehayopulu [2, 4, 5] introduced a left ideal element in a  $poe$ -semigroup as follows: An element  $t$  of  $S$  is called a *left ideal element* if  $et \leq t$  for the greatest element “ $e$ ” of  $S$ .

LEMMA ([5]). Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup. Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is a right congruence on  $S$  i.e. it is an equivalence relation on  $S$  such that  $a\mathcal{L}b \implies ac\mathcal{L}bc$  for all  $c \in S$ .

## 2. Main Theorems

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup. Then the following are equivalent :*

- 1)  $S$  is left regular.
- 2)  $L(a) \subseteq L(a^2)$  for all  $a \in S$ .
- 3)  $a\mathcal{L}a^2$  for all  $a \in S$ .

**PROOF.** 1)  $\implies$  2). Let  $S$  be left regular and  $a \in S$ . If  $t \in L(a)$ , then

$$t \leq a \text{ or } t \leq xa$$

for some  $x \in S$ . Since  $S$  is left regular,  $a \leq ya^2$  for some  $y \in S$ .

If  $t \leq a$ , then  $t \leq a \leq ya^2$  for some  $y \in S$ .

If  $t \leq xa$ , then  $t \leq xa \leq (xy)a^2$  for some  $y \in S$ .

In any case,  $t \leq za^2 \in Sa^2 \subseteq (a^2 \cup Sa^2) = L(a^2)$  for some  $z \in S$ . Since  $L(a^2)$  is a left ideal,  $t \in L(a^2)$ . Hence  $L(a) \subseteq L(a^2)$ .

2)  $\implies$  3). Let  $a \in S$  and  $t \in L(a^2)$ . Then  $t \leq a^2$  or  $t \leq xa^2$  for some  $x \in S$ . In any case,  $t \leq za \in Sa \subseteq (a \cup Sa) = L(a)$  for some  $z \in S$ . Since  $L(a)$  is a left ideal,  $t \in L(a)$ . Hence  $L(a^2) \subseteq L(a)$ , and so  $L(a) = L(a^2)$ . Therefore  $a\mathcal{L}a^2$ .

3)  $\implies$  1). Assume that  $a\mathcal{L}a^2$  for all  $a \in S$ . Then  $a \in L(a) = L(a^2) = (a^2 \cup Sa^2)$ . Thus

$$a \leq a^2 \text{ or } a \leq xa^2$$

for some  $x \in S$ . In any case, we can get  $a \leq ta^2$  for some  $t \in S$ . Thus  $a$  is left regular, and so  $S$  is left regular.  $\square$

**EXAMPLE.** The ordered semigroup  $S = \{a, b, c, d, f\}$  defined by the multiplication and the order below:

·	a	b	c	d	f
a	b	b	d	d	d
b	b	b	d	d	d
c	d	d	c	d	c
d	d	d	d	d	d
f	d	d	c	d	c

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

Then  $S$  is a  $po$ -semigroup which has no the greatest element “ $e$ ”. Then for any  $y \in S$ ,

$$ya^2 = yb = b \text{ or } d \leq b = a^2.$$

$$yb^2 = yb = b \text{ or } d \leq b = b^2,$$

$$yc^2 = yc = c \text{ or } d \leq c = c^2,$$

$$yd^2 = yd = d \leq d = d^2,$$

$$yf^2 = yc = c \text{ or } d \leq c = f^2.$$

Thus every  $x^2$  ( $x \in S$ ) and  $d$  are left ideal elements but  $a, b, c, f$  are not left ideal elements.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup in which every  $x^2$  ( $x \in S$ ) is a left ideal element. The following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $S$  is left regular.
- (2) Every left ideal element of  $S$  is semiprime.
- (3) Every left ideal of  $S$  is semiprime.

**PROOF.** 1)  $\implies$  2). Let  $t$  be a left ideal element of  $S$  and  $a^2 \leq t$  for  $a \in S$ . Since  $S$  is left regular,  $a \leq xa^2 \leq xt \leq t$  for some  $x \in S$ . Thus  $t$  is semiprime.

2)  $\implies$  3). Let  $L$  be a left ideal of  $S$  and  $a^2 \in L$  for  $a \in S$ . Since  $a^2 \leq a^2$  and  $a^2$  is a left ideal element, we have  $a \leq a^2$ . By Definition 1,  $a \in L$ . Hence  $L$  is semiprime.

3)  $\implies$  1). Let  $a \in S$ . Since a left ideal  $L(a^2)$  is semiprime and  $a^2 \in L(a^2)$ , we have  $a \in L(a^2)$ . Thus  $L(a) \subseteq L(a^2)$ . By 2)  $\implies$  1) of Theorem 1,  $S$  is left regular.  $\square$

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $S$  be a  $po$ -semigroup in which every  $x^2$  ( $x \in S$ ) is a left ideal element. Then  $S$  is left regular if and only if there exists a family  $\{S_\alpha | \alpha \in Y\}$  of left simple subsemigroups of  $S$  such that  $S = \bigcup \{S_\alpha | \alpha \in Y\}$ .*

PROOF. Let  $S$  be left regular. We denote by  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  the  $\mathcal{L}$ -class of  $S$  containing  $x$  ( $x \in S$ ).  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  is a left simple subsemigroup of  $S$  for all  $x \in S$ . Indeed: Since  $x \in (x)_{\mathcal{L}}$ ,  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  is not empty.

Let  $a, b \in (x)_{\mathcal{L}}$ . Then  $a\mathcal{L}x$  and  $x\mathcal{L}b$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is a right congruence, we have  $ab\mathcal{L}xb$  and  $xb\mathcal{L}b^2$ . Since  $S$  is left regular,  $b^2\mathcal{L}b$  by Theorem 1. Therefore  $ab\mathcal{L}b$ . Hence  $ab \in (b)_{\mathcal{L}} = (x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  so  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ .

Let  $L$  be a left ideal of  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  and  $z \in L$ . If  $y \in (x)_{\mathcal{L}}$ , then  $z \in L \subseteq (x)_{\mathcal{L}} = (y)_{\mathcal{L}}$ . Since  $S$  is left regular, by Theorem 1  $y \in L(y) = L(z) = L(z^2)$ . Then  $y \leq z^2$  or  $y \leq tz^2$  for some  $t \in S$ . If  $y \leq z^2$ , then  $y \leq z^2 \in (x)_{\mathcal{L}}L \subseteq L$  since  $L$  is a left ideal of  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$ . If  $y \leq tz^2$ , then  $y \leq z^2$  since every  $x^2$  ( $x \in S$ ) is a left ideal element.

In any cases,  $y \in L$  and so  $L = (x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  since  $L$  is a left ideal of  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$ . Hence every  $(x)_{\mathcal{L}}$  is a left simple subsemigroup of  $S$ . Therefore  $S = \bigcup \{(x)_{\mathcal{L}} \mid x \in S\}$ .

Conversely, suppose every  $S_{\alpha}$  is a left simple subsemigroup of  $S$  and let  $S = \bigcup \{S_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in Y\}$ . If  $L$  is a left ideal of  $S$  and  $a^2 \in L$  for  $a \in S$ , then  $a \in S_{\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha \in Y$ . Consider a subset  $L \cap S_{\alpha}$  of  $S$ . Since  $S_{\alpha}$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ ,  $a^2 \in S_{\alpha}$ . Thus  $L \cap S_{\alpha} \neq \emptyset$ . Furthermore

$$S_{\alpha}(L \cap S_{\alpha}) \subseteq S_{\alpha}L \cap S_{\alpha}^2 \subseteq SL \cap S_{\alpha} \subseteq L \cap S_{\alpha}.$$

Let  $x \in L \cap S_{\alpha}$  and  $x \geq y \in S_{\alpha}$ . Since  $x \in L$  and  $y \leq x$ ,  $y \in L$ . Thus  $y \in L \cap S_{\alpha}$ . Hence  $L \cap S_{\alpha}$  is a left ideal of  $S_{\alpha}$ . Since  $S_{\alpha}$  is left simple, we have  $L \cap S_{\alpha} = S_{\alpha}$ . Thus  $a \in L$ . It follows that  $L$  is semiprime. By Theorem 2,  $S$  is left regular.  $\square$

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. The authors thank for the referee's kind comments.

## References

- [1] A. H. Clifford and G. B. Preston, *The algebraic theory of semigroups Vol. I*, Amer. Math. Soc., Math. Surveys **7**, Providence (1964).
- [2] N. Kehayoupulu, *On intra-regular Ve-semigroups*, Semigroup Forum **19** (1980), 111-121.
- [3] ———, *On left regular ordered semigroups*, Math. Japon **35** (1990), 1057-1060.
- [4] ———, *On left regular and left duo poe-semigroups*, Semigroup Forum **44** (1992), 306-313.

- [5] ———, *On regular duo ordered semigroups*, *Math. Japon* **37** (1992), 535-540.

Department of Mathematics  
College of Education  
Gyeongsang National University  
Chinju 660-701, Korea  
*E-mail*: sklee@nongae.gsnu.ac.kr