

## 1-(2-) Prime Ideals in Semirings

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we introduce the concepts of 1-prime ideals and 2-prime ideals in semirings. We have also introduced  $m_1$ -system and  $m_2$ -system in semiring. We have shown that if  $Q$  is an ideal in the semiring  $R$  and if  $M$  is an  $m_2$ -system of  $R$  such that  $\overline{Q} \cap M = \emptyset$  then there exists as 2-prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  such that  $Q \subseteq P$  with  $P \cap M = \emptyset$ .

### 1. Introduction

A semiring is a non-empty set  $R$  equipped with two binary operations, called addition,  $+$ , and multiplication (denoted by juxtaposition), such that  $R$  is multiplicatively a semigroup and additively a commutative semigroup and that the multiplication is distributed across the addition both from the left and from the right. An element denoted by  $0$  is called the zero of  $R$  if  $a + 0 = a$  and  $0a = a0 = 0$  for all  $a \in R$ . A non-empty subset of a semiring  $R$  is called an ideal of  $R$  iff  $a + b \in I$ ,  $ra \in I$ ,  $ar \in I$  hold for all  $a, b \in I$  and for all  $r \in R$ . The notions of left, right and two-sided ideals, as well as sums and products of such ideals are defined as usual. The word ideal will always mean a two-sided ideal. An ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is called a  $k$ -ideal if  $a, a + b \in I$  implies  $b \in I$  for any elements of  $a, b \in R$ . If  $A$  is an ideal of a semiring  $R$  then  $\overline{A} = \{a \in R/a + x \in A, \text{ for some } x \in A\}$  is called a  $k$ -closure of  $A$ . It can be easily verified that  $\overline{A}$  is a  $k$ -ideal (see [6]). If  $A \subseteq R$ , then the ideal ( $k$ -ideal) of  $R$  generated by  $A$  will be denoted  $\langle A \rangle$  ( $\langle A \rangle_k$ ). If  $A = a$ , we write  $\langle a \rangle$  instead of  $\langle \{a\} \rangle$  for convenience. In this paper we introduce the concepts of 1 - (2-) prime ideals as well as 1 - (2-) semiprime ideals. If  $R$  is semiring and  $P$  is an ideal of  $R$  then  $P$  is 0 - (2-) prime ideal if  $A$  and  $B$  are ideals ( $k$ -ideals) of  $R$  such that  $AB \subseteq P$  implies  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ . If  $R$  is a semiring and  $P$  is an ideal of  $R$  then  $P$  is 1-prime ideal if  $A$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  and  $B$  is an ideal of  $R$  such that  $AB \subseteq P$  implies  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ . If  $R$  is a semiring and  $Q$  is an ideal of  $R$ , then  $Q$  is 0 - (2-) semiprime ideal if  $A$  is an ideal ( $k$ -ideal) of  $R$  such that  $A^2 \subseteq Q$  implies  $A \subseteq Q$ . If  $R$  is a semiring and  $Q$  is an ideal of  $R$  then  $Q$  is 1-semiprime if  $A$  is an ideal of  $R$  such that  $\overline{AA} \subseteq Q$  implies  $A \subseteq Q$ . A semiring  $R$  is called fully idempotent if  $I^2 = I$  for every ideal  $I$  of  $R$ .

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If  $A, B \subseteq R$ , then we define  $(A : B)_l = \{r \in R/rB \subseteq A\}$ ,  $(A : B)_r = \{r \in R/Br \subseteq A\}$ ,  $(A : B) = \{r \in R/rB \subseteq A \text{ and } Br \subseteq A\}$ , As easily seen, 0-prime ideal of  $R$  is 2-prime ideal of  $R$ , but not conversely. Clearly 0-prime  $\implies$  1-prime  $\implies$  2-prime, 0-semiprime  $\implies$  1-semiprime  $\implies$  2-semiprime. Next we introduce the concepts of  $m_1$ -system,  $m_2$ -system,  $n_1$ -system and  $n_2$ -system. We have shown that if  $Q$  is an ideal of  $R$  and if  $M$  is an  $m_2$ -system of  $R$  such that  $\overline{Q} \cap M = \emptyset$ , then there exists a 2-prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  such that  $Q \subseteq P$  with  $P \cap M = \emptyset$ . Throughout this paper  $R$  stands for semiring.

**Definition 1.1.** A semiring  $R$  is an ordered triple  $R = (R, +, \cdot)$  such that (a)  $\langle R, + \rangle$  is a commutative monoid with identity denoted  $0_R$  or simply  $0$ , (b)  $\langle R, \cdot \rangle$  is a semigroup, (c) For every  $r, s, t \in R$ ,  $r(s + t) = rs + rt$  and  $(s + t)r = sr + tr$ , (d) For every  $r \in R$ ,  $r0 = 0r = 0$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Following Alarcon and Polkowska [2], we have the following definition for  $B(n, i)$  semirings.

Let  $n \geq 2 \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $0 \leq i < n$  and  $m = n - i$ . Let  $B(n, i)$  be the following semirings :

$B(n, i) = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  and the operations in  $B(n, i)$  are:

$$x +_{B(n,i)} y = \begin{cases} x + y & \text{if } x + y \leq n - 1 \\ l & \text{if } x + y \geq n \\ \text{with } l = (x + y) \bmod m \text{ and } i \leq l \leq n - 1 \end{cases}$$

$$x \cdot_{B(n,i)} y = \begin{cases} xy & \text{if } xy \leq n - 1 \\ l & \text{if } xy \geq n \\ \text{with } l = (xy) \bmod m \text{ and } i \leq l \leq n - 1 \end{cases}$$

**Definition 1.3.** If  $R$  is a semiring and  $P$  is an ideal of  $R$ , then  $P$  is 0-(2-) prime if  $A$  and  $B$  are ideals (k-ideals) of  $R$  such that  $AB \subseteq P$  implies  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ . If  $R$  is a semiring and  $P$  is an ideal of  $R$  then  $P$  is 1-prime if  $A$  is a k-ideal of  $R$  and  $B$  is an ideal of  $R$  such that  $AB \subseteq P$  implies  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ .

**Remark 1.4.** As in rings, if  $P$  is an ideal in a semiring  $R$ , then  $P$  is a 0-prime ideal iff  $a, b \in R$  such that  $aRb \subseteq P$  then  $a \in P$  or  $b \in P$ .

As in rings, if  $Q$  is an ideal in a semiring  $R$ , then  $Q$  is a 0-semiprime ideal iff  $a \in R$  such that  $aRa \subseteq Q$  then  $a \in Q$ .

**Lemma 1.5.** If  $A$  and  $B$  are left ideals of  $R$  then  $(A : B)_l$  is an ideal.

**Lemma 1.6.** If  $A$  is a left k-ideal of  $R$  and  $B$  is a left ideal then  $(A : B)_l$  is a

*k*-ideal.

**Lemma 1.7.** *If  $A$  and  $B$  are right ideals of  $R$  then  $(A : B)_r$  is an ideal.*

**Lemma 1.8.** *If  $A$  is a right  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  and  $B$  is a right ideal then  $(A : B)_r$  is a  $k$ -ideal.*

**Lemma 1.9.** *If  $P$  is a 0-prime ideal of  $R$  then  $P$  is a 2-prime ideal (1-prime ideal) of  $R$ .*

But the converse need not be true as the following example shows.

**Example 1.10.** Consider the semiring  $B(4, 3) = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , where  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are defined as follows.

$+$	0	1	2	3
0	0	1	2	3
1	1	2	3	3
2	2	3	3	3
3	3	3	3	3
$\cdot$	0	1	2	3
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3
2	0	2	3	3
3	0	3	3	3

Since the ideals are  $\{0\}$ ,  $\{0, 3\}$ ,  $\{0, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  and  $k$ -ideals are  $\{0\}$  and  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  the ideal  $\{0, 3\}$  is 2-prime but not 0-prime.

**Theorem 1.11.** *If  $P$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  then  $P$  is a 0-prime ideal if and only if  $P$  is 2-prime ideal.*

*Proof.* Let us assume that  $P$  is 2-prime and  $P$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ . Let us assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are ideals of  $R$  such that  $AB \subseteq P$ . If  $AB \subseteq P$ , then  $A \subseteq (P : B)_l$ . By Lemma 1.6,  $(P : B)_l$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ . Therefore  $\langle A \rangle_k \subseteq (P : B)_l$ . It follows that  $\langle A \rangle_k B \subseteq P$ . Hence  $B \subseteq (P : \langle A \rangle_k)_r$ . By Lemma 1.8,  $(P : \langle A \rangle_k)_r$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ . Therefore  $\langle B \rangle_k \subseteq (P : \langle A \rangle_k)_r$ . It follows that  $\langle A \rangle_k \langle B \rangle_k \subseteq P$ . Since  $P$  is 2-prime, we have  $\langle A \rangle_k \subseteq P$  or  $\langle B \rangle_k \subseteq P$ . Hence  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ .  $\square$

**Definition 1.12.**  $M \subseteq R$  is called an  $m_0$ -system if for every  $a, b \in M$  there exists  $x \in R$  such that  $axb \in M$ .  $M \subseteq R$  is called an  $m_1$ -system if for every  $a, b \in M$  there exists  $a_1 \in \langle a \rangle_k$  and there exists  $b_1 \in \langle b \rangle_k$  such that  $a_1 b_1 \in M$ .  $M \subseteq R$  is called an  $m_2$  system if for every  $a, b \in M$  there exists  $a_1 \in \langle a \rangle_k$  and there exists  $b_1 \in \langle b \rangle_k$  such that  $a_1 b_1 \in M$ .

**Lemma 1.13.** *Every  $m_0$  system is an  $m_2$  ( $m_1$ -system). But the converse need not*

be true as the following example shows.

**Example 1.14.** Consider the semiring  $B(4, 3)$  in Example 1.10. Clearly  $M = \{1, 2\}$  is an  $m_2$  system, but not an  $m_0$ -system.

**Lemma 1.15.** *If  $P$  is an ideal of  $R$ ,  $P$  is a 2-prime ideal (1-prime ideal, 0-prime ideal) of  $R$  iff  $R \setminus P$  is an  $m_2$ -system ( $m_1$  system,  $m_0$ -system) of  $R$ .*

**Theorem 1.16.** *Let  $Q$  be an ideal of  $R$ , and let  $M$  be an  $m_2$ -system ( $m_1$ -system) of  $R$  such that  $\overline{Q} \cap M = \emptyset$ . Then there exists a 2-prime ideal (1-prime ideal)  $P$  of  $R$  such that  $Q \subseteq P$  with  $P \cap M = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $Q$  be an ideal of  $R$  and let  $M$  be an  $m_2$ -system of  $R$  such that  $\overline{Q} \cap M = \emptyset$ . Now we consider the set  $\mathcal{M} = \{I \mid \text{(i) } I \text{ is an ideal of } R \text{ such that } Q \subseteq I, \text{ (ii) } \overline{I} \cap M = \emptyset\}$ . Clearly  $Q$  is in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $Q_1 \subseteq Q_2 \subseteq Q_3 \subseteq \dots$  be any chain of ideals of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $A = \bigcup Q_i$ . Clearly  $A$  is an ideal of  $R$ . We claim that  $\overline{A} \cap M = \emptyset$ . Suppose not, let  $a \in \overline{A} \cap M$  implies  $a \in \overline{A}$  and  $a \in M$ . Hence  $a + x \in A$  for some  $x \in A$ . Since  $a + x \in A = \bigcup Q_i$  implies  $a + x \in Q_i$  for some  $i$ , since  $x \in A = \bigcup Q_i$  implies  $x \in Q_k$  for some  $k$ . Without loss of generality let us assume that  $k < i$ . Then  $a + x, x \in Q_i$  implies  $a \in Q_i$ . Therefore  $a \in \overline{Q_i} \cap M$  which is a contradiction, since  $\overline{Q_i} \cap M = \emptyset$ . Thus  $\overline{A} \cap M = \emptyset$ . Then by Zorn's Lemma, there exists an ideal  $P$  of  $R$  that is maximal with respect to above properties. Let  $A$  be a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  such that  $A \not\subseteq P$ . We claim that  $(\overline{P} : A)_r = (\overline{P} : A)_l = P$ . Since  $P$  is an ideal we have  $AP \subseteq P \subseteq \overline{P}$  and so  $P \subseteq (\overline{P} : A)_r$ . Similarly  $P \subseteq (\overline{P} : A)_l$ . By Lemma 1.8,  $(\overline{P} : A)_r$  is a  $k$ -ideal and by Lemma 1.6  $(\overline{P} : A)_l$  is a  $k$ -ideal. Thus  $(\overline{P} : A)_l$  and  $(\overline{P} : A)_r$  are  $k$ -ideals of  $R$  containing  $P$ . By maximality of  $P$  either  $P = (\overline{P} : A)_l$  or  $(\overline{P} : A)_l \cap M = (\overline{P} : A)_l \cap M \neq \emptyset$  as  $(\overline{P} : A)_l$  is a  $k$ -ideal. Similarly  $P = (\overline{P} : A)_r$  or  $(\overline{P} : A)_r \cap M = (\overline{P} : A)_r \cap M \neq \emptyset$  as  $(\overline{P} : A)_r$  is a  $k$ -ideal. Suppose that  $(\overline{P} : A)_r \cap M \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in (\overline{P} : A)_r \cap M$ . We consider two separate cases.

Case 1:  $A \cap M \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $a \in A \cap M$ . Since  $x \in (\overline{P} : A)_r$  we have  $\langle x \rangle_k \subseteq (\overline{P} : A)_r$ , since  $(\overline{P} : A)_r$  is a  $k$ -ideal. Hence  $A \langle x \rangle_k \subseteq \overline{P}$ . Since  $a, x \in M$  and  $M$  is an  $m_2$ -system of  $R$  there exists  $a_1 \in \langle a \rangle_k$  and there exists  $x_1 \in \langle x \rangle_k$  such that  $a_1 x_1 \in M$ . Since  $A \langle x \rangle_k \subseteq \overline{P}$  implies  $a_1 x_1 \in \overline{P}$ . Therefore  $a_1 x_1 \in \overline{P} \cap M$ , which is impossible since  $\overline{P} \cap M = \emptyset$ . Thus  $P = (\overline{P} : A)_r$  in this case. Similarly if  $y \in (\overline{P} : A)_l \cap M$  then it follows that  $P = (\overline{P} : A)_l$ . Thus if  $A \cap M \neq \emptyset$  then  $(\overline{P} : A)_r = (\overline{P} : A)_l = P$ .

Case 2:  $A \cap M = \emptyset$ . Again we have  $A \langle x \rangle_k \subseteq \overline{P}$ . This implies that  $A \subseteq (\overline{P} : \langle x \rangle_k)_l = P$  by case 1. This contradicts our assumption that  $A \not\subseteq P$ . Thus  $(\overline{P} : A)_l = P$  in this case. Similarly  $(\overline{P} : A)_r = P$ . Finally we show that  $P$  is 2-prime. Let  $A$  and  $B$  are  $k$ -ideals of  $R$  such that  $AB \subseteq P$  and  $A \not\subseteq P$ . Clearly  $P \subseteq \overline{P}$ . Hence  $AB \subseteq \overline{P}$ . It follows that  $B \subseteq (\overline{P} : A)_r = P$ . Therefore  $B \subseteq P$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.17.** *Let  $Q$  be an ideal of  $R$  and let  $M$  be an  $m_0$ -system of  $R$  such that  $Q \cap M = \emptyset$ . Then there exists a 0-prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  such that  $Q \subseteq P$  with  $P \cap M = \emptyset$ .*

The proof is similar to Theorem 1.16.

**Definition 1.18.** If  $R$  is a semiring and  $Q$  is an ideal of  $R$  then  $Q$  is 0-(2-) semiprime ideal if  $A$  is an ideal ( $k$ -ideal) of  $R$  such that  $A^2 \subseteq Q$  implies  $A \subseteq Q$ . If  $R$  is semiring and  $Q$  is an ideal of  $R$  then  $Q$  is 1-semiprime if  $A$  is an ideal of  $R$  such that  $\overline{AA} \subseteq Q$  implies  $A \subseteq Q$ .

**Definition 1.19.**  $N \subseteq R$  is called an  $n_0$ -system if for every  $a \in N$  there exists  $x \in R$  such that  $axa \in N$ .  $N \subseteq R$  is called an  $n_1$ -system if for every  $a \in N$  there exists  $a_1 \in \langle a \rangle_k$  and there exists  $a_2 \in \langle a \rangle$  such that  $a_1 a_2 \in N$ .  $N \subseteq R$  is called an  $n_2$ -system if for every  $a \in N$  there exists  $a_1, a_2 \in \langle a \rangle_k$  such that  $a_1 a_2 \in N$ .

**Lemma 1.20.** If  $S$  is a 0-semiprime ideal of  $R$  then  $S$  is a 2-semiprime ideal (1-semiprime ideal) of  $R$ .

But the converse need not be true as the following an example shows.

**Example 1.21.** Consider the semiring in Example 1.10 Clearly  $S = \{0, 3\}$  is 2-semiprime ideal but not 0-semiprime ideal. Since if  $A = \{0, 2, 3\}$ , then  $A$  is an ideal and  $A^2 = \{0, 3\} \subseteq S$  but  $A \not\subseteq S$ .

**Theorem 1.22.** If  $S$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ , then  $S$  is 0-semiprime ideal iff  $S$  is 2-semiprime ideal.

The proof is similar to Theorem 1.11.

**Lemma 1.23.** Let  $A$  be an  $n_1$ -system and  $a \in A$ . Then there is some  $m_1$ -system  $M$  with  $a \in M \subseteq A$ .

*Proof.* Let  $a \in A$ . Hence there exists  $a_1 \in \langle a \rangle_k$  and  $a_2 \in \langle a \rangle$  such that  $a_1 a_2 \in A$ . Since  $a_1 a_2 \in A$  there exists  $a'_1 \in \langle a_1 a_2 \rangle_k$  and  $a'_2 \in \langle a_1 a_2 \rangle$  such that  $a'_1 a'_2 \in A$ . Continuing this process, we get a sequence  $\{a, a_1 a_2, a'_1 a'_2, a''_1 a''_2, \dots\}$  such that for every positive integer  $k$ ,  $a_1^k a_2^k \in A$  with  $\langle a \rangle_k \supseteq \langle a_1 a_2 \rangle_k \supseteq \langle a'_1 a'_2 \rangle_k \supseteq \langle a''_1 a''_2 \rangle_k \supseteq \dots$  and  $\langle a \rangle \supseteq \langle a_1 a_2 \rangle \supseteq \langle a'_1 a'_2 \rangle \supseteq \dots$ . Take  $M = \{a, a_1 a_2, a'_1 a'_2, a''_1 a''_2, \dots\}$ . We show that  $M$  is a desired  $m_1$ -system. If  $a_1^l a_2^l, a_1^k a_2^k \in M$  (w.l.o.g., let  $k \leq l$ ) then  $\langle a_1^k a_2^k \rangle_k \supseteq \langle a_1^l a_2^l \rangle_k$  and  $\langle a_1^k a_2^k \rangle \supseteq \langle a_1^l a_2^l \rangle$ . Now there exists  $a_1^{l+1} \in \langle a_1^l a_2^l \rangle_k$  and there exists  $a_2^{l+1} \in \langle a_1^l a_2^l \rangle \subseteq \langle a_1^k a_2^k \rangle$  such that  $a_1^{l+1} a_2^{l+1} \in M$ . This implies that  $M$  is a desired  $m_1$ -system.  $\square$

**Lemma 1.24.** Let  $A$  be an  $n_0$ -system and  $a \in A$ . Then there is some  $m_0$ -system  $M$  with  $a \in M \subseteq A$ .

**Lemma 1.25.** Let  $A$  be an  $n_2$ -system and  $a \in A$ . Then there is some  $m_2$ -system  $M$  with  $a \in M \subseteq A$ .

**Definition 1.26.** If  $A$  is an ideal of  $R$ , then we define  $\mathcal{B}_0(A) = \bigcap \{P \text{ is a 0-prime ideal of } R \text{ and } A \subseteq P\}$ . Similarly we define  $\mathcal{B}_1(A)$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2(A)$ .

**Theorem 1.27.** Let  $Q$  be an ideal of  $R$ . (i)  $\overline{Q}$  is a 2-semiprime ideal in  $R$  iff  $\mathcal{B}_2(\overline{Q})$

$= \overline{Q}$ . (ii)  $\overline{Q}$  is a 1-semiprime ideal in  $R$  iff  $\mathcal{B}_1(\overline{Q}) = \overline{Q}$ . (iii)  $Q$  is a 0-semiprime ideal in  $R$  iff  $\mathcal{B}_0(Q) = Q$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathcal{B}_2(\overline{Q}) = \overline{Q}$ . Then  $\overline{Q}$  is the intersection of the 2-prime ideals of  $R$  which contain  $Q$  from which it follows easily that  $\overline{Q}$  is 2-semiprime. Conversely, let  $\overline{Q}$  be 2-semiprime. Clearly  $\overline{Q} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_2(\overline{Q})$ . Let  $a \in R \setminus \overline{Q}$ . Since  $\overline{Q}$  is 2-semiprime, we have  $R \setminus \overline{Q}$  is an  $n_2$ -system of  $R$ . By Lemma 1.25 there exists an  $m_2$ -system  $M$  in  $R$  such that  $a \in M \subseteq R \setminus \overline{Q}$ . By Theorem 1.16 there exists a 2-prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  such that  $Q \subseteq P$  and  $P \cap M = \emptyset$ . Then  $a \notin P$  and so  $a \notin \mathcal{B}_2(\overline{Q})$ . Thus  $\overline{Q} = \mathcal{B}_2(\overline{Q})$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

The next is a direct consequence of the above theorem.

**Corollary 1.28**([1], Theorem 1). *Let  $R$  be a semiring. Then the following assertions are equivalent: 1.  $R$  is fully idempotent. 2. Each proper ideal of  $R$  is the intersection of prime ideals which contain it.*

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