

SEMIGROUPS WHOSE PROPER IDEALS ARE ARCHIMEDEAN  
SEMIGROUPS

*Stojan Bogdanović*

*Prirodno-matematički fakultet. Institut za matematiku  
21000 Novi Sad, ul. dr Ilije Djuričića br.4, Jugoslavija*

ABSTRACT

In this paper semigroups whose proper (left) ideals are archimedean (left archimedean,  $t$ -archimedean, power joined) semigroups are considered.

In [10] T.E.Nordahl studied commutative  $Q$ -semigroups, i.e. commutative semigroups in which every proper ideal is power joined. C.S.H.Nagore, [8] extended Nordahl's results to quasi-commutative semigroups. A.Cherubini and A.Varisco in [6] considered Putcha's  $Q$ -semigroups. Weakly commutative semigroups in which every proper right ideal is power joined are studied by the author in [1]. B.Ponděliček, [12] considered uniform semigroups whose proper quasi-ideals are power joined. A characterization of  $Q$ -semigroups in the general case is given by A.Nagy, [9].

In the present paper we shall describe semigroups in which every proper two-sided ideal is an archimedean semigroup, (Theorem 1.) and in this way a generalization of the previous results is given. Theorem 1. is also a generalization of some results of [2,3,5]. Also, we shall describe semigroups in which

---

*AMS Mathematics subject classification (1980): Primary 20M10, 20M12.*

*Key words and phrases: Proper (left) ideals, archimedean semigroups.*

every proper left ideal is an archimedean (left archimedean, t-archimedean, power joined) semigroup, (Theorems 2,3,4,5.). At the end we describe semigroups in which every proper sub-semigroup is power joined, (Theorem 6.).

Throughout this paper let  $N$  denote the set of all positive integers.

A semigroup  $S$  is archimedean if for any  $a, b \in S$  there exists  $n \in N$  for which  $a^n \in SbS$ , [11].  $S$  is left archimedean if for every  $a, b \in S$  there exists  $n \in N$  such that  $a^n \in Sb$ , [13] (see also [14]).  $S$  is t-archimedean if for every  $a, b \in S$  there exists  $n \in N$  for which  $a^n \in bS \cap Sb$ , [13].  $S$  is power joined if for every  $a, b \in S$  there exist  $m, n \in N$  such that  $a^m = b^n$ , [11].  $S$  is special power joined if for every  $a, b \in S$  there is an  $n \in N$  such that  $a^n = b^n$ , [4].

Underlined notions and terminology are as in [7] and [11].

Let  $I(S)$  ( $L(S)$ ) denote the union of all proper two-sided (left) ideals of a semigroup  $S$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Every proper two-sided ideal of  $S$  is an archimedean subsemigroup of  $S$  if and only if  $I(S)$  is an archimedean subsemigroup of  $S$ .*

**P r o o f.** If all proper two-sided ideals of  $S$  are archimedean and  $a, b \in I(S)$ , then there is a proper two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $S$  with  $a, aba \in I$  and there exists  $n \in N$  such that

$$a^n \in IabaI \subseteq I(S)bI(S).$$

Thus  $I(S)$  is archimedean.

Conversely, let  $I(S)$  be archimedean and  $I$  be a proper two-sided ideal of  $S$ . Then for  $a, b \in I$  there is an  $n \in N$  such that  $a^n = xby$  for some  $x, y \in I(S)$ . Hence  $a^{n+2} = axbya$ , where  $ax, ya \in I$ , and therefore  $I$  is archimedean.

LEMMA 1. Let  $L$  be a (proper) left ideal of  $S$ . Then  $L$  is maximal if and only if

$$(i) S \setminus L = \{a\}, \quad a^2 \in L$$

or

$$(ii) S \setminus L \subseteq Sa \quad \text{for every } a \in S \setminus L.$$

P r o o f. If  $L$  is a maximal left ideal of  $S$ , then we have the two cases: (i) There is an  $a \in S \setminus L$  such that  $Sa \subseteq L$ . In this case  $L \cup \{a\} = S$ . Hence  $S \setminus L = \{a\}$ ,  $a^2 \in L$ . (ii) For every  $a \in S \setminus L$ ,  $Sa \not\subseteq L$ . Then  $L \cup Sa = S$ . Hence,  $S \setminus L \subseteq Sa$  for every  $a \in S \setminus L$ .

The converse is obvious.

LEMMA 2. Let  $L(S)$  be as in the case (ii) of Lemma 1. then

$$S \setminus L(S) = \{x \in S : S = Sx\}$$

is a subsemigroup of  $S$ .

P r o o f. For  $a \in S \setminus L(S)$  we have that  $S = L(S) \cup U(S \setminus L(S)) = a \cup Sa$ , so  $L(S) \subseteq Sa$ . From this and  $S \setminus L(S) \subseteq Sa$  we have that  $S = Sa$  for every  $a \in S \setminus L(S)$ . Conversely, let  $S = Sa$  for every  $a \in S \setminus L(S)$ , then  $S \setminus L(S) \subseteq Sa$ ,  $a \in S \setminus L(S)$ . Therefore  $S \setminus L(S) = \{x \in S : S = Sx\}$  and it is clear that  $S \setminus L(S)$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ .

LEMMA 3. Every left ideal of an archimedean (left archimedean,  $t$ -archimedean, power joined, special power joined) semigroup  $S$  is an archimedean (left archimedean,  $t$ -archimedean, power joined, special power joined) subsemigroup of  $S$ .

P r o o f. Let  $L$  be an arbitrary left ideal of an archimedean semigroup  $S$  and  $a, b \in L$ . Then  $a^n = xb^2y$  for some  $x, y \in S$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It follows from this that  $a^{n+1} = xbb^2ya$  and  $xb, ya \in L$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *The following conditions are equivalent on a semigroup S:*

- (1) *Every proper left ideal of S is archimedean;*
- (2) *L(S) is archimedean;*
- (3) *S satisfies one of the following conditions:*
  - (1) *S is archimedean;*
  - (ii) *S has a maximal left ideal M which is an archimedean semigroup and  $M \subseteq Ma$  for any  $a \in S \setminus M$ .*

**P r o o f.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). If S is left simple, then S is archimedean. Assume that S is not left simple. If  $a, b \in L(S)$ , then there is a proper left ideal L of S such that  $a, b \in L$ . Hence,

$$a^n e L b a L \subseteq L(S) b L(S)$$

for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and therefore  $L(S)$  is archimedean.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). If  $L(S) \neq S$ , then  $M = L(S)$  is a maximal left ideal of S and by Lemma 1. we have that  $S \setminus M = \{a\}$ ,  $a^2 \in M$  or  $S \setminus M \subseteq Sa$  for every  $a \in S \setminus M$ . If  $S \setminus M = \{a\}$ ,  $a^2 \in M$ , then S is archimedean. If  $S \setminus M \subseteq Sa$  for every  $a \in S \setminus M$ , then by Lemma 2.  $T = S \setminus M$  is a subsemigroup of S. From  $Sa = S$  ( $a \in T$ ) we have that  $S = Ma \cup Ta \subseteq Ma \cup T \subseteq S$ , i.e.  $S = Ma \cup T$ . Hence,  $M \subseteq Ma$  for every  $a \in S \setminus M$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). If (i) holds, then by Lemma 3. every left ideal of S is archimedean. Let (ii) holds and let L be a proper left ideal of S. If  $L \subseteq M$ , then L is archimedean, (Lemma 3.). If  $L \not\subseteq M$ , then  $L \cap (S \setminus M) \neq \emptyset$ . For  $a \in L \cap (S \setminus M)$  we have  $M \subseteq Ma \subseteq L$ , which is not possible.

**THEOREM 3.** *Every proper left ideal of a semigroup S is a left archimedean subsemigroup of S if and only if one the following conditions hold:*

- 1<sup>o</sup> *S is left archimedean;*
- 2<sup>o</sup> *S contains exactly two left ideals  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  which are left simple semigroup and  $S = L_1 \cup L_2$  ;*
- 3<sup>o</sup> *S has a maximal left ideal M which is left archimedean and  $M \subseteq Ma$  for every  $a \in S \setminus M$ .*

**P r o o f.** Let all proper left ideals of  $S$  are left archimedean. If  $L(S) \neq S$ , then  $M=L(S)$  is a maximal left ideal of  $S$  which is left archimedean. By Lemma 1. we have  $S \setminus M = \{a\}$ ,  $a^2 \in M$  or  $S \setminus M \subseteq Sa$  for every  $a \in S \setminus M$ . In the last case we have by Theorem 2. and Lemma 2. that  $M \subseteq Ma$  for every  $a \in S \setminus M$ .

If  $L(S) = S$  and for any two proper left ideals  $L_1, L_2$  of  $S$  we have  $L_1 \cap L_2 \neq \emptyset$ , then  $S$  is left archimedean. Otherwise, there are left ideals  $L_1, L_2$  of  $S$  with  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \emptyset$ . In this case  $L_1 \cup L_2 = S$ , since  $L_1 \cup L_2$  is not left archimedean. Moreover,  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are left simple semigroups and there exists no other proper left ideal  $L$  of  $S$  than  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Consequently, if every proper left ideal of  $S$  is left archimedean, then we have one of the conditions  $1^\circ, 2^\circ$  or  $3^\circ$ .

The converse follows immediately.

**LEMMA 4.[1]**  $S$  is  $t$ -archimedean and left simple if and only if  $S$  is a group.

**THEOREM 4.** Let  $S$  not be left simple. Then every proper left ideal of  $S$  is  $t$ -archimedean if and only if one of the following conditions hold:

- $1^\circ$   $S$  is  $t$ -archimedean;
- $2^\circ$   $S$  contains exactly two left ideals  $G_1, G_2$  which are groups and  $S = G_1 \cup G_2$ ;
- $3^\circ$   $S$  has a maximal left ideal  $M$  which is a  $t$ -archimedean semigroup and  $M \subseteq Ma$  for any  $a \in S \setminus M$ .

**P r o o f.** Let every proper left ideal of  $S$  be  $t$ -archimedean. Then by Theorem 3. and Lemma 4. we have  $2^\circ$  or  $3^\circ$  or  $S$  is left archimedean. Assume that  $S$  is left archimedean. If  $L(S) \neq S$ , then  $L(S)$  is a maximal left ideal of  $S$  and it is  $t$ -archimedean. By Lemmas 1. and 2. we have that  $S \setminus L(S) = \{a\}$ ,  $a^2 \in L(S)$  or  $S \setminus L(S)$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ . The last case is not possible and in the first case  $S$  is  $t$ -archimedean. If  $L(S) = S$ , then we can prove that  $S$  is of the type  $1^\circ$ .

The converse follows immediately.

The following theorem will be given without proof.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $S$  not be left simple. Then every proper left ideal of  $S$  is power joined if and only if one of the following conditions hold:*

- 1<sup>o</sup>  $S$  is power joined;
- 2<sup>o</sup>  $S$  contains exactly two left ideals  $G_1, G_2$  which are periodic groups and  $S = G_1 \cup G_2$  ;
- 3<sup>o</sup>  $S$  has a maximal left ideal  $M$  which is power joined and  $M \subseteq Ma$  for any  $a \in S \setminus M$ .

**THEOREM 6.** *Every proper subsemigroup of  $S$  is power joined if and only if  $|S| = 2$  or  $S$  is power joined.*

**P r o o f.** Let  $S$  be not left simple. If any proper subsemigroup of  $S$  is power joined, then also any proper left ideal of  $S$  is power joined. Hence, by Theorem 5. we have one of the cases 1<sup>o</sup>, 2<sup>o</sup> or 3<sup>o</sup> of this theorem. But, the cases 2<sup>o</sup> and 3<sup>o</sup> are possible only if  $|S| = 2$ . Indeed, let  $S = G_1 \cup G_2$ , where  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are the disjoint left ideals of  $S$  which are periodic groups. If  $e$  and  $f$  are the units of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , respectively, then it is clear that  $S = \langle e, f \rangle$ . Moreover,  $ef \in G_2$  and  $fe \in G_1$  and there exist  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f = (ef)^m$  and  $e = (fe)^n$ , so  $ef = f$ ,  $fe = e$ . Therefore  $S = \langle e, f \rangle = \{e, f\}$ , i.e.  $|S| = 2$ . If we have 3<sup>o</sup>, then  $M = L(S)$ , so  $S \setminus M = \{a \in S : Sa = S\}$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$  (Lemma 2.). From  $Sa = S$  ( $a \in T = S \setminus M$ ) we have  $S = Ma \cup Ta$ . If  $Ma = M$ , then we have  $Ta = T$ . Assume that  $T$  is not left simple. Then there is an element  $a \in T$  with  $Ta \not\subseteq T$ . But, in this case  $M \not\subseteq Ma$ , hence,  $Ma = S$ . Let  $a = xa$  for some  $x \in M$ . Then

$$(ax)^2 = a(xa)x = a^2x, \dots, (ax)^n = a^n x \in M \quad (n \in \mathbb{N})$$

and thus

$$\{ax, a^2x, \dots, a^nx, \dots\} \cup \{a, a^2, \dots, a^n, \dots\}$$

is a subsemigroup of  $S$ . Since this subsemigroup is not power joined it is equal to  $S$  and thus

$$M = \{ax, a^2x, \dots\}, \quad T = \{a, a^2, \dots\}.$$

Consequently,  $x = a^k x$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . But then

$$a = xa = a^k(xa) = a^{k+1}$$

and  $T$  is a group. This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $T$  is a left simple semigroup and by Lemma 4.  $T$  is a subgroup of  $S$ . Let  $e$  be the unity of  $T$ . Then by 3<sup>o</sup> we have  $M \subseteq Me$  and thus for any  $x \in M$  there is some  $y \in M$  with  $x = ye$ . Hence,  $xe = ye^2 = ye = x$ . For such an element  $x \in M$  we have  $(ex)^n = ex^n \in M$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and  $\{ex^2, ex^3, \dots\} \cup \{e\}$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$ . This subsemigroup is not power joined, and thus it is equal to  $S$ . Consequently,  $M = \{ex^2, ex^3, \dots\}$ ,  $T = \{e\}$ . But in this case  $ex = ex^k = (ex)^k$  for some  $k > 1$  and  $M = \{ex, ex^2, \dots\}$  is a group. For the unity  $(ex)^{k-1} = ex^{k-1}$  of this group we have the subsemigroup  $\{ex^{k-1}, e\}$  of  $S$  which is not power joined. Hence,  $S = \{ex^{k-1}, e\}$ , i.e.  $|S| = 2$ .

Now, let  $S$  be left simple. Then we have two cases:

- (i)  $S$  is right simple. In this case  $S$  is a periodic group.
- (ii) If  $S$  is not right simple, then using the dual of Theorem 5. we have, as in the case that  $S$  is not left simple, that  $S$  is power joined or  $|S| = 2$ .

The converse is obvious.

**COROLLARY 1.** [3] *Every proper subsemigroup of a semigroup  $S$  is special power joined if and only if  $|S| = 2$  or  $S$  is special power joined.*

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Bogdanović, S.,  $Q_r$ -Semigroups, *Publ. Inst. Math.* 29(43), 1981, 15-20.
- [2] Bogdanović, S., *Semigroups in which every proper left ideal is a left group*, *Notes on semigroups. VIII, 1982-4*, 8-13, Dept. of Math. K. Marx Univ. of Economics, Budapest.

- [3] Bogdanović, S., *Semigroups in which some bi-ideal is a group*, *Zbornik radova PMF Novi Sad*, 11(1981), 261-266.
- [4] Bogdanović, S., *Bands of periodic power joined semigroups*, *Math. Sem. Notes*, 10(1982), 667-670.
- [5] Bogdanović, S., and S. Gilezan, *Semigroups with completely simple kernel*, *Zbornik radova PMF Novi Sad, ser.mat.* 12(1982), 429-445.
- [6] Cherubini Spoletini, A., and A. Varisco, *On Putcha's Q-semigroups*, *Semigroup Forum*, 18(1979), 313-317.
- [7] Clifford, A. H. and G. B. Preston, *The algebraic theory of semigroups I*, *Amer. Math. Soc.* 1961.
- [8] Nagore, C. S. H., *Quasi-commutative Q-semigroups*, *Semigroup Forum* 15 (1978), 189-193.
- [9] Nagy, A., *Semigroups whose proper two-sided ideals are power joined*, *Semigroup Forum* 25(1982), 325-329.
- [10] Nordahl, T. E., *Commutative semigroups whose proper subsemigroups are power joined*, *Semigroup Forum* 6(1973), 35-41.
- [11] Petrich, M., *Introduction to semigroups*, *Merill Publ. Comp. Ohio*, 1973.
- [12] Pondělíček, B., *Uniform semigroups whose proper quasi-ideals are power joined*, *Semigroup Forum* 22(1981), 331-337.
- [13] Putcha, M. S., *Band of t-archimedean semigroups*, *Semigroup Forum* 6 (1973), 232-239.
- [14] Tamura, T., and N. Kimura, *On decomposition of a commutative semigroup*, *Kodai Math. Sem. Rep.* 6(1954), 109-112.

Received by the editors November 21, 1983.

REZIME

PODGRUPE U KOJIMA SU SVI PRAVI IDEALI  
ARHIMEDOVSKE POLUGRUPE

U ovom radu razmatraju se polugrupe u kojima su svi pravi (levi) ideali arhimedovske (levo arhimedovske, t-arhimedovske, stepeno vezane) polugrupe.