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# **ON RADICALS IN SEMIGROUPS**

## FRANTIŠEK KMEŤ

Let S be a semigroup and  $J \subseteq S$  a two-sided ideal of S. All ideals in the following are supposed to be two-sided.

An element  $x \in S$  is called nilpotent with respect to J if  $x^n \in J$  for some positive integer n. An ideal, or a subsemigroup I of S, is called nilpotent with respect to J if  $I^n \subseteq J$  for some positive integer n. An ideal I of S, each element of which is nilpotent with respect to J, is called a nilideal with respect to J. An ideal I, each finitely generated subsemigroup of which is nilpotent with respect to J, is called a locally nilpotent ideal with respect to J. An ideal P of S is called prime if for any two ideals A, B of  $SAB \subseteq P$  implies that either  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ . An ideal P of S is called completely prime if for any two elements  $a, b \in S ab \in P$  implies that either  $a \in P$  or  $b \in P$ . A subset  $M \subseteq S$  is called a filter of S if P = S - M is a completely prime ideal of S or M = S. It is known that a subset M of S is a filter of S if and only if x,  $y \in M$  is equivalent to  $xy \in M$ .

The set of all nilpotent elements of S with respect to an ideal J of S will be denoted by  $N_J(S)$ .

The union  $R_J(S)$  of all nilpotent ideals of S with respect to J is called the Schwarz radical of S with respect to J. The union  $L_J(S)$  of all locally nilpotent ideals of S with respect to J is called the Ševrin radical of S with respect to J. The union  $R^*_J(S)$  of all nilideal of S with respect to J is called the Clifford radical of S with respect to J. The intersection  $M_J(S)$  of all prime ideals of S which contain J is called the McCoy radical of S with respect to J. The intersection  $C_J(S)$  of all completely prime ideals of S which contain J is called the Luh radical of S with respect to J.

J. Luh [5, Theorem 3,3; 3,4; 3,5; 3,7 and Corollary] proved for a semigroup S with the kernel K (the minimal ideal of S) that  $R_{\kappa}(S) \subseteq M_{\kappa}(S) \subseteq R_{\kappa}^{*}(S) \subseteq C_{\kappa}(S)$  and for a commutative semigroup  $R_{\kappa}(S) = M_{\kappa}(S) = R_{\kappa}^{*}(S) = C_{\kappa}(S)$ .

Š. Schwarz [6, section II, Theorems 7, 8, 9] studied questions connected with the existence of the kernel of a semigroup S and the relations  $R_{\kappa}(S) \subseteq M_{\kappa}(S) \subseteq R_{\kappa}^{*}(S) \subseteq M^{*}$  (the last relation if  $S^{2} = S$  and  $M^{*} \neq \emptyset$ ), where  $M^{*}$  is the intersection of all maximal ideals of S.

R. Šulka [7, Lemma 19] and J. Bosák [2, Theorem 2] proved that in an arbitrary semigroup S with an ideal  $J \subseteq S$  we have

$$R_J(S) \subseteq M_J(S) \subseteq L_J(S) \subseteq R^*(S) \subseteq N_J(S) \subseteq C_J(S).$$
(1)

In the case of a commutative semigroup S as proved by R. Šulka [7, Theorem 7] and J. Bosák [2, Corollary 1] we have

$$R_J(S) = M_J(S) = L_J(S) = R^*_J(S) = N_J(S) = C_J(S).$$
(2)

A semigroup S is called a  $C_2$ -semigroup if for all a, b, c, of S abcba = bacab. J. E. Kuczowski [3] proved that in a  $C_2$ -semigroup S the equalities

$$M_J(S) = L_J(S) = R^*_J(S) = N_J(S) = C_J(S)$$

hold.

A semigroup S is called quasi-commutative if ab = b'a for all a, b of S and for some positive integer r = r(a, b). H. Lal [4] proved that in a quasi-commutative semigroup S the equalities of (2) hold.

In the author's paper [8] it is proved that in the semigroup U of all triangular  $m \times m$  matrices over a commutative ring we have  $R_0(U) = M_0(U) = L_0(U)$ =  $R_0^*(U) = N_0(U)$ . Theorem 1 of this paper implies that in U the equalities of (2) hold for J=0.

In the present paper we prove (Theorem 1, Corollary 1) that in a semigroup S we have  $R^*(S) = N_I(S) = C_I(S)$  if and only if the set  $N_I(S)$  is an ideal of S. Theorem 1 is analogous to the results of A. Abian [1, Theorem 2] for rings without nilpotent elements. Further we prove that the equalities of (2) in a semigroup S hold if and only if for each  $a \in N_I(S)$  the principal ideal (a) is nilpotent with respect to J (Theorem 2). In a finite semigroup S the equalities of (2) are valid if and only if  $N_I(S)$  is an ideal of S (Corollary 3).

**Lemma 1.** If  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$  are elements of a semigroup S and  $a_1a_2 \ldots a_n \in N_J(S)$ , then  $a_k \ldots a_n a_1 \ldots a_{k-1} \in N_J(S)$   $(k=2, \ldots, n)$ .

Proof. Let  $ab \in M_J(S)$  and  $(ab)^r \in J$  for some positive integer r, then also  $(ba)^{r+1} = b(ab)^r a \in J$  and so  $ba \in N_J(S)$ . By the preceding it follows from  $(a_1 \dots a_{k-1})$   $(a_k \dots a_n) \in N_J(S)$  that  $(a_k \dots a_n)$   $(a_1 \dots a_{k-1}) \in N_J(S)$ , where  $k = 2, \dots, n$ .

**Lemma 2.** Let there be  $a_i \in S$ ,  $N_j(S)$  be an ideal of S,  $a_1a_2 \dots a_n \in N_J(S)$  and  $i_1$ ,  $i_2, \dots, i_n$  an arbitrary permutation of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then  $a_{i_1}a_{i_2} \dots a_{i_n} \in N_J(S)$ .

Proof. a) Let  $ab \in N_J(S)$ . Since  $N_J(S)$  is an ideal of S, for each  $t \in S$  the product  $bat \in N_J(S)$ . From  $b(at) \in N_J(S)$  by Lemma 1 we have  $(at)b \in N_J(S)$ . Therefore  $ab \in N_J(S)$  implies sath  $\in N_J(S)$  for arbitrary s,  $t \in S$  (where s, t may be empty symbols).

b) Let there be  $b_1b_2b_3 \in N_I(S)$  for the elements  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  of S. We shall prove that for each permutation *i*, *j*, *k* of the set {1, 2, 3} we have  $b_ib_jb_k \in N_I(S)$ . From Lemma 1 we at once obtain that  $b_2b_3b_1 \in N_I(S)$  and  $b_3b_1b_2 \in N_I(S)$ . By a)  $b_1(b_2b_3)$ 

 $\in N_J(S)$  for  $s = b_2$ ,  $t = b_3$  implies  $sb_1t(b_2b_3) = b_2b_1b_3b_2b_3 \in N_J(S)$ . Again by a) from  $(b_2b_1b_3b_2)b_3 \in N_J(S)$  for  $t' = b_1$  we obtain  $(b_2b_1b_3b_2)t'b_3 = (b_2b_1b_3)^2 \in N_J(S)$ . Therefore  $b_2b_1b_3 \in N_J(S)$ . Then Lemma 1 implies that also  $b_1b_3b_2 \in N_J(S)$ and  $b_3b_2b_1 \in N_J(S)$ .

c) Let  $a_1 \dots a_{k-1} a_k a_{k+1} \dots a_n \in N_J(S)$   $(k=2, 3, \dots, n)$ . We shall show that  $a_k a_1 \dots a_{k-1} a_1 a_{k+1} \dots a_n \in N_J(S)$ .

With respect to b) from  $a_1(a_2 ... a_{k-1})$   $(a_k a_{k+1} ... a_n) \in N_J(S)$  we have  $(a_2 ... a_{k-1})a_1(a_k a_{k+1} ... a_n) \in N_J(S)$ .

Then  $(a_2 \dots a_{k-1}a_1)a_k(a_{k+1} \dots a_n) \in N_J(S)$  by b) implies that  $a_k(a_2 \dots a_{k-1}a_1)$  $(a_{k+1} \dots a_n) \in N_J(S)$ .

It is well known that the group of all permutations of the set  $\{1, 2, ..., n\}$  is generated by the set of the transpositions (1, 2), (1, 3), ..., (1, n). From this it follows that Lemma 2 is true.

**Lemma 3.** If  $N_J(S)$  is an ideal of a semigroup S and  $a_1a_2 \dots a_n \in N_J(S)$ , then for arbitrary elements  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n+1}$  (where some of the  $s_i$  may be empty symbols) we have  $s_1a_1s_2a_2 \dots s_na_ns_{n+1} \in N_J(S)$ .

Proof. Let  $a_1a_2 \ldots a_n \in N_J(S)$ . Since  $N_J(S)$  is an ideal of S, for any  $s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_{n+1}$  of S we have that  $s_1s_2 \ldots s_{n+1}a_1a_2 \ldots a_n \in N_J(S)$ . The word  $s_1a_1s_2a_2 \ldots s_na_ns_{n+1}$  is obtained by means of a suitable rearrangement of the letters in  $s_1s_2 \ldots s_{n+1}a_1a_2 \ldots a_n$ . Then by Lemma 2 we have that  $s_1a_1s_2a_2 \ldots s_na_ns_{n+1} \in N_J(S)$ .

**Lemma 4.** Let  $N_J(S)$  be an ideal of S. Suppose that  $a_1a_2 \dots a_n \in N_J(S)$ . Denote by  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_r$  ( $r \le n$ ) the different elements in the set  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ . Then (in any order)  $b_1b_2 \dots b_r \in N_J(S)$ .

Proof. Rearrange the letters in  $a_1a_2 \ldots a_n$  in such a manner that we obtain a word of the form  $b_1^{k_1} \ldots b_r^{k_r}$ . By Lemma 2 this element is contained in  $N_I(S)$ . Take an integer  $k > k_i$ . Then by Lemma 3  $b_1^{k_1}b_1^{k-k_1}b_2^{k_2}b_2^{k-k_2} \ldots b_r^{k_r}b_r^{k-k_r} = b_1^kb_2^k \ldots b_r^k \in$  $N_I(S)$ . By means of a suitable rearrangement of the letters  $b_i$  we obtain (by Lemma 2) that  $(b_1b_2 \ldots b_r)^k \in N_I(S)$  and so  $b_1b_2 \ldots b_r \in N_I(S)$ .

Remark 1. If the set  $N_J(S)$  of all nilpotent elements of S is not an ideal, then Lemmas 2—4 need not be true. This shows the next example 1.

Example 1. Let  $S_1 = \{0, e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{21}, e_{22}, e\}$  be a semigroup with the multiplication:  $e_{ik} \cdot e_{kn} = e_{in}, e_{ik} \cdot e_{jn} = 0 \cdot e_{ik} = e_{ik} \cdot 0 = 0, e_{ik} \cdot e = e \cdot e_{ik} = e_{ik}$  for  $i, j, k, n \in \{1, 2\}, j \neq k$ . Evidently the set  $N_0(S_1) = \{0, e_{12}, e_{21}\}$  is not an ideal of  $S_1$ . In  $S_1$  Lemmas 2—4 do not hold, since, e.g.,  $e_{21}e_{12}e_{11} = 0 \in N_0(S_1)$  but  $e_{12}e_{21}e_{11} = e_{11} \notin N_0(S_1), e_{12}^2e_{21}^2 = 0 \in N_0(S_1)$  and the product of all distinct letters  $e_{12}e_{21} = e_{11} \notin N_0(S_1)$ .

Example 2. The subsemigroup  $S_2 = \{0, e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{22}, e\}$  of  $S_1$  with the same multiplication is an example of a non-commutative semigroup in which the set  $N_0(S_2) = \{0, e_{12}\}$  is an ideal of  $S_2$ . Here, e.g.,  $J = \{0, e_{12}, e_{22}\}$  is an ideal and  $N_J(S_2) = J$  is an ideal of  $S_2$ .

**Lemma 5.** Let  $N_J(S) \neq S$  be an ideal of a semigroup S and let M be a maximal subsemigroup of S which does not meet  $N_J(S)$ . Then M is a filter of S

Proof. Let  $a \in S - M$ . The semigroup  $\{M, a\}$  generated by M and a is larger than M, hence it has a non-empty intersection with  $N_J(S)$ . There exists therefore a product containing the element a and elements  $m_i \in M$ , which is contained in  $N_J(S)$ . By rearranging the letters in this product we get a new element of the form  $m_1 \dots m_n a^k$  ( $m_i \in M, k \ge 1$ ) which (by Lemma 2) is again contained in  $N_J(S)$ . By Lemma 4 there is an element  $m \in M$  such that  $ma \in N_J(S)$ .

We shall prove that M is a filter of S. It is necessary to prove that  $ab \in M$  implies  $a \in M$  and  $b \in M$ . We prove it indirectly.

Suppose that  $ab \in M$ , while either  $a \in S - M$  or  $b \in S - M$ . Let  $a \in S - M$ . Then by the preceding part of the proof there exists an element  $m \in M$  such that  $ma \in N_I(S)$ . Since  $N_I(S)$  is an ideal of S we have  $(ma)b = m(ab) \in N_I(S)$  but  $m \in M$ ,  $ab \in M$  and so  $m(ab) \in M$ . This is a contradiction with the assumption that M does not meet  $N_I(S)$ . Analogously let  $b \in S - M$ . Then there exists  $m' \in M$  such that  $m'b \in N_I(S)$  and so by Lemma 3  $m'ab \in N_I(S)$ . But  $m' \in M$ ,  $ab \in M$  and so  $m'(ab) \in M$ , which contradicts our assumption that M does not meet  $N_I(S)$ . Therefore  $ab \in M$  implies that  $a \in M$  and  $b \in M$  and so M is a filter of S.

**Theorem 1.** Let S be a semigroup, J an ideal of S and suppose that  $N_J(S) \subseteq S$  is an ideal of S. Then  $N_J(S) = C_J(S)$ .

Proof. In an arbitrary semigroup S we have  $N_J(S) \subseteq C_J(S)$ . If  $N_J(S) = S$ , then obviously  $N_J(S) = C_J(S) = S$  and the statement holds.

Suppose that  $N_J(S) \neq S$ . We prove that  $C_J(S) \subseteq N_J(S)$ . It is sufficient to show that for any  $a \in S$ ,  $a \notin N_J(S)$  there exists a completely prime ideal P which does not contain a. Then  $a \notin P$  implies  $a \notin C_J(S)$ .

Let  $a \in S$ ,  $a \notin N_I(S)$  be an arbitrary element. Then the subsemigroup  $A = \{a, a^2, a^3, ...\}$  of S does not meet  $N_I(S)$ . From Zorn's lemma it follows that there exists a maximal subsemigroup M of S,  $M \supseteq A$  which does not meet  $N_I(S)$ . Then by Lemma 5 M is a filter of S. Consequently P = S - M is a completely prime ideal of S containing  $N_I(S)$  with the property  $a \notin P$  and so  $a \notin C_I(S)$ .

Both relations  $N_I(S) \subseteq C_I(S)$  and  $C_I(S) \subseteq N_I(S)$  imply  $N_I(S) = C_I(S)$ .

**Corollary 1.** In a semigroup S the equalities  $R^*(S) = N_J(S) = C_J(S)$  hold if and only if  $N_J(S)$  is an ideal of S.

Proof. Evidently if  $R^*(S) = N_1(S) = C_1(S)$ , then  $N_1(S)$  is an ideal of S.

Conversely, let  $N_J(S)$  be an ideal of S. By (1) we have  $R^*_J(S) \subseteq N_J(S)$ . Since  $N_J(S)$  is a nilideal of S from the definition of Clifford's radical it follows  $N_J(S) \subseteq R^*_J(S)$ . Therefore  $R^*_J(S) = N_J(S)$ . Then by Theorem 1 we obtain  $N_J(S) = R^*_J(S) = C_J(S)$ .

Clearly  $a \in R^*(S)$  if and only if the principal ideal (a) is a nilideal of S with respect to J.

**Corollary 2.** Let S be a semigroup, J be an ideal of S. Then  $R^*_J(S) = N_J(S) = C_J(S)$  holds if and only if for each  $a \in N_J(S)$  the principal ideal (a) is a nilideal of S with respect to J.

**Corollary 3.** In a finite semigroup S the equalities (2), i.e.,  $R_J(S) = M_J(S) = L_J(S) = R^*(S) = N_J(S) = C_J(S)$  hold if and only if the set  $N_J(S)$  is an ideal of S.

Proof. Evidently if (2) holds, then  $N_I(S)$  is an ideal of S. Conversely, let  $N_I(S)$  be an ideal of S. Then from the statement of J. Bosák [2, p. 211, Corollary 2] that in an arbitrary finite semigroup we have  $R_I(S) = M_I(S) = L_I(S) = R^*_I(S)$  and from Corollary 1 it follows that (2) holds.

Remark 2. In an infinite semigroup S (2) need not hold. The following example is given by J. Bosák [2, p. 209-210]. Let S be a semigroup generated by  $\{0, a, b\}$  with generating relations  $0x = x0 = x^3 = 0$  for every word x over the given alphabet. Then for the Ševrin, Clifford and Luh radicals with respect to J=0 we have  $L_0(S) \subset R_0^*(S) = N_0(S) = C_0(S) = S$ ,  $L_0(S) \neq R_0^*(S)$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let S be a semigroup, J be an ideal of S,  $N_t(S)$  be the set of all nilpotent elements of S with respect to J. Then (2), i.e. the equalities

$$R_J(S) = M_J(S) = L_J(S) = R^*_J(S) = N_J(S) = C_J(S)$$

hold if and only if for each  $a \in N_J(S)$  the principal ideal (a) is nilpotent with respect to J.

Proof. If (2) hold, then evidently for  $a \in N_J(S)$  we have  $(a) \in R_J(S)$  and the principal ideal (a) is nilpotent with respect to J.

Conversely, suppose that for each  $a \in N_I(S)$  the principal ideal (a) of S is nilpotent with respect to J. Then from the relation  $R_I(S) \subseteq N_I(S)$  and from the definition of Schwarz's radical we have  $R_I(S) = N_I(S)$ . Then Theorem 1 implies  $N_I(S) = C_I(S)$  and so with respect to (1) we obtain (2).

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Katedra matematiky Prevádzkovo-ekonomickej fakulty Vysokej školy poľnohospodárskej Mostná 16 949 01 Nitra

### О РАДИКАЛАХ ПОЛУГРУПП

#### Франтишек Кметь

#### Резюме

Пусть S — произвольная полугруппа, J — идеал полугруппы S,  $N_i(S)$  — множество нильпотентных элементов полугруппы S относительно идеала J. Если для всякого  $a \in N_i(S)$  главный идеал (a) является нильидеалом (нильпотентным идеалом) полугруппы S относительно идеала J, то радикалы Клиффорда и Луга (радикалы Шварца, Маккойа, Шеврина, Клиффорда и Луга) относительно идеала J равны  $N_i(S)$ , и наоборот.