Distributive Lattices of $\lambda$-simple Semirings

Tapas Kumar Mondal
Department of Mathematics
Dr. Bhupendra Nath Duta Smriti Mahavidyalaya,
Hatgobindapur, Burdwan - 713407,
West Bengal, India
E-mail: tapumondal@gmail.com

Abstract. In this paper, we study the decomposition of semirings with a semilattice additive reduct. For, we introduce the notion of principal left $k$-radicals $\Lambda(a) = \{x \in S \mid a \xrightarrow{\infty} x\}$ induced by the transitive closure $\xrightarrow{\infty}$ of the relation $\xrightarrow{}$ which induce the equivalence relation $\lambda$. Again non-transitivity of $\xrightarrow{}$ yields an expanding family $\{\xrightarrow{n}\}$ of binary relations which associate subsets $\Lambda_n(a)$ for all $a \in S$, which again induces an equivalence relation $\lambda_n$. We also define $\lambda(\lambda_n)$-simple semirings, and characterize the semirings which are distributive lattices of $\lambda(\lambda_n)$-simple semirings.

Keywords: Principal left $k$-radical, Distributive lattice congruence, Completely semiprime $k$-ideal, $\lambda$-simple semiring, Distributive lattice decomposition.

2010 Mathematics subject classification: 16Y60.

1. Introduction

The notion of semirings was introduced by Vandiver [12]. Semiring is a generalization of both an associative ring as well as of distributive lattices. Since semiring is a $(2, 2)$ algebra, it has many applications in different areas of
mathematics, idempotent analysis, physics, computer science etc. The underlying semirings in idempotent analysis, syntactic semirings, Max-plus algebra, Kleene algebra are those whose additive reduct is a semilattice, i.e., idempotent and commutative. On the other hand the structure of semirings with semilattice additive reduct have been studied by Bhuniya and Mondal in [1, 2, 3, 4], Mondal [9], Mondal and Hansda [10], Mondal and Bhuniya [11]. Distributive lattice decomposition of such semirings is one of the most beautiful technique in the study of structure of semirings. In [2], Bhuniya and Mondal gave the description of the least distributive lattice congruence on a semiring in three different ways, where different descriptions produced different types of simpler structures. All these works are motivated by the idea of the semilattice decompositions of the semigroups through the least semilattice congruence given by A.H. Clifford [6]. That has been an elegant technique to give the description of the structure of different classes of semigroups. In our work we generalize the idea of semilattice decomposition of semigroups to distributive lattice decomposition of semirings.

This paper is a continuation of our study on the structure of semirings in $\mathcal{SL}^+$ [2]. Our main aim is to decompose the semirings with semilattice additive reduct through the least distributive lattice congruence into simpler components. The preliminaries and prerequisites are given in section 2, and state some results from [2, 3]. In section 3, we introduce the notion of principal left $k$-radicals $\Lambda(a) = \{x \in S \mid a \xrightarrow{l} x\}$ induced by the transitive closure $\xrightarrow{l}^\infty$ of the relation $\xrightarrow{l}$, give its some basic characteristics, define an equivalence relation $\lambda$ induced by the principal left $k$-radicals. Again non-transitivity of $\xrightarrow{l}$ leads to give an expanding family $\xrightarrow{l}^n$ of binary relations which associate subsets $\Lambda_n(a)$ for all $a \in S$, which induces equivalence relation $\lambda_n$. We also define $\lambda(\lambda_n)$-simplicity of a semiring and characterize the semirings which are distributive lattices of $\lambda$-simple semirings. Finally we give the characterization of the semirings which are distributive lattices of $\lambda_n$-simple semirings.

2. Preliminaries

A semiring $(S, +, \cdot)$ is an algebra with two binary operations $+$ and $\cdot$ such that both $(S, +)$ and $(S, \cdot)$ are semigroups and such that the following distributive laws hold: for $x, y, z \in S$,

$$x(y + z) = xy + xz \text{ and } (x + y)z = xz + yz.$$ 

Any distributive lattice $D$ is a semiring $(D, +, \cdot)$ such that both the additive reduct $(D, +)$ and the multiplicative reduct $(D, \cdot)$ are semilattices together with the absorptive law:

$$x + x.y = x \text{ for all } x, y \in S.$$
Thus the semiring is a generalization of both rings and distributive lattices. By $SL^+$ we denote the category of all semirings $(S, +, \cdot)$ with a semilattice additive reduct. Throughout this paper, unless otherwise stated, $S$ is always a semiring in $SL^+$.

Let $A$ be non-empty subset of a semiring $S$. Then the $k$-closure of $A$ is defined by $\overline{A} = \{ x \in S \mid x + a_1 = a_2$, for some $a_1, a_2 \in A \}$, and the $k$-radical of $A$ by $\sqrt{A} = \{ x \in S \mid (\exists n \in \mathbb{N}) x^n \in \overline{A} \}$. Then $\overline{A} \subseteq \sqrt{A}$ by definition, and $A \subseteq \overline{A}$, since $(S, +)$ is a semilattice. Again $x + a_1 = a_2$ implies $x + a_2 = x + x + a_1 = x + a_1 = a_2$. So, one can also write $\overline{A} = \{ x \in S \mid x + a = a \}$ for some $a \in A$. An ideal $I$ of a semiring $S$ is a $k$-ideal if $I = \overline{I}$. A nonempty subset $A$ of $S$ is called completely semiprime if for $x \in S, x^2 \in A$ implies $x \in A$. It can easily be checked that $k$-ideal $I$ is completely semiprime if and only if $\sqrt{I} = I$.

An equivalence relation $\rho$ on a semiring $S$ is called a left congruence if for all $a, b, c \in S$, $a \rho b$ implies that $(a + c) \rho (b + c)$ and $c a \rho c b$. The right congruences are defined dually. An equivalence relation $\rho$ on $S$ is called a congruence if it is both a left and a right congruence on $S$. A congruence $\rho$ on $S$ is called a distributive lattice congruence on $S$ if the quotient semiring $S/\rho$ is a distributive lattice. If $C$ is a class of semirings we refer to semirings in $C$ as $C$-semirings. A semiring $S$ is called a distributive lattice of $C$-semirings if there exists a congruence $\rho$ on $S$ such that $S/\rho$ is a distributive lattice and each $\rho$-class is a semiring in $C$.

**Lemma 2.1** ([3], 2.1). Let $S$ be a semiring.

(a) For $a, b \in S$ the following statements are equivalent:

(i) there are $s, t \in S$ such that $b + sat = sat$;
(ii) there are $s, t \in S$ such that $b + sat = sat$;
(iii) there is $x \in S$ such that $b + xax = xax$.

(b) If $a, b, c \in S$ are such that $b + xax = xax$ and $c + yay = yay$ for some $x, y \in S$, then there is $z \in S$ such that $b + zaz = zaz = c + zaz$.

(c) If $a, b, c \in S$ are such that $c + xax = xax$ and $c + yby = yby$ for some $x, y \in S$, then there is $z \in S$ such that $c + zaz = zaz$ and $c + zbz = zbz$.

**Lemma 2.2** ([3], 2.2). For a semiring $S$ and $a, b \in S$ the following statements hold.

1. $S_{S a S}$ is a $k$-ideal of $S$.
2. $\sqrt{S_{S a S}} = \sqrt{S a S}$.
3. $b^m \in \sqrt{S_{S a S}}$ for some $m \in \mathbb{N} \Leftrightarrow b^k \in \sqrt{S a S}$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

In [3], the authors studied the structure of the semirings in $SL^+$, and during this, the description of the least distributive lattice congruence $\eta$ on a semiring $S$ was given, where $\rightarrow^\infty = \bigcup_{n=1}^\infty \rightarrow^n$ is the transitive closure of $\rightarrow$ and $\eta = \rightarrow^\infty \cap (\rightarrow^\infty)^{-1}$[2]. In [2], for the second description of the least distributive lattice congruence on a semiring $S$, Bhuniya and Mondal introduced the
set $M(a)$, for each $a \in S$ defined by

$$M(a) = \{ x \in S \mid a \rightarrow^\infty x \}.$$ 

There, as one of the most important basic characteristics of the set $M(a)$, it was shown that $M(a)$ is the least completely semiprime $k$-ideal of $S$ containing $a$, and an equivalence relation on $S$ was determined in respect of producing the same principal completely semiprime $k$-ideal denoted by $\mathcal{M}$, and was given by: for $a, b \in S$,

$$aMb \iff M(a) = M(b).$$

**Theorem 2.3** (3.6, [2]). Let $S$ be a semiring. Then $\mathcal{M}$ is the least distributive lattice congruence on $S$.

**Definition 2.4** (4.1, [2]). Let $\rho$ be a binary relation on a semiring $S$. Then $S$ is said to be $\rho$-simple if $\rho = S \times S$.

Thus a semiring $S$ is $M$-simple if $\mathcal{M} = S \times S$. Again $\mathcal{M}$ being the least distributive lattice congruence, if $S$ is $M$-simple then there will be no other distributive lattice congruence on $S$ except the universal relation $S \times S$. In the following theorem characterization of such semirings was given, where we state only four equivalent conditions.

**Theorem 2.5** (4.2, [2]). The following conditions on a semiring $S$ are equivalent:

1. $\omega = S \times S$ is the only distributive lattice congruence on $S$;
2. $S$ is $\eta$-simple;
3. $S$ is $M$-simple;
4. $M(a) = S$ for all $a \in S$.

**Definition 2.6** (4.3, [2]). A semiring $S$ is said to be indecomposable if the universal relation $\omega$ is the only distributive lattice congruence on $S$.

**Theorem 2.7** (4.5, [2]). Every semiring $S$ is a distributive lattice of indecomposable semirings.

For undefined concepts in semigroup theory we refer to [8], for undefined concepts in semiring theory we refer to [7].

3. **Principal left $k$-radicals and distributive lattices of $\lambda$-simple semirings:**

In [9], the author introduced the following relations on a semiring $S$: for $a, b \in S$, $a \mid l b$ if $b \in Sa$, $a \xrightarrow{l} b$ if $a \mid l b^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. In this paper we define the following: in general, $\xrightarrow{l}$ is not transitive. Non-transitiveness of $\xrightarrow{l}$ then produces a family of binary relations $\xrightarrow{l}^n$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. For $a, b \in S$, $a \xrightarrow{l}^{n+1} b$ if there exists $x \in S$ such that $a \xrightarrow{l}^n x \xrightarrow{l} b$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a \xrightarrow{l}^\infty b$ if $a \xrightarrow{l}^n b$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
Lemma 3.1. Let $S$ be a semiring.
(a) For $a, b \in S$ the following statements are equivalent:

1. there are $s_i \in S$ such that $b + s_1 a = s_2 a$;
2. there are $s \in S$ such that $b + sa = sa$.

(b) If $a, b, c \in S$ such that $c + xa = xa$ and $d + yb = yb$ for some $x, y \in S$, then there is some $z \in S$ such that $c + za = za$ and $d + zb = zb$.

Proof. (a) (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) holds for $s = s_1 + s_2$, since $(S, +)$ is a semilattice. Other implication is clear.
(b) $z = x + y$ serves our purpose. \hfill $\Box$

Following the ideas of Ćirić and Bogdanović[5], we introduce the following: For every $a \in S$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\Lambda_n(a) = \{x \in S \mid a \xrightarrow{l} x \}, \quad \Lambda(a) = \{x \in S \mid a \xrightarrow{l} x \}. $$

For every $a \in S$, $\Lambda(a)$ is called the principal left $k$-radical in $S$ containing $a$.

Here we present some basic characteristics of these sets.

Lemma 3.2. Let $S$ be a semiring and $a, b, c \in S$. Then

1. $\Lambda_1(a) = \sqrt{S}a$.
2. $\Lambda_n(a) \subseteq \Lambda_{n+1}(a) \subseteq \sqrt{S} \Lambda_n(a), n \in \mathbb{N}$.
3. $\Lambda(a) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Lambda_n(a)$.

Proof. (1) Let $x \in \Lambda_1(a)$. Then $a \xrightarrow{l} 1$, i.e. $x \in \sqrt{S}a$ so that $\Lambda_1(a) \subseteq \sqrt{S}a$. If $y \in \sqrt{S}a$, then $x^n \in \sqrt{S}a$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. This implies $a \xrightarrow{l} x$, i.e. $x \in \Lambda_1(a)$ yielding $\sqrt{S}a \subseteq \Lambda_1(a)$. Consequently, $\Lambda_1(a) = \sqrt{S}a$.

(2) Let $x \in \Lambda_n(a)$. Then $a \xrightarrow{l} x^n$, and $x \xrightarrow{l} x$ together imply $a \xrightarrow{l} x^{n+1}$. This yields $x \in \Lambda_{n+1}(a)$, whence $\Lambda_n(a) \subseteq \Lambda_{n+1}(a)$.

For the second inclusion, let $x \in \Lambda_{n+1}(a)$. Then $a \xrightarrow{l} x^{n+1}$ so that $a \xrightarrow{l} x$ for some $b \in S$. Now $a \xrightarrow{l} x^n b$ and $b \xrightarrow{l} x$ imply $b \in \Lambda_n(a)$ and $x \in \sqrt{S}b$ so that $x \in \sqrt{S} \Lambda_n(a)$. Thus one gets $\Lambda_{n+1}(a) \subseteq \sqrt{S} \Lambda_n(a)$.

(3) The proof is straightforward. \hfill $\Box$

Now we introduce two equivalence relations $\lambda$ and $\lambda_n$ on $S$ by: for $a, b \in S$,

$$a \lambda b \Leftrightarrow \Lambda(a) = \Lambda(b) \quad \text{and} \quad a \lambda_n b \Leftrightarrow \Lambda_n(a) = \Lambda_n(b).$$

These equivalences are generalizations of the well-known Green’s relation $\mathcal{L}$. A semiring $S$ is said to be $\lambda(\lambda_n)$-simple if $\lambda(\lambda_n) = S \times S$. A semiring $S$ is called a distributive lattice(chains) of $\lambda(\lambda_n)$-simple semirings if there exists a
congruence ρ on S such that S/ρ is a distributive lattice(chain) and each ρ-class
is a λ(λn)-simple semiring.

Lemma 3.3. Suppose S is a distributive lattice D of subsemirings Sα; α ∈ D.

(1) If a ∈ Sα, b ∈ Sβ, α, β ∈ D are such that a →l b, then β ≤ α.

(2) If a, b ∈ Sα, α ∈ D, then a →ln b in S implies that a →ln b in Sα.

Proof. Let ρ be a distributive lattice congruence on S so that S is a distributive lattice D of subsemirings Sα; α ∈ D.

(1) Now a →l b implies bn + xa = xa for some n ∈ N, x ∈ S, by Lemma 3.1. Then (a + b)ρ(a + xa + bn) = (a + xa)pa, which gives α + β = α, i.e., β ≤ α.

(2) There are x(i = 1, 2, ..., n − 1) in S such that a →1 x1 →1 x2 →1 ... →1 x(n−1) →1 b. Let xi ∈ Sbi (i = 1, 2, ..., n − 1), β ∈ D. Then by (1) we get α ≤ βn−1 ≤ ... ≤ β2 ≤ β1 ≤ α, and hence βi = α, i.e., xi ∈ Sα. Thus a →ln b in Sα.

Here we characterize the semirings which are distributive lattices of λ-simple semirings.

Theorem 3.4. The following conditions are equivalent on a semiring S:

(1) S is a distributive lattice of λ-simple subsemirings;

(2) for all a, b ∈ S, ab ∈ Λ(a);

(3) for every a ∈ S, Λ(a) is the least completely semiprime k-ideal of S containing a;

(4) Λ = η, the least distributive lattice congruence on S;

(5) for all a, b ∈ S, b ∈ SbaS implies that b ∈ Λ(a);

(6) for all a, b ∈ S, Λ(ab) = Λ(a) ∩ Λ(b).

Proof. (1) ⇒ (2) Let S be a distributive lattice D of subsemirings S; i ∈ D, and let a, b ∈ S. Then ab, ba ∈ S for some i ∈ D. Since S is λ-simple, Λ(ab) = Λ(ba) in S, i.e. ba →ln ab in S, and since a →ln ba in S, a →ln ab in S, i.e. ab ∈ Λ(a).

(2) ⇒ (3) Let x1, x2 ∈ Λ(a) and s ∈ S be such that s + x1 = x2. Then a →ln x2 = (s + x1) →ln s yields s ∈ Λ(a). Thus Λ(a) is a k-set. Let x, y ∈ Λ(a). Then a →ln x and a →ln y for some n ∈ N. Then by Lemma 3.1, there exist m ∈ N and s, xi, yi(i = 1, 2, ..., n − 1) in S such that x1n + sa = sa, x1n−1 + sx1 = sx1, x1n−2 + sx2 = sx1, x1n−3 + ... = sx2, x1n−1 + sy1 = sy1, x1n−2 + sy2 = sy1, x1n−3 + ... = sy2, x1n−1 + y by y on the right, we get y1n+1 + y1n+1 = y1n+1 + uy + x + yv + ∑k i=1 uiv1 for some u, v, u1, v1 ∈ S. Adding y1n−1y on both sides one gets (x + y)m + sy1n−1y = sy1n−1y + ux + x + y + ∑k i=1 uiv1. From this we write
\[(x+y)^{m+3}+(x+y)s(x+y_{-1})y(x+y) = (x+y)s(x+y_{-1})y(x+y)+(x+y)u(x+y_{-1})(x+y) + (x+y)(x+y_{-1})v(b+c) + \sum_{i=1}^{k}(x+y)u_i(x+y_{-1})v_i(x+y)\].

Now for \(w = (x+y)s + y(x+y) + (x+y)u + v(x+y) + \sum_{i=1}^{k}u_i(x+y) + \sum_{i=1}^{k}v_i(x+y) + x + y\) we obtain \((x+y)^{m+2} + w(x+y_{-1})w = w(x+y_{-1})w\), which yields \((x+y_{-1})w \xrightarrow{l} (x+y)\). By hypothesis, \((x+y_{-1}) \xrightarrow{l} (x+y_{-1})w\), so that \((x+y_{-1}) \xrightarrow{l} (x+y)\). Iterating this implication one gets \((x+a) \xrightarrow{l} (x+y_{1}), (x+y_{1}) \xrightarrow{l} (x+y_{2}), \ldots, (x+y_{n-2}) \xrightarrow{l} (x+y_{-1})\), and so \((x+a) \xrightarrow{l} (x+y)\). Similarly \(a \xrightarrow{l} (x+y)\) and \(a \xrightarrow{l} x\) give \((a+a) \xrightarrow{l} (a+x)\), i.e. \(a \xrightarrow{l} (a+x)\), that is, \(x+y \in \Lambda(a)\). Let \(x \in \Lambda(a)\) and \(s \in S\). Then \(a \xrightarrow{l} x\) and since \(x \xrightarrow{l} sx\) and \(x \xrightarrow{l} xs\), by (2), so \(xs, sx \in \Lambda(a)\). Let \(x \in S\) such that \(x^2 \in \Lambda(a)\). Then \(a \xrightarrow{l} x^2, a \xrightarrow{l} x\) implies \(x \in \Lambda(a)\). Thus \(\Lambda(a)\) is a completely semiprime \(k\)-ideal of \(S\) containing \(a\). Let \(I\) be a completely semiprime \(k\)-ideal of \(S\) containing \(a\). Then for \(x \in \Lambda_1(a)\), one has \(x^n + sa = sa\) for some \(n \in \mathbb{N}\), so that \(x^{n+1} + sax = sax \in I\), which implies \(x \in \sqrt{I} = I\), since \(I\) is completely semiprime. Therefore \(\Lambda_1(a) \subseteq I\). Assume that \(\Lambda_n(a) \subseteq I\). Then \(SA_n(a) \subseteq SI \subseteq I\), so \(\Lambda_{n+1}(a) = \sqrt{SA_n(a)} \subseteq \sqrt{I} = I\). Hence by principle of mathematical induction \(\Lambda(a) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Lambda_n(a) \subseteq I\). Hence \(\Lambda(a)\) is the least completely semiprime \(k\)-ideal of \(S\).

(4) \(\Rightarrow\) (3) Since \(\Lambda(a)\) is the least completely semiprime \(k\)-ideal of \(S\), \(\Lambda(a) = M(a)\), and so \(\lambda = \eta\).
Now one has $x_{1}^{mr} + (sab)r = (sab)r$. From this one gets $x_{1}^{mr} + uy_{k-1} = uy_{k-1}$. Thus we have $y_{k-1} \xrightarrow{l} x_{1}$. Also $a \xrightarrow{l} y_{1} \xrightarrow{l} y_{2} \xrightarrow{l} \cdots \xrightarrow{l} y_{k-1}$ and $x_{1} \xrightarrow{l} x_{2} \xrightarrow{l} \cdots \xrightarrow{l} x_{n-1} \xrightarrow{l} x$. By transitivity of $\xrightarrow{l}$, $a \xrightarrow{l} x$, that is, $x \in \Lambda(a)$. This yields $\Lambda(ab) \subseteq \Lambda(a)$. Also $\Lambda(ab) \subseteq \Lambda(b)$ is clear. Thus $\Lambda(ab) = \Lambda(a) \cap \Lambda(b)$. The opposite inclusion is easy to check. Consequently, $\Lambda(ab) = \Lambda(a) \cap \Lambda(b)$. □

Next, in the following two lemmas we find the conditions which make the relation $\xrightarrow{l}$ transitive on $S$ that plays a crucial role in characterizing the semirings which are distributive lattices of $\lambda_{n}$-simple semirings and is presented in Theorem 3.7.

Lemma 3.5. Let $S$ be a semiring and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\Lambda_{n}(a) \subseteq \Lambda_{n}(a^{2})$. Then $\xrightarrow{l}$ is transitive on $S$.

Proof. Let $a \xrightarrow{l} b$. Then there is $x \in S$ such that $a \xrightarrow{l} x \xrightarrow{l} b$, and so repeated application of the hypothesis one can find that $x^{2r} \xrightarrow{l} b$ for every $r \in \mathbb{N}$. Also there exist $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $s \in S$ such that $x^{k} + sa = sa$, by Lemma 3.1. Let $y \in S$ such that $x^{2r} \xrightarrow{l} y \xrightarrow{l} b$, if $n \geq 2$, and $y = b$ if $n = 1$. The there are $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $t \in S$ such that $y^{m} + tx^{2r} = tx^{2r}$ (assuming $2r > k$), i.e., $y^{m} + ua = ua$ for $u = ts$. Hence $a \xrightarrow{l} y$, which implies $a \xrightarrow{l} b$, i.e., $\xrightarrow{l} \subseteq \xrightarrow{l}$, and so $\xrightarrow{l} = \xrightarrow{l+1} = \xrightarrow{l}$. Thus $\xrightarrow{l}$ is transitive. □

Lemma 3.6. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the following are equivalent on a semiring $S$:

(1) for all $a \in S$, $a\lambda_{n}a^{2}$;
(2) for all $a, b \in S$, $a \xrightarrow{l} b \Rightarrow a^{2} \xrightarrow{l} b$.

Proof. (1) ⇒ (2) Trivial.

(2) ⇒ (1) Let $x \in \Lambda_{n}(a)$. So $a \xrightarrow{l} x$, and this implies $a^{2} \xrightarrow{l} x$, i.e., $x \in \Lambda(a^{2})$. Thus $\Lambda_{n}(a) \subseteq \Lambda_{n}(a^{2})$. Conversely, let $y \in \Lambda_{n}(a^{2})$. So $a^{2} \xrightarrow{l} y$. Then by $a \xrightarrow{l} a^{2}$ and Lemma 3.5, we get $a \xrightarrow{l} y$, i.e., $y \in \Lambda_{n}(a)$. Thus $a\lambda_{n}a^{2}$.

□

Theorem 3.7. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the following conditions are equivalent on a semiring $S$:

(1) $S$ is a distributive lattice of $\lambda_{n}$-simple subsemirings;
(2) for all $a, b \in S$, $a\lambda_{n}a^{2}$ and $a \xrightarrow{l} ab$;
(3) for every $a \in S$, $\Lambda_{n}(a)$ is the least completely semiprime $k$-ideal of $S$ containing $a$;
(4) $\lambda_{n} = \eta$, the least distributive lattice congruence on $S$. 

□
Proof. (1) ⇒ (2) Let $S$ be a distributive lattice $\mathcal{D}$ of $\lambda_n$-simple subsemirings $S_i; i \in \mathcal{D}$. Assume $a, b \in S$ such that $a \in S_i, b \in S_j; i, j \in \mathcal{D}$. Then $a, a^2 \in S_i$ implies $a\lambda_n a^2 \in S_i$, since $S_i$ is $\lambda_n$-simple, i.e. $a\lambda_n a^2 \in S$. Also $ab, ba \in S_{ij}$, so $ba \xrightarrow{l^n} ab$ in $S_{ij}$, by Lemma 3.3. Now $a \xrightarrow{l^n} ba$ and $ba \xrightarrow{l^n} ab$ yield $a \xrightarrow{l^n} ab$, by Lemma 3.5.

(2) ⇒ (3) By Lemmas 3.5 and 3.6, $\xrightarrow{l^n}$ is transitive on $S$ and so $\Lambda_n(a) = \Lambda(a)$, which is the least completely semiprime $k$-ideal of $S$ containing $a$, by Theorem 3.4.

(3) ⇒ (4) Since $\Lambda_n(a)$ is the least completely semiprime $k$-ideal of $S$, $\Lambda_n(a) = \Sigma(a)$ and so $\lambda_n = \eta$.

(4) ⇒ (1) Follows from Theorems 2.5 and 2.7. □

Acknowledgments

I would like to express my deepest thanks to the Editors for taking keen interest in the paper as well as to the referee for reading the manuscript carefully and his valuable comments.

References