

## The Jacobson Radical of Commutative Semigroup Rings

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In this paper we consider semiprimitive commutative semigroup rings and related matters. A ring is said to be *semiprimitive* if the Jacobson radical of it is equal to zero. This property is one of the most important in the theory of semigroup rings, and there is a prolific literature pertaining to the field (see [14]).

All semiprimitive rings are contained in another interesting class of rings. Let  $\mathcal{E}$  denote the class of rings  $R$  such that  $J(R) = B(R)$ , where  $J$  and  $B$  are the Jacobson and Baer radicals. Clearly, every semiprimitive ring is in  $\mathcal{E}$ . This class appears, for example, in the theory of PI-rings and in commutative algebra. (In particular, every finitely generated PI-ring and every Hilbert ring are in  $\mathcal{E}$ .) Therefore, it is of an independent interest. Meanwhile it is all the more interesting because any characterization of the semigroup rings in  $\mathcal{E}$  will immediately give us a description of semiprimitive semigroup rings. Indeed, a ring  $R$  is semiprimitive if and only if  $R \in \mathcal{E}$  and  $R$  is semiprime, i.e.,  $B(R) = 0$ . Semiprime commutative semigroup rings have been described by Parker and Gilmer [12] and, in other terms, by Munn [9]. So it suffices to characterize semigroup rings in  $\mathcal{E}$ .

Semigroup rings of  $\mathcal{E}$  were considered by Karpilovsky [5], Munn [6–9], Okninski [10], and others. In this paper commutative semigroup rings which are in  $\mathcal{E}$  will be described completely.

To this end one should know the structure of the Jacobson radical  $J(R[S])$ . In [2] Jespers described  $J(R[S])$  under rather weak assumptions on  $R$ . They hold, in particular, for every commutative  $R$ . Here we shall give another (quite short) description of  $J(R[S])$  which does not require any restriction on  $R$ . Besides, it is specially fitted for testing whether an element is in  $J(R[S])$ , and this is essential for our proofs.

1. NOTATION AND PRELIMINARIES

For details we refer to [1, 4]. Throughout the paper only commutative semigroups will be considered.

Let  $p$  be a prime number. A semigroup  $S$  is said to be *separative* ( $p$ -*separative*) if for every  $s, t \in S$  the equality  $s^2 = st = t^2$  ( $s^p = t^p$ ) implies  $s = t$ . The least separative ( $p$ -separative) congruence on  $S$  is denoted by  $\xi$  ( $\xi_p$ ). Explicitly

$$\xi = \{(s, t) \mid \exists n: st^n = t^{n+1} \text{ and } s^n t = s^{n+1}\},$$

$$\xi_p = \{(s, t) \mid \exists n: s^{pn} = t^{pn}\}.$$

For unification we set  $\xi_0 = \xi$ .

Let  $R$  be a ring,  $\rho$  be a congruence on  $S$ . Then  $I(R, S, \rho)$  denotes the ideal  $\{\sum_i r_i(s_i - t_i) \mid r_i \in R, (s_i, t_i) \in \rho\}$  of  $R[S]$ . Set  $\mathcal{R}_n(R) = \{r \in R \mid nr \in \mathcal{R}(R)\}$ , where  $\mathcal{R}$  is the Baer or the Jacobson radical. Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be the set of all prime numbers.

PROPOSITION 1. (Munn [9]). *Let  $R[S]$  be a commutative semigroup ring. Then*

$$B(R[S]) = B(R)[S] + I(R, S, \xi) + \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}} I(B_p(R), S, \xi_p).$$

A semigroup  $S$  is said to be *Archimedean* if for any two elements of  $S$ , each divides some power of the other.

PROPOSITION 2. (Jespers, Krempa, and Wauters [3]). *Let  $R$  be a commutative ring,  $S$  be an Archimedean semigroup. If  $S$  is periodic, then*

$$J(R[S]) = J(R)[S] + I(R, S, \xi) + \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}} I(J_p(R), S, \xi_p).$$

Otherwise,

$$J(R[S]) = B(R)[S] + I(R, S, \xi) + \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}} I(B_p(R), S, \xi_p).$$

Note that in the case of a non-commutative  $R$  the results corresponding to Propositions 1 and 2 are proved in [11, 3].

2. A DESCRIPTION OF THE JACOBSON RADICAL

A semigroup  $\Gamma$  is called a *semilattice* if it entirely consists of idempotents. A semigroup  $S$  is said to be a *semilattice  $\Gamma$  of its subsemigroups  $S_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \in \Gamma$ )* if  $S = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma} S_\alpha$ ,  $S_\alpha \cap S_\beta = \emptyset$  when  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , and  $S_\alpha S_\beta \subseteq S_{\alpha\beta}$  for any  $\alpha, \beta$ . By

Theorem 4.13 in [1] each semigroup can be uniquely represented as a semilattice of its Archimedean subsemigroups  $S_x$ . The semigroups  $S_x$  are called the *Archimedean components* of  $S$ .

Let  $R$  be an arbitrary (not necessary commutative) ring,  $x \in R[S]$ ,  $x = \sum_{t \in S} x_t t$ . Set  $x_x = \sum_{t \in S_x} x_t t$ . The semilattice generated in  $\Gamma$  by all  $\alpha$  such that  $x_\alpha \neq 0$  will be called the *support* of  $x$  and denoted by  $\text{supp}(x)$ . (This definition of a support differs from the standard one, cf. [2]. It is the new concept, that will work in our proofs.) Consider the natural partial order  $\leq$  on  $\Gamma$  defined by  $\alpha \leq \beta \Leftrightarrow \alpha\beta = \alpha$ . Let  $\max(x)$  denote the set of elements in  $\text{supp}(x)$  maximal with respect to this order. Clearly the sets  $\text{supp}(x)$  and  $\max(x)$  are finite. The following lemma was proved in [16] for the case of a two-element semilattice  $\Gamma$ .

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $R$  be an arbitrary ring,  $S$  be a commutative semigroup with Archimedean components  $S_x$ ,  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . The radical  $J(R[S])$  is the largest ideal among ideals  $I$  of  $R[S]$  such that  $x_\mu \in J(R[S_\mu])$  for any  $x \in I$ ,  $\mu \in \max(x)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be the set of ideals  $I$  of  $R[S]$  such that  $x_\mu \in J(R[S_\mu])$  for any  $x \in I$ ,  $\mu \in \max(x)$ . By the proof of Theorem 1 in [15],  $J(R[S]) \in M$ .

On the other hand, take any  $I$  in  $M$ . We claim that  $I$  is quasiregular (and so  $I \subseteq J(R[S])$ ). Suppose the contrary and choose  $x$  in  $I$  which does not have a right quasi-inverse and  $|\text{supp}(x)|$  is minimal. Let  $\mu \in \max(x)$ . Then  $x_\mu \in J(R[S_\mu])$ , and  $x_\mu + a + x_\mu a = 0$  for some  $a \in J(R[S_\mu])$ . Consider the element  $y = -x - xa$ . Clearly  $y \in I$  and  $y_\mu = a$ . Further, set  $z = x + y + xy$ . Evidently  $z \in I$  and  $\text{supp}(z) \subseteq \text{supp}(x) \setminus \{\mu\}$ . By the choice of  $x$  there exists  $u$  such that  $z + u + zu = 0$ . Then  $x + (y + u + yu) + x(y + u + yu) = 0$ . So  $x$  is quasi-invertible, giving a contradiction. Thus  $I \subseteq J(R[S])$ . We have proved that  $J(R[S])$  is the largest ideal in  $M$ . (This also can be proved as a corollary of Lemma 1.3 in [16].)

Now let us consider a separative semigroup  $T$ . By Theorem 4.16 in [1] the Archimedean components  $T_x$  of  $T$  are cancellative. Denote by  $Q_x$  the group of quotients of  $T_x$ . Let  $e_x$  denote the identity element of  $Q_x$ . Set  $Q = \bigcup_{x \in \Gamma} Q_x$ . The multiplication of  $T$  can be easily extended on the whole  $Q$  so that  $e_x e_\beta = e_{x\beta}$ . Let  $\mu \in \Gamma$ ,  $x \in R[Q_\mu]$ , and  $A$  be a finite (or empty) subset of  $\mu\Gamma$ . Then  $(\mu, x, A)$  denotes the product  $x \prod_{\lambda \in A} (e_\mu - e_\lambda)$ . If  $A = \emptyset$ , then  $(\mu, x, A) = x$ . Following [13] we say that  $(\mu, x, A)$  is a *simplest element*, if  $x e_x \in J(R[Q_x])$  for any  $\alpha \in \mu\Gamma \setminus A\Gamma$ . Note that  $(\mu, x, A) e_x = 0$  for any  $\alpha \in A\Gamma$ . The set of the simplest elements of  $R[Q]$  is denoted by  $\text{Si}(R[Q])$ . Put  $\text{Si}(R[T]) = R[T] \cap \text{Si}(R[Q])$ .

Proposition 1 shows that  $I(R, S, \xi) \subseteq J(R[S])$ . Clearly  $R[S]/I(R, S, \xi) \cong R[S/\xi]$ . Therefore it suffices to describe the Jacobson radical for the semigroup  $T = S/\xi$ . In this case we state

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $x \in R[T]$ ,  $\mu \in \max(x)$ ,  $\Lambda$  be the set of maximal elements in the finite set  $\mu \text{ supp}(x) \setminus \{\mu\}$ ,  $y = (\mu, x_\mu, \Lambda)$ . Then*

- (1)  $x \in J(R[T]) \Leftrightarrow x \in R[T] \cap J(R[Q]);$
- (2)  $x \in J(R[Q]) \Leftrightarrow y, x - y \in J(R[Q]);$
- (3)  $y \in J(R[Q]) \Leftrightarrow y \in Si(R[Q]).$

Assertions (1) and (2) reduce the inclusion  $x \in J(R[T])$  to  $y, x - y \in J(R[Q])$ . Since  $|\text{supp}(x - y)| < |\text{supp}(x)|$ , applying (2) several times one can reduce  $x \in J(R[T])$  to some inclusions of the form  $y \in J(R[Q])$ , which can be checked with (3). Note that  $Si(R[Q])$  is defined in terms of the radicals of the components  $R[Q_x]$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.* (1) Take  $x \in R[T] \cap J(R[Q])$ ,  $\mu \in \max(x)$ . Since  $x \in J(R[Q])$ , Lemma 1 yields  $x_\mu \in J(R[Q_\mu])$ . By Proposition 2 we get  $x_\mu \in J(R[T_\mu])$ , for  $Q_\mu$  and  $T_\mu$  are Archimedean. Then Lemma 1 implies  $J(R[T]) \supseteq R[T] \cap J(R[Q])$ .

Now take  $x \in J(R[T])$ . Denote by  $I$  the ideal generated by  $x$  in  $R[Q]$ . Choose  $z$  in  $I$ . Then  $z = \sum_i a_i x b_i$ , where  $a_i, b_i \in R[Q]^1$ . Let  $\mu \in \max(z)$ ,  $t \in T_\mu$ . Evidently  $xt \in J(R[T])$ . By Lemma 1 and Proposition 2,  $(xt)_\mu \in J(R[T_\mu]) \subseteq J(R[Q_\mu])$ . Therefore  $z_\mu = z_\mu e_\mu = \sum_i (a_i t)_\mu (x t)_\mu (b_i t)_\mu t^{-3} \in J(R[Q_\mu])$ . Then Lemma 1 implies  $I \subseteq J(R[Q])$ , completing the proof of (1).

(2) Let  $x \in J(R[Q])$ . Take any nonzero element  $z$  of the ideal generated in  $R[Q]$  by  $y$ . Say  $z = \sum_i a_i y b_i$ , where  $a_i, b_i \in R[Q]^1$ , and set  $u = \sum_i a_i x b_i$ . We may assume that each product  $a_i x_\mu b_i$  is a homogeneous element, i.e.,  $a_i x_\mu b_i \in R_{\alpha_i}$  for some  $\alpha_i \in \Gamma$  (otherwise we would split  $a_i$  or  $b_i$  into several summands). Then

$$z_x = \left( \sum_{\alpha_i \geq x} a_i y b_i \right)_x = \left[ \left( \sum_{\alpha_i \geq x} a_i x b_i \right) \left( \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} (e_\mu - e_\lambda) \right) \right]_x.$$

Take any  $\alpha \in \max(z)$ . Evidently  $\alpha \in \mu\Gamma$ , since  $\text{supp}(y) \subseteq \mu\Gamma$ . If  $\alpha \in \Lambda\Gamma$ , then the support of the sum  $s = \sum_{\alpha_i \geq x} a_i x b_i$  is contained in  $\Lambda$  because of the maximality of  $\alpha$ . Hence  $s \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} (e_\mu - e_\lambda) = 0$  yielding  $z_x = 0$ , a contradiction. Thus  $\alpha$  is not in  $\Lambda\Gamma$ . Clearly  $z_\beta = \sum_{\alpha_i = \beta} a_i x_\mu b_i = u_\beta$  for any  $\beta \in \mu\Gamma \setminus \Lambda\Gamma$ , and so  $\alpha \in \max(u)$ . Besides  $z_x = u_x \in J(R[Q_x])$ , since  $x \in J(R[Q])$ . By Lemma 1,  $y \in J(R[Q])$ , and so does  $x - y$ . The converse is trivial.

(3) Let  $y \in Si(R[Q])$ . Take any element  $z$  of the ideal generated by  $y$  in  $R[Q]$ , say  $z = \sum_i a_i y b_i \neq 0$ , where  $a_i, b_i \in R[Q]^1$ . Let  $\alpha \in \max(z)$ . If  $\alpha \in \Lambda\Gamma$  then  $ye_x = 0$ , and so  $z_x = (ze_x)_x = 0$ . Therefore  $\alpha \in \mu\Gamma \setminus \Lambda\Gamma$ . Evidently  $y$  may be written as  $y = x + y'$  where  $\text{supp}(y') \subseteq \Lambda\Gamma$ . Then  $\text{supp}(\sum_i a_i y' b_i) \subseteq \Lambda\Gamma$  and so  $ye_x = xe_x$ . Since  $y$  is simplest,  $ye_x = xe_x \in J(R[Q_x])$ . So  $z_x = \sum_i (a_i e_x)(y e_x)(b_i e_x) \in J(R[Q_x])$ , implying  $y \in J(R[Q])$

by Lemma 1. Conversely, let  $y \in J(R[Q])$ ,  $\alpha \in \mu\Gamma \setminus \Lambda\Gamma$ . Then  $xe_\alpha = (ye_\alpha)_\alpha \in J(R[Q_\alpha])$ , since  $\alpha \in \max(ye_\alpha)$ .

**COROLLARY [13].**  $J(R[Q])$  is the additive group generated by  $Si(R[Q])$ .

*Proof.* Take any  $z \in J(R[Q])$  and set  $n = |\text{supp}(z)|$ . If  $n = 1$ , then Lemma 1 shows that  $z \in Si(R[Q])$ . If  $n > 1$ , then Theorem 1 and induction on  $n$  give the result.

### 3. MAIN RESULT AND COROLLARIES

We need a few definitions. Let  $G$  be a finite subgroup of a semigroup  $T$ ,  $I$  be an ideal generated in  $T$  by a finite (or empty) set of idempotents which does not contain  $G$ . Put down all subgroups  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  of  $G$  such that  $H_i = \{h \in G \mid ht_i = et_i\}$  for a non-periodic element  $t_i \in GTI$ , where  $e$  is the identity of  $G$ . Numerate the elements of  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\}$ . The matrix of the conjugacy relation of  $G$  by  $H_i$  is the  $(m \times m)$ -matrix  $D_i = [d_{jk}]$  such that

$$d_{jk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } g_j \in H_i g_k, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Set  $D_I(G) = [D_1 \mid D_2 \mid \dots \mid D_n]$ . If  $n = 0$  (i.e.,  $G$  has no subgroup with the property mentioned or, equivalently, there is not any non-periodic element in  $GT \setminus I$ ), then set  $D_I(G) = [0]$ .

For a ring  $R$  denote by  $\pi(R)$  the set of all  $q$  such that  $q$  is prime or zero and  $J(R)/B(R)$  has a nonzero element with an additive period  $q$ . (Here an element with an additive period 0 is a non-periodic element.) We say that  $G$  is  $q$ -complete in  $T$ , if  $q$  divides  $|G|$  or  $q$  does not divide the determinant of an  $(m \times m)$ -submatrix of  $D_I(G)$  (for any  $I$ ).

**THEOREM 2.** Let  $R[S]$  be a commutative semigroup ring,  $\xi$  the least separative congruence on  $S$ , and  $T = S/\xi$ . The Jacobson radical  $J(R[S])$  is nil if and only if for any  $q \in \pi(R)$  every finite subgroup  $G$  of  $T$  is  $q$ -complete in  $T$ .

Theorem 2 and Proposition 1 give us a description of semiprimitive commutative semigroup rings.

**COROLLARY 1.** A commutative semigroup ring  $R[S]$  is semiprimitive if and only if  $R$  is semiprime,  $S$  is separative, and  $p$ -separative for every prime  $p \in \pi(R)$ , each finite subgroup  $G$  in  $S$  is  $q$ -complete in  $S$  for any  $q \in \pi(R)$ .

Note that when  $R$  is a field a description of semiprimitive  $R[S]$  was given in [6].

Now we show that all the previous results on commutative semigroup rings of the class  $\mathcal{E}$  are in fact partial cases of Theorem 2. The previous results are listed in Corollaries 2-5.

**COROLLARY 2 [9].** *If  $J(R)$  is nil, then  $J(R[S])$  is nil.*

This follows from Theorem 2 because  $J(R) = B(R)$  if and only if  $\pi(R) = \emptyset$ ; that is, there are no  $q$  in  $\pi(R)$ .

**COROLLARY 3 [7].** *If  $S$  has no idempotent elements, then  $J(R[S])$  is nil.*

This is clear because if  $S$  has no idempotents, then  $T$  does not have any subgroup.

**COROLLARY 4 [9].** *Let  $S$  be a periodic semigroup. Then  $J(R[S])$  is nil if and only if  $J(R)$  is nil.*

Indeed, a periodic  $S$  does not have a non-periodic element. Therefore all  $D_i[G]$  are equal to  $[0]$ , and so every finite subgroup is not  $q$ -complete in  $S$  for each  $q$ . So  $J(R[S])$  is nil if and only if  $\pi(R) = 0$ , which is equivalent to  $J(R)$  is nil.

**COROLLARY 5 [7].** *Let  $S$  be a semilattice of cancellative and non-periodic  $S_\alpha, \alpha \in \Gamma$ . Then  $J(R[S])$  is nil.*

Indeed, let us take a finite subgroup  $G$  in  $S$ . There is  $\alpha$  such that  $G \subseteq S_\alpha$ . Fix a non-periodic element  $t$  in  $S_\alpha$ . Then  $H = \{h \in G \mid ht = et\} = \{e\}$ , for  $S$  is cancellative. Hence the matrix of the conjugacy relation of  $G$  by  $H$  is the identity matrix. Its determinant is equal to 1, and  $q$  does not divide 1. Therefore  $G$  is  $q$ -complete in  $S$  for every  $q$ , not only for  $q \in \pi(R)$ .

#### 4. PROOF OF THE MAIN THEOREM

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $F = R/B(R)$ ,  $T = S/\xi$ . The radical  $J(R[S])$  is nil if and only if  $J(F[T])$  is nil.*

*Proof.* This easily follows from Proposition 1 and the isomorphisms  $R[S]/I(R, S, \xi) \cong R[T]$ ,  $R[T]/B(R)[T] \cong F[T]$ .

Recall that  $T = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma} T_\alpha$ ,  $Q_\alpha$  denotes the group of quotients of  $T_\alpha$ ,  $e_\alpha$  is the identity of  $Q_\alpha$ , and  $Q = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Gamma} Q_\alpha$ . Say that a subgroup  $G$  of  $T$  is  $q$ -incomplete in  $T$  if  $G$  is not  $q$ -complete in  $T$ . Note that  $\pi(R) = \pi(F)$ . In view of Lemma 2, Theorem 2 is equivalent to the following

LEMMA 3.  $J(F[T])$  has a non-nilpotent element if and only if  $T$  has a  $q$ -incomplete finite subgroup for some  $q \in \pi(F)$ .

*Proof.* First we prove the “only if” part. Choose in  $J(F[T])$  a non-nilpotent element  $x$  with minimal  $|\text{supp}(x)|$ . Let  $\mu \in \max(x)$ . Then  $\text{supp}(x^n) = \text{supp}(x)$  for each  $n$ , and so  $x_\mu$  is not nilpotent. Further, the element  $y = x_\mu x$  is not nilpotent, for  $y_\mu = x_\mu^2$ . Hence  $\text{supp}(y) = \text{supp}(x)$ , that is  $\mu \text{supp}(x) = \text{supp}(x)$ . Therefore  $\max(x) = \{\mu\}$ . Let  $A$  be the set of maximal elements of  $\text{supp}(x) \setminus \{\mu\}$ ,  $y = (\mu, x_\mu, A)$ . By Theorem 1,  $y \in \text{Si}(F[Q])$ . We are to prove that  $y \in F[T]$ .

To this end we first prove that  $e_\lambda \in T$  for every  $\lambda \in A$ . Suppose the contrary. Then  $T_\lambda$  does not have any idempotent, and so all elements in  $T_\lambda$  are non-periodic. Denote by  $P$  (and  $N$ ) the set of periodic (non-periodic) elements of  $Q_\lambda$ . Then  $T_\lambda \subseteq N$ . The definition of a simplest element implies  $y_\mu \in J(F[Q_\mu])$ . Hence  $J(F[Q_\mu])$  is not nil. This and Propositions 1, 2 show that  $Q_\mu$  is a periodic group. Therefore  $y_\lambda = e_\lambda y_\mu \in F[P]$ . On the other hand,  $x_\lambda \in F[T_\lambda] \subseteq F[N]$ , implying  $x_\lambda \neq y_\lambda$ . Consider  $z = x - y$ . Clearly  $\lambda \in \max(z)$ . Since  $x, y \in J(F[Q])$ , Lemma 1 shows that  $z_\lambda \in J(F[Q_\lambda])$ . By Proposition 2,  $J(F[Q_\lambda]) = \sum_{p \in P} I(B_p(F), Q_\lambda, \xi_p)$ , since  $Q_\lambda$  is not periodic. Evidently,  $\xi_p$  can not join a periodic element with a non-periodic one. Therefore  $y_\lambda \in F[P]$ ,  $x_\lambda \in F[N]$ , and  $x_\lambda - y_\lambda \in J(F[Q_\lambda])$  yield  $x_\lambda, y_\lambda \in J(F[Q_\lambda])$ . By Propositions 1, 2  $J(F[Q_\lambda])$  is nil, and so  $x_\lambda$  is nilpotent. Hence  $w = x - x_\lambda$  is in  $J(F[T])$ . Meanwhile  $w$  is not nilpotent, for  $w_\mu = x_\mu$ . However,  $|\text{supp}(w)| < |\text{supp}(x)|$  contradicting the choice of  $x$ . We have shown that  $e_\lambda \in T_\lambda$  for any  $\lambda \in A$ .

Now take any  $\gamma \in \text{supp}(y) \setminus \{\mu\}$ . There are  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$  such that  $\gamma = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_m$ . Further  $y_\gamma = kx_\mu e_{\lambda_1} \cdots e_{\lambda_m}$  for an integer  $k$ . Since  $x_\mu \in F[T]$  and all  $e_{\lambda_i} \in F[T]$  we get  $y_\gamma \in F[T]$ . Therefore  $y \in F[T]$ .

Propositions 1 and 2 show that  $J(F[T_\mu])$  is nil modulo  $J(F)[T_\mu]$ . Hence  $y_\mu^m \in J(F)[T_\mu]$ . Since  $y_\mu^{m-1} y = (\mu, x_\mu^m, A)$  we may for simplicity of notation assume that  $y_\mu \in J(F)[T_\mu]$ . Further,  $y_\mu^m = (\mu, x_\mu^m, A)$  because  $(\prod_{\lambda \in A} (e_\mu - e_\lambda))$  is an idempotent. Denote by  $p(y_\mu^m)$  the additive period of  $y_\mu^m$ . Obviously  $p(y_\mu^m)$  divides  $p(y_\mu^{m+1})$ . If there is a periodic element among  $y, y^2, y^3, \dots$  then we choose  $m$  such that  $p(y_\mu^m)$  is the smallest possible period. For simplicity of notation assume that  $m=1$ . Then  $p(y) = p(y^2) = \dots$ . If all  $y, y^2, \dots$  are non-periodic then  $0 = p(y) = p(y^2) = \dots$ . Thus we may assume that from the very beginning all the elements  $y_\mu, y_\mu^2, \dots$  are of same additive period. Denote it by  $d$ . Let  $F_d = \{f \in F \mid df = 0\}$ . Since  $F_d$  is an ideal of  $F$ , we get  $y \in J(F_d[T])$ . To simplify the notation, assume that  $F = F_d$ . If  $d=0$ , then we denote by  $I$  the set of periodic elements of  $F$  and put  $q=0$ . If  $d \neq 0$ , then  $d$  can be written as  $d = qr$  for a prime number  $q$ , and we set  $I = F_r$ . Let  $K = F/I$  and  $y$  denote also the image of  $y$  in  $K[T]$ . Then in both the cases  $q \in \pi(K)$ , for

$y_\mu \in J(K)[T_\mu]$ . Evidently  $y$  is a non-nilpotent simplest element of  $K[T]$ , and  $K$  is a ring of characteristic  $q$ .

Clearly  $y_\mu$  is of the form  $y_\mu = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i s_i$ , where  $0 \neq a_i \in K, s_i \in T_\mu$ . Denote by  $G$  or  $G(y)$  the subsemigroup generated in  $T$  by  $s_1, \dots, s_k$ . Since  $T_\mu$  is periodic,  $G$  is a finite group. We may assume that from the very beginning  $y$  is chosen so that the cardinality of  $G$  is minimal. Now we shall prove that  $G$  is  $q$ -incomplete in  $T$ .

First we show that  $q$  does not divide  $|G|$ . Suppose the contrary and represent  $G$  as a direct product  $H \times E$ , where  $H$  is the largest  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $|E| < |G|$ . Write  $s_i$  as  $s_i = (h_i, b_i)$ , where  $h_i \in H, b_i \in E$ . Set  $z = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i (h_i, b_i) - a_i (e_\mu, b_i)$ . The elements  $(h_i, b_i)$  and  $(e_\mu, b_i)$  are in the relation  $\xi_q$  with each other, since  $H$  is a  $q$ -group. By Proposition 1,  $z \in B(K[T])$ . Put  $c = y_\mu - z, d = (\mu, c, A)$ . Evidently  $d - y = (\mu, z, A) \in B(K[T])$ , and so  $d \in Si(K[T])$  by Theorem 1. Further,  $d$  is not nilpotent and  $G(d) \subseteq E \subseteq G(y)$ , a contradiction with the minimality of  $G(y)$ . Thus  $q$  does not divide  $|G|$ .

Let  $I$  be the ideal generated in  $T$  by all  $e_\lambda, \lambda \in A$ . Put down all subgroups  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  of  $G$  such that  $H_i = \{h \in G \mid ht_i = e_\mu t_i\}$  for a non-periodic element  $t_i$  of  $GT \setminus I$ . Denote by  $D_i$  the matrix of the relation of  $G$  by  $H_i$  and set  $D_I(G) = [D_1 \mid \dots \mid D_n]$ . We are to prove that  $q$  divides every  $(m \times m)$ -minor of  $D_I(G)$ .

Since  $\text{char } K = q$ , it suffices to prove the equality  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)D_I(G) = 0$ , where  $y_\mu = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i g_i, G = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\}$ . This is equivalent to equalities  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)D_i = 0, i = 1, \dots, n$ . Let  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)D_i = (b_1, \dots, b_m)$ . We claim that  $b_j = 0$ .

The definition of  $D_i$  shows that  $b_j = \sum_{g_k \in H_i g_j} a_k$ . Take  $\alpha$  in  $\Gamma$  such that  $t_i \in T_\alpha$ . Since  $t_i \in GT \setminus I$ , we get  $\alpha \in \mu\Gamma \setminus A\Gamma$ , implying  $y_\mu e_\alpha \in J(K[T_\alpha])$ . In view of the fact that  $T_\alpha$  is not periodic, Proposition 2 yields  $y_\mu e_\alpha \in I(K, T_\alpha, \xi_q)$ . Further,  $y_\mu e_\alpha \in K[Ge_\alpha]$  and  $q$  does not divide the order of the group  $Ge_\alpha$ . Therefore  $I(K, Ge_\alpha, \xi_q) = 0$ , implying  $y_\mu e_\alpha = 0$ . Hence  $y_\mu t_i = 0$ , and so  $\sum_{k=1}^m a_k g_k t_i = 0$ . Therefore  $\sum_{k: g_k t_i = g_j t_i} a_k = 0$ . The equality  $g_k t_i = g_j t_i$  is equivalent to  $g_j^{-1} g_k \in H_i$  by the definition of  $H_i$ . Hence  $b_j = \sum_{g_k \in H_i g_j} a_k = \sum_{g_k t_i = g_j t_i} a_k = 0$ , yielding  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)D_i(G) = 0$ . Thus  $G$  is  $q$ -incomplete in  $T$  as required.

Now we will prove the "if" part. Let  $q \in \pi(F)$  and  $T$  contains a  $q$ -incomplete subgroup  $G$ . It is well known that a cancellative Archimedean semigroup is a group if it contains an idempotent. Therefore  $T_\mu$  is a group.

Suppose that  $T_\mu$  has a non-periodic element  $t$  and consider the group  $H = \{h \in G \mid ht = et\}$ . Clearly  $H = \{e\}$ . Then the matrix  $D$  of the relation of  $G$  by  $H$  is the identity matrix. Therefore  $q$  does not divide  $\det(D) = 1$ , and  $D$  lies in the matrix  $D_0(G)$ . The contradiction with  $q$ -incompleteness of  $G$  shows that  $T_\mu$  is a periodic group.

Let  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_m\}$ . Since  $G$  is  $q$ -incomplete,  $q$  does not divide  $m$  and



there is an ideal  $I$  of  $T$  generated by idempotents  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  and such that  $q$  divides the determinant of every  $(m \times m)$ -matrix of  $D_I(G)$ . Then  $e_i \in T_{\lambda_i}$  for some  $\lambda_i \in \Gamma$ . We may assume that  $\lambda_i \leq \mu$ , because otherwise one could substitute  $ee_i$  for  $e_i$  and  $\lambda_i\mu$  for  $\lambda_i$  without changing the set of non-periodic elements in  $GT \setminus I$ . Write down all the groups  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  such that  $H_i = \{h \in G \mid ht_i = e_\mu t_i\}$  for non-periodic  $t_i \in GT \setminus I$ . Denote by  $D_i$  the matrix of the conjugacy relation of  $G$  by  $H_i$  and set  $D_I(G) = [D_1 \mid \dots \mid D_n]$ . Then  $q$  divides the determinant of each  $(m \times m)$ -submatrix of  $D_I(G)$ . Therefore the  $q$ -element field  $GF(q)$  (or the field of rational numbers, if  $q=0$ ) contains elements  $u_1, \dots, u_m$  such that  $(u_1, \dots, u_m)D_I(G) = 0$ ,  $(u_1, \dots, u_m) \neq 0$ . Since  $\pi(R) = \pi(F)$ , by the choice of  $q$  and  $F$  there exists a nonzero  $r \in F$  such that  $qr = 0$ . Set  $x = u_1rg_1 + \dots + u_mrg_m$ . Since  $q$  does not divide  $G$  and  $r \notin B(F) = 0$ , Proposition 2 shows that  $x$  is not nilpotent. Put  $A = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k\}$ ,  $y = (\mu, x, A)$ . We claim that  $y \in Si(F[T])$ , i.e.,  $xe_\lambda \in J(F[Q_\lambda])$  for any  $\lambda \in \mu\Gamma \setminus A\Gamma$ .

Indeed, if  $T_\lambda$  is periodic then the claim follows from Proposition 2 and  $r \in J(F)$ . Now consider the case where  $T_\lambda$  has a non-periodic element  $t$ . Then  $t \notin I$  implying  $\{h \in G \mid ht = e_\mu t\} = H_i$  for some  $i$ . Write  $xt = u_1rg_1t + \dots + u_mrg_mt$ . Here  $g_jt$  coincides with  $g_kt$  if and only if  $g_j$  and  $g_k$  lie in the same class of the conjugacy relation of  $G$  by  $H_i$ . This and  $(u_1, \dots, u_m)D_i = 0$  yield  $xt = 0$ . Therefore  $xe = xt^{-1} = 0$ , and so  $y \in Si(F[T])$ . By Theorem 1,  $J(F[T])$  contains  $y$ , which was proved to be non-nilpotent. This proves the result.

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