

ON (m, n) -REGULAR le -SEMIGROUPS AND (m, n) -IDEAL ELEMENTS

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Abstract After characterizing (m, n) -ideal elements of (m, n) -regular $\vee e$ -semigroups in terms of its $(m, 0)$ -ideal elements and $(0, n)$ -ideal elements as well as the minimality of (m, n) -ideal elements of (m, n) -regular le -semigroups in terms of its minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal elements and minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal elements, the minimality of (m, n) -quasi-ideal elements in le -semigroups has been studied. We, then, use $(m, 0)$ -ideal elements, $(0, n)$ -ideal elements, (m, n) -ideal elements and (m, n) -quasi-ideal elements of le -semigroups to characterize (m, n) -regular le -semigroups.

1 Introduction and Preliminaries

The notion of the left (resp. right) ideal element of an ordered semigroup was introduced in [1] as an element a of an ordered semigroup S such that $xa \leq a$ (resp. $ax \leq a$) for each $x \in S$. In [6, 7], Kehayopulu studied left (resp. right) duo regular, left-regular and left duo poe -semigroups. In [11], kehayopulu characterized the idempotent ideal elements of le -semigroups in terms of semisimple elements while intra-regular le -semigroup in terms of prime and semiprime ideal elements. In [12], kehayopulu characterized left simple $\vee e$ -semigroups in terms of left ideal elements. The concept of (m, n) -ideals in semigroups was introduced by S. Lajos. Thereafter, several authors studied (m, n) -ideals in various algebraic structures such as rings, semirings and ordered semigroups etc. Kehayopulu [3], studied (m, n) -ideal elements and (m, n) -quasi-ideal elements in poe -semigroups and le -semigroups.

Definition 1.1. Let S be a non-empty set, the triplet (S, \cdot, \leq) is called po -semigroup if (S, \cdot) is a semigroup and (S, \leq) is a partially ordered set such that

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow ac \leq bc \text{ and } ca \leq cb$$

for all $a, b, c \in S$. A po -semigroup with a greatest element “ e ” (i.e. for each $a \in S, a \leq e$) is said to be a poe -semigroup.

Let S be a poe -semigroup. An element $a \in S$ is called a *subsemigroup element* if $a^2 \leq a$ and a is called a *left (resp. a right) ideal element* of S if $ea \leq a$ (resp. $ae \leq a$). It is called an *ideal-element* of S if it is both a left and a right-ideal element of S . A subsemigroup element a is called a *bi-ideal element* if $aea \leq a$. If we drop the subsemigroup condition from bi-ideal element, then it is called a *generalized bi-ideal element*. An element a of S is called an *idempotent-element* if $a = a^2$. An element a is called a *quasi-ideal element* if $ae \wedge ea$ exists and $ae \wedge ea \leq a$. An element $z \in S$ is called a *zero-element* of S if $za = az = z$ and $z \leq a$ for each $a \in S$. The zero element, if exists, is unique. we shall denote it, in whatever follows, by the symbol 0 . A poe -semigroup S is called *regular (left-regular, right-regular)* if $a \leq aea$ ($a \leq ea^2, a \leq a^2e$) for each $a \in S$. A poe -semigroup S is said to be *commutative* if $ab = ba$ for each $a, b \in S$.

Definition 1.2. A poe -semigroup S is said to be $\vee e$ -semigroup if it is an upper semilattice under \vee and

$$c(a \vee b) = ca \vee cb \text{ and } (a \vee b)c = ac \vee bc$$

for all $a, b, c \in S$. A $\vee e$ -semigroup which is also a lattice is said to be an le -semigroup.

It is well known that in a po -semigroup S ,

$$a \leq b \Leftrightarrow a \wedge b = a \text{ and } a \vee b = b$$

for all $a, b \in S$.

Definition 1.3. Let S be a poe -semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. An element a of S is called an (m, n) -ideal element of S if $a^m e a^n \leq a$.

Remark 1.4. Throughout the paper, we shall use the convention $a^0 b = b a^0 = b$, for each $a, b \in S$. In particular for $m = 0, n = 1$ (resp. $m = 1, n = 0$ and $m = 1 = n$), a is a left-ideal element (resp. a right-ideal element and generalized bi-ideal element). Clearly each left-ideal element (resp. each right-ideal element and each generalized bi-ideal element) is a $(0, n)$ -ideal element for each positive integer n (resp. $(m, 0)$ -ideal element for each positive integer m and (m, n) -ideal element for each positive integers m, n). Therefore the concept of a $(0, n)$ -ideal element (resp. $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and (m, n) -ideal element) is the generalization of a left-ideal element (resp. a right-ideal element and a generalized bi-ideal element).

Remark 1.5. For each non-negative integers m and n , any $(m, 0)$ -ideal element (resp. $(0, n)$ -ideal element) is an (m, n) -ideal element as $a^m e a^n \leq a^m e \leq a$ ($a^m e a^n \leq e a^n \leq a$).

Definition 1.6. An element q of a poe -semigroup S is called an (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S (m, n positive integers) if $q^m e \wedge e q^n$ exists and $q^m e \wedge e q^n \leq q$. Clearly every quasi-ideal element is an (m, n) -quasi-ideal element for each positive integers m and n such that $q^m e \wedge e q^n$ exists.

We denote by (a) , $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle}$ and $(a)_{\langle m, n \rangle}$, the ideal-element, (m, n) -ideal element and (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S generated by the element a of S i.e. the least ideal-element, the least (m, n) -ideal element and the least (m, n) quasi-ideal element of S greater than the element a and given by [3, 11] as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (a) &= a \vee e a \vee a e \vee e a e \\ \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} &= a \vee a^m e a^n \\ (a)_{\langle m, n \rangle} &= a \vee (a^m e \wedge e a^n). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $a \in S$, is an ideal (resp. (m, n) -ideal, (m, n) quasi-ideal) element if and only if $(a) = a$ (resp. $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} = a$, $(a)_{\langle m, n \rangle} = a$).

2 Minimality of quasi-ideal element

Let S be a $\vee e$ -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. An (m, n) -ideal element a is said to be minimal if for each (m, n) -ideal element b of S such that

$$b \leq a \Rightarrow a = b.$$

Similarly, we may define minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal.

Proposition 2.1. Let S be a $\vee e$ -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. If S is (m, n) -regular, then for each (m, n) -ideal element a of S there exists $(m, 0)$ -ideal element b and $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S such that $a = bc$.

Proof. Let a be an (m, n) -ideal element of S . Then $a^m e a^n \leq a$. As S is (m, n) -regular, $a \leq a^m e a^n$. Therefore $a = a^m e a^n$. Since S is (m, n) -regular, $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} = a^m e$ and $\langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = e a^n$. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} &= a^m e e a^n \\ &= a^m e a^n \quad (\text{as } S \text{ is } (m, n)\text{-regular, } e e = e) \\ &= a. \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark 2.2. Let S be a poe -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. If S is (m, n) -regular, then the $(m, 0)$ and the $(0, n)$ -ideal elements of S are idempotents.

Proposition 2.3. Let S be a $\vee e$ -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. If S is (m, n) -regular, then for each $(m, 0)$ -ideal element a and for each element b of S , the element ab is an (m, n) -ideal element of S

Proof. Let a be an $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S and b be an element of S . Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (ab)^m e (ab)^n \\
 &= \underbrace{(ab)(ab) \dots (ab)}_{m\text{-times}} e \underbrace{(ab)(ab) \dots (ab)}_{n\text{-times}} \\
 &= \underbrace{(ab)((ab) \dots (ab))}_{m\text{-times}} e \underbrace{(ab)(ab) \dots (ab)}_{n\text{-times}} \\
 &\leq (ab)e(ab) \\
 &= a(bea)b \\
 &\leq aeb \\
 &= a^m e b \quad (\text{by Remark 2.2}) \\
 &\leq ab.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

By Propositions 2.1 and 2.3, we have following:

Theorem 2.4. Let S be a $\vee e$ -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. If S is (m, n) -regular, then an element a of S is an (m, n) -ideal element of S if and only if there exist $(m, 0)$ -ideal b and $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S such that $a = bc$.

Lemma 2.5. Let S be a $\vee e$ -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. If S is (m, n) -regular, then for each $a \in S$, $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} = \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$.

Proof. As S is (m, n) -regular, $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} = a^m e a^n$, $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} = a^m e$ and $\langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = e a^n$. Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} &= a^m e a^n \\
 &= a^m e e a^n \quad (ee = e \text{ as } S \text{ is } (m, n)\text{-regular}) \\
 &= \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle},
 \end{aligned}$$

as required. □

Theorem 2.6. [15] Let S be an le -semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then S is (m, n) -regular if and only if $a \wedge b = a^m b^n$ (or by Remark 2.2, $a \wedge b = ab$) for each $(m, 0)$ -ideal element a and for each $(0, n)$ -ideal element b of S .

Theorem 2.7. Let S be an le -semigroup and m, n be positive integers. If S is (m, n) -regular, then an element a of S is a minimal (m, n) -ideal element of S if and only if $a = bc$ for some minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element b and $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S .

Proof. Let a be a minimal (m, n) -ideal element of S . As S is (m, n) -regular $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} = a$. Thus, by Lemma 2.5, $a = \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$. Next we show that $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle}$ is a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S . For this, assume that a' be any $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S such that $a' \leq \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle}$. As S is (m, n) -regular, by Theorem 2.6, $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = a$. Again, by Theorem 2.6, $a' \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = a' \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} \leq \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = a$. By Proposition 2.3, $a' \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$ is an (m, n) -ideal element of S . Since $a' \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} \leq a$, by minimality of (m, n) -ideal element a of S , we

have $a' < a >_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = a$. Therefore $\langle a >_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \wedge \langle a >_{\langle 0, n \rangle} = a' \wedge \langle a >_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$. As $a \leq \langle a >_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \wedge \langle a >_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$, $a \leq a' \wedge \langle a >_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$ implies that $a \leq a'$. Thus $\langle a >_{\langle m, 0 \rangle} \leq a'$. Therefore $a' = \langle a >_{\langle m, 0 \rangle}$. So $\langle a >_{\langle m, 0 \rangle}$ is a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S . Similarly $\langle a >_{\langle 0, n \rangle}$ is a minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S .

Conversely assume that a be an element of S such that $a = bc$ for some minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element b and $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S . By Theorem 2.4, a is an (m, n) -ideal element of S . To show that a is a minimal (m, n) -ideal element of S , let a' be an (m, n) -ideal element of S such that $a' \leq a$. Then $a'^m e \leq a^m e \leq (bc)^m e = (bc)(bc)\dots(bc)e \leq be \leq b^m e b^n e \leq b^m e \leq b$. As $a'^m e$ is a $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S and b is a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element, $a'^m e = b$. Similarly $ea'^n = c$. By hypothesis, $a = bc = a'^m e a'^n = \leq a'^m e a'^n \leq a'$. Hence a is a minimal (m, n) -ideal element of S . \square

Lemma 2.8. *Let x be any minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of an le-semigroup S and $a \in S$ be such that $a \leq x$. Then $x = a^m e \wedge ea^n$.*

Proof. Assume that x is a minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S and $a \in S$ be such that $a \leq x$. Since $a^m e$ and ea^n are $(m, 0)$ -right and $(0, n)$ -ideal elements of S respectively, $a^m e \wedge ea^n$ is an (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S . Now $a^m e \wedge ea^n \leq x$. So, by minimality of x , $a^m e \wedge ea^n = x$, as required. \square

Proposition 2.9. *Each minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of an le-semigroup S is the infimum of a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and a minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S .*

Proof. Let x be any minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S . Then, by Lemma 2.8, $x = a^m e \wedge ea^n$ for each $a \in S$ such that $a \leq x$. Now to complete the proof, it is sufficient to show that $a^m e$ and ea^n are, respectively, minimal $(m, 0)$ and minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal elements of S . To show that $a^m e$ is a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S , take any $(m, 0)$ -ideal element $c \in S$ such that $c \leq a^m e$. Then $c \wedge ea^n \leq a^m e \wedge ea^n = x$. Since $c \wedge ea^n$ is a (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S , $c \wedge ea^n = x$. Therefore $x \leq c$ implies that $a^m e \leq x^m e \leq c^m e \leq c$. So $a^m e = c$ i.e. $a^m e$ is a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element of S . Similarly we may show that ea^n is a minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S . \square

Proposition 2.10. *Let S be an le-semigroup and x be any (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S . If $x = a \wedge b$, where a and b are minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S respectively, then x is a minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S .*

Proof. Assume that $x = a \wedge b$ for any minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element a and minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element b of S respectively. Therefore $x \leq a$ and $x \leq b$. Let y be any (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S such that $y \leq x$. Then $y^m e \leq x^m e \leq a^m e \leq a$ and $ey^n \leq ex^n \leq eb^n \leq b$. As $y^m e$ and ey^n are $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S respectively, by minimality of a and b , $y^m e = a$ and $ey^n = b$. Therefore $x = a \wedge b = y^m e \wedge ey^n \leq y$. So $x = y$. Hence x is a minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S . \square

Now combining Propositions 2.9 and 2.10, we get:

Theorem 2.11. *Let S be an le-semigroup and x be a (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S . Then x is a minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S if and only if x is the infimum of a minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and a minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S .*

Corollary 2.12. *Let S be an le-semigroup. Then S has at least one minimal (m, n) -quasi-ideal element if and only if S has at least one minimal $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and at least one minimal $(0, n)$ -ideal element.*

Theorem 2.13. [3] *Let S be an le-semigroup, $a \in S$ and m, n be non-negative integers. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1) S is $\langle m, n \rangle$ -regular;
- (2) $a^m e a^n = a$ for each (m, n) -ideal element of S ;
- (3) $q^m e q^n = a$ for each (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S ;

(4) $(\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle})^m e (\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle})^n = \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle}$ for each $a \in S$;

(5) $((a)_{\langle m, n \rangle})^m e ((a)_{\langle m, n \rangle})^n = (a)_{\langle m, n \rangle}$ for each $a \in S$.

Lemma 2.14. [3] Let S be a $\vee e$ -semigroup, $a \in S$ and $m, n, k \geq 0$ be integers. Then

(1) $(a \vee a^m e a^k)^m e = a^m e$;

(2) $e(a \vee a^k e a^n)^n = e a^n$;

(3) $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle}$ exists and $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} = a \vee a^m e a^n$.

In whatever follows, $I_{(m,0)}$, $I_{(0,n)}$, $I_{(m,n)}$ and $Q_{(m,n)}$ denote the sets of all $(m, 0)$, $(0, n)$, (m, n) -ideal elements and (m, n) -quasi-ideal elements of the le -semigroup S respectively

Theorem 2.15. Let S be an le -semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then S is (m, n) -regular if and only if $b \wedge c \leq b^m c^n$ for each $b \in I_{(m,n)}$ and for each $c \in I_{(0,n)}$.

Proof. The statement is trivially true for $m = 0 = n$. If $m = 0$ and $n \neq 0$ or $m \neq 0$ and $n = 0$, then the result follows by Theorem 2.13. So, let $m \neq 0$, $n \neq 0$, $B \in I_{(m,n)}$ and $L \in I_{(0,n)}$. As S is (m, n) -regular, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (b \wedge c) \\ & \leq (b \wedge c)^m e (b \wedge c)^n \\ & \leq b^m e c^n \\ & \leq b^m c \\ & = b^m c c \quad (\text{by Remark 2.2}) \\ & = b^m c c c \quad (\text{by Remark 2.2}) \\ & \vdots \\ & \leq b^m c^n. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $b \wedge c \leq b^m c^n$.

Conversely assume that $b \wedge c \leq b^m c^n$ for each $b \in I_{(m,n)}$ and for each $c \in I_{(0,n)}$. Take any $a \in S$. As $\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} \in I_{(m,n)}$ and $\langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} \in I_{(0,n)}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} & = \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} \wedge e \leq (\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle})^m e^n \quad (\text{by hypothesis}) \\ & \leq (\langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle})^m e = a^m e \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.14}). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $\langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} \leq e a^n$. As $a^m e \in I_{(m,n)}$ and $e a^n \in I_{(0,n)}$, by hypothesis

$$\begin{aligned} \{a\} & \leq \langle a \rangle_{\langle m, n \rangle} \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0, n \rangle} \leq a^m e \wedge e a^n \\ & = (a^m e)^m (e a^n)^n \\ & \leq a^m e a^n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence S is (m, n) -regular. □

Similarly we may prove the following:

Theorem 2.16. Let S be an le -semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then S is (m, n) -regular if and only if $a \wedge b \leq a^m b^n$ for each $b \in I_{(m,n)}$ and for each $a \in I_{(m,0)}$.

Lemma 2.17. [3] Let S be an le -semigroup, $a \in S$ and m, n be any positive integers.

(1) $(a \vee (a^m e \wedge e a^n))^m e \leq a^m e$;

(2) $e(a \vee (a^m e \wedge e a^n))^n \leq e a^n$;

(3) $(a)_{\langle m, n \rangle}$ exists and $(a)_{\langle m, n \rangle} = a \vee (a^m e \wedge e a^n)$.

Theorem 2.18. *Let S be an le-semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then S is (m, n) -regular if and only if $q \wedge c \leq q^m c^n$ for each $q \in Q_{(m,n)}$ and for each $c \in I_{(0,n)}$.*

Proof. Statement follows by Theorem 2.15 because each (m, n) -quasi-ideal element of S is an (m, n) -ideal element of S .

Conversely assume that $qc \leq q^m c^n$ for each (m, n) -quasi-ideal element q and for each $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S . Let $a \in S$. As $(a)_{\langle m,n \rangle}$ is an (m, n) -quasi-ideal element and e is a $(0, n)$ -hyperideal of S , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (a)_{\langle m,n \rangle} &= (a)_{\langle m,n \rangle} \wedge e \leq ((a)_{\langle m,n \rangle})^m e^n && \text{(by hypothesis)} \\ &\leq ((a)_{\langle m,n \rangle})^m e = a^m e && \text{(by Lemma 2.17)}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $\langle a \rangle_{\langle 0,n \rangle} \leq ea^n$. As $(a)_{\langle m,n \rangle}$ and ea^n are (m, n) -quasi-ideal element and $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S , by hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \{a\} &\leq (a)_{\langle m,n \rangle} \wedge \langle a \rangle_{\langle 0,n \rangle} \leq a^m e \wedge ea^n \\ &= (a^m e)^m (ea^n)^n \\ &\leq a^m ea^n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, S is (m, n) -regular. \square

Similarly we may prove the following:

Theorem 2.19. *Let S be an le-semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then S is (m, n) -regular if and only if $a \wedge q \leq a^m q^n$ for each (m, n) -quasi-ideal element q and for each $(m, 0)$ -ideal element a of S .*

Theorem 2.20. *Let S be an le-semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then S is (m, n) -regular if and only if $a \wedge c = a^m c \wedge ac^n$ for each $(m, 0)$ -ideal element a and for each $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S .*

Proof. The statement is trivially true for $m = 0 = n$. If $m \neq 0$ and $n = 0$, then we have to show that S is $(m, 0)$ -regular if and only if $a = a^m e$ which directly follows by Theorem 2.13. Similarly when $m = 0$ and $n \neq 0$, then the result follows by Theorem 2.13. So, let $m \neq 0, n \neq 0, a$ be any $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and c be any $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S . As S is (m, n) -regular, By Remark 2.2 and Theorem 2.6, $a \wedge c = a^m c^n = a^m c$ and $a \wedge c = a^m c^n = ac^n$. So $a \wedge c = a^m c \wedge ac^n$.

Conversely assume that $a \wedge c = a^m c \wedge ac^n$ for each $(m, 0)$ -ideal element a and for each $(0, n)$ -ideal element c of S . Let $t \in S$. As $\langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle}$ is an $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and e is a $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle} &= \langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle} \wedge e = (\langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle})^m e \wedge \langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle} e^n && \text{(by hypothesis)} \\ &\leq (\langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle})^m e = t^m e && \text{(by Lemma 2.14)}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $\langle t \rangle_{\langle 0,n \rangle} \leq et^n$. As $t^m e$ and et^n are $(m, 0)$ -ideal element and $(0, n)$ -ideal element of S respectively, by hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle t \rangle_{\langle m,0 \rangle} \wedge \langle t \rangle_{\langle 0,n \rangle} \\ &\leq t^m e \wedge et^n \\ &= (t^m e)^m et^n \wedge t^m e(et^n)^n \\ &= \underbrace{t^m et^m e \dots t^m e}_{m\text{-times}} et^n \wedge t^m e \underbrace{et^n et^n \dots et^n}_{n\text{-times}} \\ &\leq \underbrace{t^m et^m e \dots t^m e}_{m-1\text{-times}} t^m e et^n \wedge t^m et^n \underbrace{et^n et^n \dots et^n}_{n-1\text{-times}} \\ &\leq \underbrace{t^m et^m e \dots t^m e}_{m-1\text{-times}} t^m et^n \wedge t^m et^n \underbrace{et^n et^n \dots et^n}_{n-1\text{-times}} \\ &\vdots \\ &\leq t^m et^n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence S is (m, n) -regular. \square

Corollary 2.21. *Let S be an le -semigroup and m, n be non-negative integers. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1) S is (m, n) -regular;
- (2) $b \wedge c \leq b^m c^n$ for each $b \in I_{(m,n)}$ and for each $c \in I_{(0,n)}$;
- (3) $q \wedge c \leq q^m c^n$ for each $q \in Q_{(m,n)}$ and for each $c \in I_{(0,n)}$;
- (4) $a \wedge b \leq a^m b^n$ for each $b \in I_{(m,n)}$ and for each $a \in I_{(m,0)}$;
- (5) $a \wedge q \leq a^m q^n$ for each $q \in Q_{(m,n)}$ and for each $a \in I_{(m,0)}$;
- (6) $c \wedge a = a^m c \wedge a c^n$ for each $a \in I_{(m,0)}$ and for each $c \in I_{(0,n)}$.

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