BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICAL VIRTUAL INSTITUTE ISSN (p) 2303-4874, ISSN (o) 2303-4955 www.imvibl.org /JOURNALS / BULLETIN Vol. 7(2017), 93-102

Former BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY OF MATHEMATICIANS BANJA LUKA ISSN 0354-5792 (o), ISSN 1986-521X (p)

## PRIME BI-IDEALS IN $\Gamma$ - SEMIRINGS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we introduce the concepts of prime, semiprime, strongly prime, irreducible and strongly irreducible bi-ideals in a  $\Gamma$ -semiring. Characterizations of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring using these concepts are furnished. A topology on the set of strongly prime bi-ideals is defined and a property of the space of strongly prime bi-ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring is furnished.

#### 1. Introduction

The notion of  $\Gamma$ -rings was introduced by Nobusawa in [10]. The class of  $\Gamma$ rings contains not only all rings but also ternary rings. As a generalization of rings, semirings were introduced by Vandiver [14] and he obtained many results about it. Further as a generalization of  $\Gamma$ -rings and semirings, the notion of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring was introduced by Rao [11]. It is well known that ideals play an important role in any abstract algebraic structures. Characterizations of ideals in a semigroup were given by Lajos [8], while ideals in semirings were characterized by Iseki [4, 5]. Prime and semiprime ideals in  $\Gamma$ -semirings were discussed by Dutta and Sardar [2]. Authors were studied quasi-ideals and bi-deals in  $\Gamma$ -semirings [6, 7]. The notion of a bi-ideal was first introduced for semigroups by Good and Hughes [3].The concept of a biideal for ring was given by Lajos [9] and for semirings by Shabir , Ali and Batool [12]. The concept of a bi-ideal in a semigroup (ring and semiring) is a generalization of one sided ideal and two sided ideal in a semigroup (ring and semiring). Prime biideals in a  $\Gamma$ -ring was introduced by Booth and Groenewald [1] and in a semigroup by Shabir and Kanwal [13].

In this paper efforts are made to extend the notion of prime ideals and semiprime ideal in  $\Gamma$ -semirings to prime bi-ideal and semiprime bi-ideal respectively in  $\Gamma$ -semirings. Also we define strongly prime bi-ideal in  $\Gamma$ -semirings and discuss some

<sup>2010</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification. 16Y60, 16Y99.

Key words and phrases. Bi-ideal, prime bi-ideal, semiprime bi-ideal, strongly prime bi-ideal, irreducible bi-ideal, strongly irreducible bi-ideal.

properties of it. Finally we prove a topological property of the space of strongly prime bi-ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

### 2. Preliminaries

First we recall some definitions of the basic concepts of  $\Gamma$ -semirings that we need in sequel. For this we refer Dutta and Sardar [2].

DEFINITION 2.1. Let S and  $\Gamma$  be two additive commutative semigroups. S is called a  $\Gamma$  - semiring if there exists a mapping  $S \times \Gamma \times S \longrightarrow S$  denoted by  $a\alpha b$ ; for all  $a, b \in S$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  satisfying the following conditions:

(i)  $a\alpha (b+c) = (a\alpha b) + (a\alpha c)$ 

- (ii)  $(b+c) \alpha a = (b\alpha a) + (c\alpha a)$ (iii)  $a(\alpha + \beta)c = (a\alpha c) + (a\beta c)$
- (iv)  $a\alpha (b\beta c) = (a\alpha b)\beta c$ ; for all  $a, b, c \in S$  and for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ .

Obviously, every semiring S is a  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

Let S be a semiring and  $\Gamma$  be a commutative semigroup. Define a mapping  $S \times \Gamma \times S \longrightarrow S$  by,  $a\alpha b = ab$ ; for all  $a, b \in S$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . Then S is a  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

DEFINITION 2.2. An element  $0 \in S$  is said to be an absorbing zero if  $0\alpha a = 0 = a\alpha 0$ , a + 0 = 0 + a = a; for all  $a \in S$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

Now onwards S denotes a  $\Gamma\text{-semiring}$  with absorbing zero unless otherwise stated.

DEFINITION 2.3. A non-empty subset T of S is said to be a sub- $\Gamma$ -semiring of S if (T, +) is a subsemigroup of (S, +) and  $a\alpha b \in T$ ; for all  $a, b \in T$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

DEFINITION 2.4. A non-empty subset T of S is called a left (respectively right) ideal of S if T is a subsemigroup of (S, +) and  $x\alpha a \in T$  (respectively  $a\alpha x \in T$ ) for all  $a \in T$ ,  $x \in S$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

DEFINITION 2.5. If T is both left and right ideal of S, then T is known as an ideal of S.

If M, N are non-empty subsets of S, then

 $M\Gamma N = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \alpha_i y_i | x_i \in M, \alpha_i \in \Gamma, y_i \in N \right\} .$ 

Principle left ideal, right ideal and two sided ideal generated by  $a \in S$  denoted by  $(a)_l, (a)_r$  and (a) respectively.

DEFINITION 2.6. An element a of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring S is said to be regular if  $a \in a\Gamma S\Gamma a$ .

If all elements of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring S are regular, then S is known as a regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

DEFINITION 2.7. S is said to be an intra-regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring if for any  $x \in S$ ,  $x \in S\Gamma x\Gamma x\Gamma S$ .

LEMMA 2.1. S is regular if and only if  $R\Gamma L = R \cap L$ , for a right ideal R and left ideal L of S.

LEMMA 2.2. Let  $(a)_b$  denote the bi-ideal generated by  $a \in S.$  If S is a regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring, then  $(a)_b = a\Gamma S\Gamma a$ .

#### 3. Prime Bi-ideals

Here we recall the definition of a bi-ideal in  $\Gamma$ -semiring from [7].

DEFINITION 3.1. A non-empty subset B of S is said to be a bi-ideal of S if B is a sub- $\Gamma$ -semiring of S and  $B\Gamma S\Gamma B \subseteq B$ .

EXAMPLE 3.1. Consider the semiring  $S = M_{2\times 2}(N_0)$ , where N denotes the set of all natural numbers and  $N_0 = N \cup \{0\}$ . If  $\Gamma = S$ , then S forms a  $\Gamma$  semiring with  $A\alpha B =$  usual matrix product of  $A, \alpha, B$ ; for all  $A, \alpha, B \in S$ .

(1) 
$$C = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x \\ 0 & y \end{pmatrix} \mid x, y \in N_0 \right\}$$
 is a bi-ideal of  $S$ .  
(2)  $D = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix} \mid x \in N_0 \right\}$  is a bi-ideal of  $S$ .

Statements given in the following theorem are easy to verify.

THEOREM 3.1. In  $\Gamma$ -semiring S following statements hold.

- (1) Any one sided (two sided) ideal of S is a bi-ideal of S.
- (2) Intersection of a right ideal and a left ideal of S is a bi-ideal of S.
- (3) Arbitrary intersection of bi-ideals of S is also a bi-ideal of S and hence the set of all bi-ideals of S forms a complete lattice.
- (4) If B is a bi-ideal of S, then  $B\Gamma s$  and  $s\Gamma B$  are bi-ideals of S, for any  $s \in S$ .
- (5) If B is a bi-ideal of S, then  $b\Gamma B\Gamma c$  is a bi-ideal of S, for  $b, c \in S$ .
- (6) If B is a bi-ideal of S and if T is a sub-Γ-semiring of S, then B ∩ T is a bi-ideal of T.
- (7) If A, B are bi-ideals of S, then  $A\Gamma B$  and  $B\Gamma A$  are bi-ideals of S.
- (8) For any  $a \in S$ ,  $S\Gamma a$  is a left ideal and  $a\Gamma S$  is a right ideal of S.

DEFINITION 3.2. A bi-ideal B of S is called a prime bi-ideal if  $B_1 \Gamma B_2 \subseteq B$ implies  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ , for any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S.

DEFINITION 3.3. A bi-ideal B of S is called a strongly prime bi-ideal if  $(B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1) \subseteq B$  implies  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ , for any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S.

DEFINITION 3.4. A bi-ideal B of S is called a semiprime bi-ideal if for any bi-ideal  $B_1$  of S,  $B_1^2 = B_1 \Gamma B_1 \subseteq B$  implies  $B_1 \subseteq B$ .

Obviously every strongly prime bi-ideal in S is a prime bi-ideal and every prime bi-ideal in S is a semiprime bi-ideal.

DEFINITION 3.5. A bi-ideal B of S is called an irreducible bi-ideal if  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B$  implies  $B_1 = B$  or  $B_2 = B$ , for any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S.

DEFINITION 3.6. A bi-ideal B of S is called a strongly irreducible bi-ideal if for any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S,  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$  implies  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ .

Obviously every strongly irreducible bi-ideal is an irreducible bi-ideal.

THEOREM 3.2. The intersection of any family of prime bi-ideals of S is a semiprime bi-ideal.

PROOF. Let  $\{P_i | i \in \Lambda\}$  be the family of prime bi-ideals of S. For any bi-ideal B of S,  $B^2 \subseteq \bigcap_i P_i$  implies  $B^2 \subseteq P_i$ , for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . As  $P_i$  are prime bi-ideals,  $P_i$  are semiprime bi-ideals. Therefore  $B \subseteq P_i$ , for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . Hence  $B \subseteq \bigcap_i P_i$ .

THEOREM 3.3. Every strongly irreducible, semiprime bi-ideal of S is a strongly prime bi-ideal.

PROOF. Let B be a strongly irreducible and semiprime bi-ideal of S. For any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S,  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq B$ . Hence by Theorem 3.1(3),  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is a bi-ideal of S. Since

$$(B_1 \cap B_2)^2 = (B_1 \cap B_2) \Gamma (B_1 \cap B_2) \subseteq B_1 \Gamma B_2.$$

Similarly we get  $(B_1 \cap B_2)^2 \subseteq B_2 \Gamma B_1$ . Therefore

$$(B_1 \cap B_2)^2 \subseteq (B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1) \subseteq B.$$

As B is a semiprime bi-ideal of S,  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$ . But B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal. Therefore  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . Hence B is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S.

THEOREM 3.4. If B is a bi-ideal of S and  $a \in S$  such that  $a \notin B$ , then there exists an irreducible bi-ideal I of S such that  $B \subseteq I$  and  $a \notin I$ .

PROOF. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the family of all bi-ideals of S which contain B but do not contain an element a. Then  $\mathcal{B}$  is a non-empty as  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . This family of all bi-ideals of S forms a partially ordered set under the inclusion of sets. Hence by Zorn's lemma, there exists a maximal bi-ideal say I in  $\mathcal{B}$ . Therefore  $B \subseteq I$  and  $a \notin I$ . Now to show that I is an irreducible bi-ideal of S. Let C and D be any two bi-ideals of S such that  $C \cap D = I$ . Suppose that C and D both contain I properly. But I is a maximal bi-ideal in  $\mathcal{B}$ . Hence we get  $a \in C$  and  $a \in D$ . Therefore  $a \in C \cap D = I$  which is absurd. Thus either C = I or D = I. Therefore I is an irreducible bi-ideal of S.

THEOREM 3.5. Any proper bi-ideal B of S is the intersection of all irreducible bi-ideals of S containing B.

PROOF. Let B be a bi-ideal of S and  $\{B_i | i \in \Lambda\}$  be the collection of irreducible bi-ideals of S containing B, where  $\Lambda$  denotes an indexing set. Then  $B \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} B_i$ . Suppose that  $a \notin B$ . Then by Theorem 3.4, there exists an irreducible bi-ideal A of S containing B but not a. Therefore  $a \notin \bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} B_i$ . Thus  $\bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} B_i \subseteq B$ . Hence  $\bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} B_i = B$ .

THEOREM 3.6. In S following statements are equivalent.

(1) S is regular and intra-regular.

- (2)  $B^2 = B$ , for any bi-ideal B of S.
- (3)  $B_1 \cap B_2 = (B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1)$ , for any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S.
- (4) Each bi-ideal of S is semiprime.
- (5) Each proper bi-ideal of S is the intersection of irreducible semiprime biideals of S which contain it.

PROOF. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Suppose S is regular and intra-regular. Let B be any biideal of S. Always  $B^2 = B\Gamma B \subseteq B$ . Let  $a \in B$ . As S is regular and intra-regular,  $a \in a\Gamma S\Gamma a$  and  $a \in S\Gamma a\Gamma a\Gamma S$ . Hence

$$a \in a\Gamma S\Gamma a \subseteq (a\Gamma S)\Gamma (a\Gamma S\Gamma a) \subseteq (a\Gamma S)\Gamma (S\Gamma a\Gamma a\Gamma S)\Gamma (S\Gamma a).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} a \in (B\Gamma S) \,\Gamma \left(S\Gamma B\Gamma B\Gamma S\right) \Gamma \left(S\Gamma B\right) &= B\Gamma \left(S\Gamma S\right) \Gamma B\Gamma B\Gamma \left(S\Gamma S\right) \Gamma B\\ &\subseteq \left(B\Gamma S\Gamma B\right) \Gamma \left(B\Gamma S\Gamma B\right) \subseteq B\Gamma B. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$a \in B^2 = B\Gamma B$$
. Hence  $B \subseteq B\Gamma B$ . Thus  $B^2 = B\Gamma B = B$ .

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$  Suppose  $B^2 = B$ , for any bi-ideal B of S. Let R be a right ideal and L be a left ideal of S. Then  $R \cap L$  is a bi-ideal of S. Therefore by assumption

$$(R \cap L)^2 = R \cap L. \ R \cap L = (R \cap L)^2 = (R \cap L) \Gamma (R \cap L) \subseteq R\Gamma L.$$

But always  $R\Gamma L \subseteq R \cap L$ . Hence  $R\Gamma L = R \cap L$ . Hence by the Lemma 2.1, S is regular.

Let  $a \in S$ . As S is regular, by Lemma 2.2  $(a)_b = a\Gamma S\Gamma a$ . By assumption

$$(a)_b = (a)_b \Gamma(a)_b = (a \Gamma S \Gamma a) \Gamma(a \Gamma S \Gamma a) \subseteq S \Gamma a \Gamma a \Gamma S.$$

But  $a \in (a)_b \subseteq S\Gamma a\Gamma a\Gamma S$ . This shows that S is an intra-regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$  Suppose that  $B^2 = B$ , for any bi-ideal B of S. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S. Hence by Theorem 3.1(3),  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is a bi-ideal of S. Therefore by (2),

$$(B_1 \cap B_2)^2 = B_1 \cap B_2$$
.  $B_1 \cap B_2 = (B_1 \cap B_2)^2 = (B_1 \cap B_2) \Gamma (B_1 \cap B_2) \subseteq B_1 \Gamma B_2$ .

Similarly we have  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B_2 \Gamma B_1$ . Hence  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq (B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1)$ . By Theorem 3.1(7),  $B_1 \Gamma B_2$  and  $B_2 \Gamma B_1$  are bi-ideals of S. Therefore by Theorem 3.1(3),  $(B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1)$  is a bi-ideal of S. Hence by (2),

$$(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) = ((B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1)) \Gamma (B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1)).$$
  
$$(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq (B_1\Gamma B_2) \Gamma (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq B_1\Gamma S\Gamma B_1 \subseteq B_1.$$

Similarly we show that  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq B_2$ . Thus  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq B_1 \cap B_2$ . Hence  $B_1 \cap B_2 = (B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1)$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Let *B* be any bi-ideal of *S*. Suppose that  $B_1^2 = B_1 \Gamma B_1 \subseteq B$ , for any bi-ideal  $B_1$  of *S*. Therefore by (3), we have

$$B_1 = B_1 \cap B_1 = (B_1 \Gamma B_1) \cap (B_1 \Gamma B_1) = B_1 \Gamma B_1 \subseteq B.$$

Hence every bi-ideal of S is semiprime.

 $(4) \Rightarrow (5)$  Let *B* be a proper bi-ideal of *S*. Hence by the Theorem 3.5, *B* is the intersection of all proper irreducible bi-ideals of *S* which contains *B*. By assumption every bi-ideal of *S* is semiprime. Hence each proper bi-ideal of *S* is the intersection of irreducible semiprime bi-ideals of *S* which contain it.

 $(5) \Rightarrow (2)$  Let B be a bi-ideal of S. If  $B^2 = S$ , then clearly result holds. Suppose that  $B^2 \neq S$ . Then  $B^2$  is a proper bi-ideal of S. Hence by assumption,  $B^2$  is the intersection of irreducible semiprime bi-ideals of S which contain it.  $B^2 = \cap \{B_i/B_i \text{ is an irreducible semiprime bi - ideal}\}$ . As each  $B_i$  is a semiprime bi-ideal,  $B \subseteq B_i$ , for all i. Therefore  $B \subseteq \bigcap_i B_i = B^2$ .  $B^2 \subseteq B$  always. Hence we have  $B^2 = B$ .

Thus we get  $(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4) \Rightarrow (5) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . Hence all the statements are equivalent.

THEOREM 3.7. Let S be a regular and intra- regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring. Then for any bi-ideal B of S, B is strongly irreducible bi-ideal if and only if B is strongly prime bi-ideal.

PROOF. Let S be a regular and intra-regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring. Suppose that B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of S. To show that B is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S such that  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq B$ . By Theorem 3.6,  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) = B_1 \cap B_2$ . Hence  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$ . But B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of S. Therefore  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . Thus B is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S.

Conversely, suppose that B is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S such that  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$  and  $(B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1) = B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$ . As B is a strongly prime bi-ideal,  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . Therefore B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of S.

THEOREM 3.8. Every bi-ideal of S is a strongly prime bi-ideal if and only if S is both regular and intra-regular and the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under the inclusion of sets.

PROOF. Suppose that every bi-ideal of S is a strongly prime bi-ideal. Then every bi-ideal of S is a semiprime bi-ideal. Hence by the Theorem 3.6, S is regular and intra-regular. To show that the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S from the set of bi-ideals of S.  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is also a bi-ideal of S (see Theorem 3.1(3)). Hence by

assumption  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S. Therefore by Theorem 3.6,  $(B_1 \Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2 \Gamma B_1) = B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B_1 \cap B_2$ . Then  $B_1 \subseteq B_1 \cap B_2$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B_1 \cap B_2$ . Therefore  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_1$  or  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_2$ . Thus either  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B_1$ . This shows that the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets.

Conversely, suppose that S is regular, intra-regular and the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets. Let B be any bi-ideal of S.  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S such that  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) \subseteq B$ . By the Theorem 3.6, we have  $(B_1\Gamma B_2) \cap (B_2\Gamma B_1) = B_1 \cap B_2$ . Therefore  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$ .But by assumption either  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B_1$ . Hence  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_1$  or  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_2$ . Thus we get  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . Therefore B is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S.  $\Box$ 

THEOREM 3.9. If the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets, then every bi-ideal of S is a strongly prime if and only if every bi-ideal of S is prime.

PROOF. Let the set of bi-ideals of S be a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets. As every strongly prime bi-ideal of S is prime, the proof of only if part is obvious.

Conversely, suppose that every bi-ideal of S is prime. Then every bi-ideal of S semiprime. Hence by the Theorem 3.6, S is both regular and intra-regular. Again by Theorem 3.8, every bi-ideal of S is a strongly prime bi-ideal.

THEOREM 3.10. If the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets, then S is both regular and intra-regular if and only if each bi-ideal of S is prime.

PROOF. Let the set of all bi-ideals of S be a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets. Suppose S is both regular and intra-regular. Let B be any bi-ideal of S. For any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S,  $B_1\Gamma B_2 \subseteq B$ . By the assumption we have either  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B_1$ . Assume  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$ . Then  $B_1\Gamma B_1 \subseteq B_1\Gamma B_2 \subseteq B$ . Hence by Theorem 3.6, B is a semiprime bi-ideal of S. Therefore  $B_1 \subseteq B$ . Hence B is a prime bi-ideal of S.

Conversely, suppose that every bi-ideal of S prime. Hence every bi-ideal of S semiprime. Therefore by Theorem 3.6, S is both regular and intra-regular.

THEOREM 3.11. Following statements are equivalents in S.

(1) The set of bi-ideals of S is totally ordered set under inclusion of sets.

(2)Each bi-ideal of S is strongly irreducible.

(3) Each bi-ideal of S is irreducible.

PROOF. (1)  $\Rightarrow$ (2). Suppose that the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets. Let B be any bi-ideal of S. To show that B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of S. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S such that  $B_1 \cap B_2 \subseteq B$ . But by the hypothesis we have either  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B_1$ . Therefore  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_1$  or  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_2$ . Hence  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . Thus B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of S.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$  Suppose that each bi-ideal of S is strongly irreducible. Let B be any bi-ideal of S such that  $B = B_1 \cap B_2$ , for any bi-ideals  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of S. Hence by

(2) we have ,  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . As  $B \subseteq B_1$  and  $B \subseteq B_2$ , we have  $B_1 = B$  or  $B_2 = B$ . Hence B is an irreducible bi-ideal of S.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (1)$  Suppose that each bi-ideal of S is an irreducible bi-ideal. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of S. Then  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is also a bi-ideal of S (see Theorem 3.1(3)). Hence  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_1 \cap B_2$  implies  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_1$  or  $B_1 \cap B_2 = B_2$  by assumption. Therefore either  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B_1$ . This shows that the set of bi-ideals of S is a totally ordered set under inclusion of sets.  $\Box$ 

THEOREM 3.12. A prime bi-ideal B of S is a prime one sided ideal of S.

PROOF. Let B be a prime bi-ideal of S. Suppose B is not a one sided ideal of S. Therefore  $B\Gamma S \not\subseteq B$  and  $S\Gamma B \not\subseteq B$ . As B is a prime bi-ideal

$$(B\Gamma S) \Gamma(S\Gamma B) \nsubseteq B.$$
$$(B\Gamma S) \Gamma(S\Gamma B) = B\Gamma(S\Gamma S) \Gamma B \subseteq B\Gamma S\Gamma B \subseteq B,$$

which is a contradiction. Therefore  $B\Gamma S \subseteq B$  or  $S\Gamma B \subseteq B$ . Hence B is a prime one sided ideal of S.

THEOREM 3.13. A bi-ideal B of S is prime if and only if for a right ideal R and a left ideal L of S,  $R\Gamma L \subseteq B$  implies  $R \subseteq B$  or  $L \subseteq B$ .

PROOF. Suppose that a bi-ideal of S is a prime bi-ideal of S. Let R be a right ideal and L be a left ideal of S such that  $R\Gamma L \subseteq B$ . Itself R and L are bi-ideals of S (see Theorem 3.1(2)). Hence  $R \subseteq B$  or  $L \subseteq B$ . Conversely, we have to show that a bi-ideal B of S is a prime bi-ideal of S. Let A and C be any two bi-ideal of S such that  $A\Gamma C \subseteq B$ . For any  $a \in A$  and  $c \in C$ ,  $(a)_r \subseteq A$  and  $(c)_l \subseteq C$ , where  $(a)_r$  and  $(c)_l$  denotes the right ideal and left ideal generated by a and c respectively. Therefore  $(a)_r \Gamma(c)_l \subseteq A\Gamma C \subseteq B$ . Hence by the assumption,  $(a)_r \subseteq B$  or  $(c)_l \subseteq B$ . Therefore  $a \in B$  or  $c \in B$ . Thus  $A \subseteq B$  or  $C \subseteq B$ . Hence B is a prime bi-ideal of S.

THEOREM 3.14. If B is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of a regular and intraregular  $\Gamma$ -semiring S, then B is a prime bi-ideal.

PROOF. Let *B* be a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of a regular and intra-regular  $\Gamma$ -semiring *S*. Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be any two bi-ideals of *S* such that  $B_1\Gamma B_2 \subseteq B$ .  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is also a bi-ideal of *S* (see Theorem 3.1(3)). Therefore by Theorem 3.6,  $(B_1 \cap B_2)^2 = (B_1 \cap B_2)$ . Hence  $B_1 \cap B_2 = (B_1 \cap B_2)^2 = (B_1 \cap B_2) \Gamma (B_1 \cap B_2) \subseteq$   $B_1\Gamma B_2 \subseteq B$ . As *B* is a strongly irreducible bi-ideal of *S*, we have  $B_1 \subseteq B$  or  $B_2 \subseteq B$ . Hence *B* is a prime bi-ideal of *S*.

### 4. Space of Strongly Prime Bi-ideals

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the family of all bi-ideals of S.  $\mathcal{B}$  is a partially ordered set under the inclusion of sets. Clearly  $\mathcal{B}$  is a complete lattice under  $\lor$  and  $\land$  defined by

 $B_1 \vee B_2 = B_1 + B_2 = \langle B_1 \bigcup B_2 \rangle_b$  and  $B_1 \wedge B_2 = B_1 \cap B_2$ , for all  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{B}$ .

Let S be a  $\Gamma$ -semiring and  $\wp_S$  be the set of all strongly prime bi-ideals of S. For each bi-ideal B of S define

 $\Theta_B = \{J \in \wp_S / B \nsubseteq J\}$  and  $\zeta(\wp_S) = \{\Theta_B / B \text{ is a bi-ideal of } S\}.$ 

THEOREM 4.1. If S is both regular and intra-regular, then  $\zeta(\varphi_s)$  forms a topology on the set  $\varphi_S$ . There is an isomorphism between lattice of bi-ideals  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\zeta(\varphi_S)$ , the lattice of open subsets of  $\varphi_S$ .

PROOF. Since  $\{0\}$  is a bi-ideal of S and each bi-ideal of S contains  $\{0\}$ . Hence  $\Theta_{\{0\}} = \{J \in \wp_s/\{0\} \notin J\} = \Phi$ . Therefore  $\Theta_{\{0\}} = \Phi \in \zeta(\wp_S)$ . As S itself bi-ideal,  $\Theta_S = \{J \in \wp_S/S \notin J\} = \wp_S$  implies  $\wp_S = \Theta_S \in \zeta(\wp_S)$ . Now let  $\Theta_{B_k} \in \zeta(\wp_S)$ , for  $k \in \Lambda$  ( $\Lambda$  is an indexing set) and  $B_k$  is a bi-ideal of S. Therefore  $\Theta_{B_k} = \{J \in \wp_S/B_k \notin J\}$ .

At the other hand, we have

$$\bigcup_{k \in \Lambda} \Theta_{B_k} = \bigcup_{k \in \Lambda} \{ J \in \wp_S / B_k \notin J \} = \{ J \in \wp_S / B_k \notin J, \text{ for some } k \in \Lambda \}.$$

Hence

$$\bigcup_{k\in\Lambda}\Theta_{B_k} = \left\{J\in\wp_S/\left\langle\bigcup_{k\in\Lambda}B_k\right\rangle_b \not\subseteq J\right\},\,$$

where  $\left\langle \bigcup_{k \in \Lambda} B_k \right\rangle_h$  denotes the bi-ideal of S generated  $\bigcup_{k \in \Lambda} B_k$ . Therefore

$$\bigcup_{k\in\Lambda}\Theta_{B_{k}}=\Theta_{\left\langle\bigcup_{k\in\Lambda}B_{k}\right\rangle_{b}}\in\zeta\left(\wp_{S}\right)$$

Further let  $\Theta_A$ ,  $\Theta_B \in \zeta(\varphi_S)$ . Let  $J \in \Theta_A \bigcap \Theta_B$  imply  $J \in \Theta_A$  and  $J \in \Theta_B$ . Then  $A \notin J$  and  $B \notin J$ . Suppose that  $A \cap B \subseteq J$ . As S is both regular and intra-regular hence by the Theorem 3.6,  $A \cap B = (A \cap B) \cap (B \cap A)$ . Therefore  $(A \cap B) \cap (B \cap A) \subseteq J$  and J is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S imply  $A \subseteq J$  or  $B \subseteq J$ , which is a contradiction to  $A \notin J$  and  $B \notin J$ . Hence  $A \cap B \notin J$  implies  $J \in \Theta_{A \cap B}$ . Therefore  $\Theta_A \bigcap \Theta_B \subseteq \Theta_{A \cap B}$ . Now let  $J \in \Theta_{A \cap B}$ . Then  $A \cap B \notin J$  implies  $A \notin J$  and  $B \notin J$ . Therefore  $J \in \Theta_A$  and  $J \in \Theta_B$  imply  $J \in \Theta_A \bigcap \Theta_B$ . Thus  $\Theta_{A \cap B} \subseteq \Theta_A \bigcap \Theta_B$ . Therefore we get  $\Theta_A \bigcap \Theta_B = \Theta_{A \cap B} \in \zeta(\varphi_S)$ . Hence  $\zeta(\varphi_S)$  forms a topology on the set  $\varphi_S$ .

Now we define a function  $\phi : \mathcal{B} \longrightarrow \zeta(\wp_S)$  such that  $\phi(B) = \Theta_B$ . Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then

$$\phi(A \cap B) = \Theta_{A \cap B} = \Theta_A \bigcap \Theta_B = \phi(A) \cap \phi(B)$$

and

$$\phi(A+B) = \phi(\langle A \cup B \rangle_b) = \Theta_{\langle A \cup B \rangle_b} = \Theta_A \cup \Theta_B = \phi(A) \cup \phi(B).$$

Therefore  $\phi$  is a lattice homomorphism. Now let  $\phi(A) = \phi(B)$ . Hence we have  $\Theta_A = \Theta_B$  Suppose that  $A \neq B$ . Then there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $a \notin B$ . As B is a proper bi-ideal of S, by Theorem 3.4, there exists an irreducible bi-ideal J of S such that  $B \subseteq J$  and  $a \notin J$ . By the Theorem 3.11, the set of all bi-ideals of S is totally ordered under inclusion of sets and also by the Theorem 3.8, J is a strongly prime bi-ideal of S. Hence  $A \nsubseteq J$ .  $J \in \Theta_A = \Theta_B$  imply  $B \nsubseteq J$ . This contradicts to  $B \subseteq J$ . Therefore A = B. Hence  $\phi$  is a lattice isomorphism.  $\Box$ 

REMARK 4.1. In the same way we can construct the space  $\wp_S$  of strongly irreducible bi-ideals of S.

Acknowledgement. Author is thankful for the learned referee for his valuable suggestions.

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Received by editors 04.06.2016; Revised version 05.10.2016; Available online 10.10.2016.

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