

A NOTE ON  $\Gamma$ -SEMIFIELD

Sujit Kumar Sardar

Department of Mathematics

Faculty of Science

Jadavpur University

Jadavpur, Kolkata, 700032, INDIA

e-mail: sksardarjumath@gmail.com

**Abstract:** The purpose of this short note is to obtain some necessary and sufficient conditions for a  $\Gamma$ -semiring to be a  $\Gamma$ -semifield.

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**Key Words:**  $\Gamma$ -semiring,  $\Gamma$ -semifield, zero divisor free  $\Gamma$ -semiring

## 1. Introduction

In 1964, the notion of  $\Gamma$ -ring was introduced by N. Nobusawa [4] to provide algebraic home to  $\text{Hom}(A, B)$  and  $\text{Hom}(B, A)$  where  $A, B$  are additive Abelian groups. The notion of semiring was introduced by H.S. Vandiver [7] in 1934.  $\Gamma$ -semiring was introduced by M.M.K. Rao [5] in 1995 as a generalization of semiring as well as of  $\Gamma$ -ring and subsequently it was studied by Dutta and the present author [1], [2], [3]. It is well known that non-negative cone  $R_0^+$  of a totally ordered ring  $R$  forms a semiring with respect to the binary operations induced by those of  $R$ . It is surprising to note that in the non-positive cone  $R_0^-$  of  $R$  the induced multiplication is no longer closed and consequently it does not form a semiring with respect to the induced operations. But  $R_0^-$  becomes a  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  where  $S = \Gamma = R_0^-$ . In fact  $R_0^-$  forms a  $\Gamma$ -semifield.

The notion of  $\Gamma$ -semifield was introduced by Dutta and Sardar in [2]. They obtained some characterizations of  $\Gamma$ -semifield via operator semirings of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring. The purpose of this short note is to obtain some more characterizations of  $\Gamma$ -semifields. Among other results we deduce that a commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if  $S_\alpha$  is a semifield for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma - \{0\}$ .

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## 2. Preliminaries

We recall the following preliminaries to develop the paper.

**Definition 2.1.** (see [5]) Let  $S$  and  $\Gamma$  be additive commutative monoids. If there exists a mapping  $S \times \Gamma \times S \rightarrow S$  (with  $(m, \gamma, n) \rightarrow m\gamma n \in S$ ), satisfying the following conditions:

For all  $m, n, p \in S$  and for all  $\gamma, \mu \in \Gamma$ ,

(i)  $m\gamma(n + p) = m\gamma n + m\gamma p$ ;  $(m + n)\gamma p = m\gamma p + n\gamma p$ ;  $m(\gamma + \mu)n = m\gamma n + m\mu n$ ;

(ii)  $m\gamma(n\mu p) = (m\gamma n)\mu p$ ;

(iii)  $m\gamma 0 = 0\gamma m = 0$ ,  $0$  is the zero element of  $S$  and  $m\theta n = 0$ ,  $\theta$  is the zero element of  $\Gamma$  then  $S$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

**Example 1.** Let  $S$  be the set of all non-negative integers and  $\Gamma$  be the set of all non-negative even integers. Then  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semiring with respect to usual addition and multiplication of integers.

**Example 2.** Let  $S$  and  $\Gamma$  be respectively the collections of all functions from  $Q_0^+$  to  $Z_0^+$  and from  $Z_0^+$  to  $Q_0^+$ , where  $(Z_0^+, +)$  and  $(Q_0^+, +)$  be respectively the monoid of nonnegative integers and monoid of nonnegative rational numbers. Then  $(S, +)$  and  $(\Gamma, +)$  are monoids, where '+' is the addition of mappings. We define for  $f, g \in S$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ ,  $f\alpha g = f \circ \alpha \circ g$ , 'o' is the usual function composition. Then  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semiring.

If  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of a  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  and  $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$ , we denote by  $A\Delta B$ , the subset of  $S$  consisting of all finite sums of the form  $\sum_i a_i \alpha_i b_i$ , where  $a_i \in A, b_i \in B$  and  $\alpha_i \in \Delta$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. An additive subsemigroup  $I$  of  $S$  is called a left(right) ideal of  $S$  if  $S\Gamma I \subseteq I$  ( $I\Gamma S \subseteq I$ ). If  $I$  is both a left ideal and right ideal then  $I$  is called a two-sided ideal or simply an ideal of  $S$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A  $\Gamma$ -semiring is said to be commutative if  $a\alpha b = b\alpha a$  for all  $a, b \in S, \alpha \in \Gamma$ .

**Definition 2.4.** A  $\Gamma$ -semiring is said to be zero divisor free (ZDF) if  $a\alpha b = 0$  implies that either  $a = 0$  or  $\alpha = 0$  or  $b = 0$  where  $a, b \in S$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

**Definition 2.5.** A commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is said to be  $\Gamma$ -semifield if for any  $a (\neq 0) \in S$  and for any  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  there exists  $b \in S, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $a\alpha b\beta d = d$  for all  $d \in S$ .

**Example 3.** Let  $S = \Gamma = Q_0^-$  where  $Q_0^-$  is the set of all non-positive rational numbers. Then  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield with respect to usual addition and multiplication of reals.

**Definition 2.6.** (see [6]) A  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is said to be simple if it has no proper ideals.

**Theorem 2.7.** (see [6]) Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. Then  $S_\alpha$  is a group if and only if  $S$  is a simple  $\Gamma$ -semigroup.

**Corollary 2.8.** (see [6]) Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. If  $S_\alpha$  is a group for some  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  then  $S_\alpha$  is a group for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

**Definition 2.9.** (see [6]) A  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -group if  $S_\alpha$  is a group for some (and hence for all)  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

Combining Definition 2.6, Theorem 2.7, Corollary 2.8 and Definition 2.9 we easily deduce the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.10.** A  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is  $\Gamma$ -group if and only if  $S$  has no proper ideals.

**Theorem 2.11.** (see [2]) A commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if  $S$  is ZDF and does not possess any nontrivial proper ideal.

**Definition 2.12.** (see [2]) Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semiring and  $F$  be the free additive commutative semigroup generated by  $S \times \Gamma$ . Then the relation  $\rho$  on  $F$ , defined by  $\sum_{i=1}^m (x_i, \alpha_i) \rho \sum_{j=1}^n (y_j, \beta_j)$  if and only if  $\sum_{i=1}^m x_i \alpha_i a = \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \beta_j a$  for all  $a \in S$  ( $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ) is a congruence on  $F$ . Congruence class containing  $\sum_{i=1}^m (x_i, \alpha_i)$  is denoted by  $\sum_{i=1}^m [x_i, \alpha_i]$ .

Then  $F/\rho$  is an additive commutative semigroup. Now  $F/\rho$  forms a semiring with the multiplication defined by

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^m [x_i, \alpha_i] \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n [y_j, \beta_j] \right) = \sum_{ij} [x_i \alpha_i y_j, \beta_j].$$

This semiring is denoted by  $L$  and called the left operator semiring of the  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$ .

Dually the right operator semiring  $R$  of the  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  has been defined where  $R = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m [\alpha_i, x_i] : \alpha_i \in \Gamma, x_i \in S, i = 1, 2, \dots, m; m \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \right\}$  and the multiplication on  $R$  is defined as

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^m [\alpha_i, x_i] \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n [\beta_j, y_j] \right) = \sum_{ij} [\alpha_i, x_i \beta_j y_j].$$

**Theorem 2.13.** (see [2]) A ZDF, commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if the left operator semiring  $L$  (the right operator semiring  $R$ ) is a semifield.

### 3. Main Results

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $S$  be a ZDF commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring and  $L, R$  be respectively the left operator semiring and right operator semiring of  $S$ . Then  $L$  is a semifield if and only if  $R$  is a semifield.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $L$  is a semifield. Then by Theorem 2.13,  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield. So by applying Theorem 2.13 again we see that  $R$  is a semifield. The reverse argument shows that if  $R$  is a semifield the  $L$  is a semifield.  $\square$

**Remark 1.** It is well known that if  $S$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring then  $L$  and  $R$  are isomorphic as semirings via the mapping  $\sum_{i=1}^m [x_i, \alpha_i] \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m [\alpha_i, x_i]$ . Hence in the statement of the above theorem we may omit the condition ZDF.

**Theorem 3.2.** *A commutative ZDF  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if  $\{0\}$  is a maximal ideal of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semifield. Then by Theorem 2.11,  $S$  has no proper non trivial ideals. Consequently,  $\{0\}$  is a maximal ideal of  $S$ .

Conversely, suppose the commutative ZDF  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is such that  $\{0\}$  is a maximal ideal of  $S$ . Then  $S$  does not possess any non trivial proper ideal. Consequently, by Theorem 2.11,  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.3.** *A  $\Gamma$ -semifield is ZDF.*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semifield. Let for  $a, b \in S, \alpha \in \Gamma, a\alpha b = 0$ . Let  $a \neq 0, \alpha \neq 0$ . Then by hypothesis there exists  $c \in S, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $a\alpha c\beta d = d$  (cf. Definition 2.5) for all  $d \in S$ . So, in particular,  $b = a\alpha c\beta b = a\alpha b\beta c$  (using commutativity of  $S$ )  $0\beta c = 0$ . By applying similar argument we deduce that  $b \neq 0, \alpha \neq 0$  imply  $c = 0$  and  $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$  give  $\alpha = 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $S$  be a commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring. Then  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if  $S$  is ZDF and  $S' = S - \{0\}$  is a  $\Gamma$ -group.*

*Proof.* Let the commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semifield. and  $a, b \in S'$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma'$ . Then by Proposition 3.3,  $S$  is ZDF. Hence  $a\alpha b \neq 0$  whence  $a\alpha b \in S'$ . Hence  $S'$  is a  $\Gamma'$ -semigroup. Let  $P$  be an ideal of the  $\Gamma'$ -semigroup  $S'$  and  $a \in P$ . Then  $a \neq 0$ . So for  $\alpha \in \Gamma'$  there exist  $b \in S, \beta \in \Gamma$  such that  $a\alpha b\beta s = s$  for all  $s \in S$ . Clearly,  $b \in S'$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma'$ . Thus we see that  $s = a\alpha b\beta s \in P \forall s \in S$ . Hence  $P = S'$ . Consequently,  $S'$  is a  $\Gamma'$ -group.

Conversely, suppose  $S'$  is a  $\Gamma'$ -group. Let  $P (\neq 0)$  be an ideal of the  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  and let  $a (\neq 0) \in P$ . Then  $a \in S'$ . By hypothesis, for any  $\alpha \in \Gamma', S'_\alpha$  is a group (cf. Definition 2.9). Hence there exists  $a' \in S'_\alpha$  such that  $a\alpha a'$  is the identity of  $S'_\alpha$ . Hence we obtain  $a\alpha a'\alpha s = e\alpha s = s$  for all  $s \in S'_\alpha = S'$ . Again  $a\alpha a'\alpha 0 = 0$ . Hence

we deduce that  $a\alpha a'\alpha s = s$  for all  $s \in S$ . Further  $P$  being ideal of  $S$ ,  $a\alpha a'\alpha s \in P$  for all  $s \in S$ . Consequently,  $P = S$ . Hence by Theorem 2.11,  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** *A commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if for any non-zero element  $a$  of  $S$  and for  $\alpha \in \Gamma'$  there exists an element  $a' \in S$  such that  $a\alpha a'\alpha b = b$  for all  $b \in S$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semifield and let  $a \in S' = S - \{0\}$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma'$ . By the above theorem  $S'$  is a  $\Gamma'$ -group. Hence  $S'_\alpha$  is a group. So there exists  $a' \in S'_\alpha$  such that  $a\alpha a' = e$ , the identity of  $S'_\alpha$ . Then  $a\alpha a'\alpha b = e\alpha b = b$  for all  $b \in S'_\alpha = S'$ . Also  $a\alpha a'\alpha 0 = 0$ . Consequently,  $a\alpha a'\alpha b = b$  for all  $b \in S$ .

Converse follows from the definition of  $\Gamma$ -semifield.  $\square$

It is well known that each  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  or a  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  gives rise to a multiplication such that  $S$  becomes a semigroup or a semiring. To conclude the paper we obtain the following result as an easy consequence of the above theorem which characterizes a  $\Gamma$ -semifield  $S$  in terms of the semiring  $S_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma' = \Gamma - \{0\}$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** *A commutative  $\Gamma$ -semiring  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semifield if and only if  $S_\alpha$  is a semifield for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma'$ .*

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