

# Quotient semiring of a $k$ -semiring by semiprimary $k$ -fuzzy ideals

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## Abstract

In this paper, we define and study the semiprimary  $k$ -fuzzy ideals in a commutative  $k$ -semiring and characterize the quotient semiring  $R/A$  of a  $k$ -semiring  $R$  by a semiprimary  $k$ -fuzzy ideal  $A$ . In particular, we show that every zero divisor of  $R/A$  is nilpotent.

**Key Words :**  $k$ -semiring, Semiprimary  $k$ -fuzzy ideal, Factor semiring, Extension fuzzy ideal.

## 1. Introduction

Chun, Kim and Kim [2] constructed an extension of a  $k$ -semiring and studied a  $k$ -ideal of a  $k$ -semiring. The first author et al.[3] constructed the quotient semiring of a  $k$ -semiring by a  $k$ -ideal. Liu [9] introduced and studied the notion of fuzzy ideal of a ring. Following Liu, Mukherjee and Sen [12] defined and examined fuzzy prime ideals of a ring. Kumbhojkar and Bapat [5,6] defined and studied the ring  $R/J$  of the cosets of the fuzzy ideal  $J$ .

Yue [14] introduced the concept of a primary  $L$ -fuzzy ideal and a prime  $L$ -fuzzy ideal, and proved some fundamental propositions. Primary fuzzy ideals were further investigated by Malik and Mordeson[11].

Kumar [7] extended the concept of fuzzy ideal to fuzzy semiprimary ideals in a ring. Also Malik and Mordeson [10] gave the necessary and sufficient conditions for a fuzzy subring or a fuzzy ideal  $A$  of a commutative ring  $R$  to be extended to one  $A^e$  of a commutative ring  $S$  containing  $R$  as a subring.

Kim and Park [4] defined and studied the notion of the  $k$ -fuzzy ideal in a semiring, and they also introduced and studied the quotient semiring  $R/A$  of a  $k$ -semiring  $R$  by a  $k$ -fuzzy ideal  $A$ .

The purpose of this paper is to define and study the semiprimary  $k$ -fuzzy ideals in a commutative  $k$ -semiring and characterize the quotient semiring  $R/A$  of a  $k$ -semiring  $R$  by a semiprimary  $k$ -fuzzy ideal  $A$ . In particular, we show that every zero divisor of  $R/A$  is nilpotent.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we review some definitions and some results which will be used in the later section.

**Definition 2-1[2].** A set  $R$  together with associative binary operations called addition and multiplication (denoted by  $+$  and  $\cdot$  respectively) will be called a semiring provided:

- (1) addition is a commutative operation,
  - (2) there exists  $0 \in R$  such that  $x+0=x$  and  $x0=0x=0$  for each  $x \in R$ ,
- and
- (3) multiplication distributes over addition both from the left and the right.

**Definition 2-2[2].** A semiring  $R$  will be called a  $k$ -semiring if for any  $a, b \in R$  there exists a unique element  $c$  in  $R$  such that either  $b = a + c$  or  $a = b + c$  but not both.

**Definition 2-3[3].** A non-empty subset  $I$  of a semiring  $R$  is called a subsemiring if  $I$  is itself a semiring with respect to the binary operations defined in  $R$ . A subsemiring  $I$  is called an ideal of  $R$  if  $r \in R, a \in I$ , imply  $ar$  and  $ra \in I$ .

**Definition 2-4[3].** An ideal  $I$  of a semiring  $R$  is called a  $k$ -ideal if  $r + a \in I$  implies  $r \in I$  for each  $r \in R$  and each  $a \in I$ .

Let  $R$  be a  $k$ -semiring. Let  $R'$  be a set of the same cardinality with  $R - \{0\}$  such that  $R \cap R' = \emptyset$  and let denote the image of  $a \in R - \{0\}$  under a given bijection by  $a'$ . Let  $\oplus$  and  $\odot$  denote addition and multiplication respectively on a set  $\overline{R} = R \cup R'$  as follows:

$$a \oplus b = \begin{cases} a + b & \text{if } a, b \in R \\ (x + y)' & \text{if } a = x', b = y' \in R' \\ c & \text{if } a \in R, b = y' \in R', a = y + c \\ c' & \text{if } a \in R, b = y' \in R', a + c = y, \end{cases}$$

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where  $c$  is the unique element in  $R$  such that either  $a = y + c$  or  $a + c = y$  but not both, and

$$a \odot b = \begin{cases} ab & \text{if } a, b \in R \\ xy & \text{if } a = x', b = y' \in R' \\ (ay)' & \text{if } a \in R, b = y' \in R' \\ (xb)' & \text{if } a = x' \in R', b \in R, \end{cases}$$

It can be shown that these operations are well defined.

**Theorem 2-5[2].** If  $R$  is a  $k$ -semiring, then  $(\overline{R}, \oplus, \odot)$  is a ring, called the extension ring of  $R$ .

**Remark.** Let  $\ominus a$  denote the additive inverse of any element  $a \in R$  and write  $a \oplus (\ominus b)$  simply as  $a \ominus b$ . Then it is clear that  $a' = \ominus a$  and  $a = \ominus a'$  for all  $a \in R$ .

Note that if  $R$  is a  $k$ -semiring with identity, then  $\overline{R}$  is a ring with identity.

**Theorem 2-6[2].** Let  $R$  be a  $k$ -semiring,  $I$  an ideal, and  $I' = \{a' \in R' \mid a \in I\}$ . Then  $I$  is a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  if and only if  $\overline{I} = I \cup I'$  is an ideal of the extension ring  $\overline{R}$ , called the extension ideal of  $I$ .

Note that if  $R$  is a  $k$ -semiring and  $\overline{R}$  is the extension ring of  $R$ , then each ideal of  $\overline{R}$  is the extension ideal of a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  and each  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  is the intersection of its extension ideal and  $R$  (see [2]).

Let  $R$  be a  $k$ -semiring and  $\overline{R}$  its extension ring. Let  $I$  be a  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  and  $\overline{I}$  its extension ideal of  $\overline{R}$ . Define a relation  $a \equiv b$  by  $a \oplus b' \in \overline{I}$ , where  $a, b \in R$ . Then this relation is an equivalence relation on  $R$ . Let  $a \oplus I$  be the equivalence class containing  $a \in R$  determined by  $\equiv$ . Let  $R/I = \{a \oplus I \mid a \in R\}$  be the set of all equivalence classes determined by  $\equiv$ .

**Theorem 2-7[3].** Let  $I$  be a  $k$ -ideal of a  $k$ -semiring  $R$  and  $\overline{I}$  its extension ideal of extension ring  $\overline{R}$ . Then  $a \oplus I = (a + \overline{I}) \cap R$ , where  $a \in R$ .

**Theorem 2-8[3].** Let  $I$  be a  $k$ -ideal of a  $k$ -semiring  $R$ . Then  $R/I = \{a \oplus I \mid a \in R\}$  is a  $k$ -semiring under the two operations

$$(a \oplus I) \oplus (b \oplus I) = (a + b) \oplus I \text{ and } (a \oplus I) \odot (b \oplus I) = (ab) \oplus I.$$

**Definition 2-9[4].** A fuzzy ideal of a semiring  $R$  is a function  $A : R \rightarrow [0, 1]$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (1)  $A(x + y) \geq \min\{A(x), A(y)\}$
- (2)  $A(xy) \geq \max\{A(x), A(y)\}$  for all  $x, y \in R$

**Lemma 2-10[4].** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy ideal of a semiring

$R$ . Then  $A(x) \leq A(0)$  for all  $x \in R$ .

**Definition 2-11[4].** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy ideal of a semiring  $R$ . Then  $A$  is called a  $k$ -fuzzy ideal of  $R$  if  $A(x + y) = A(0)$  and  $A(y) = A(0)$  imply  $A(x) = A(0)$ .

**Definition 2-12[4].** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy subset of a semiring  $R$ . Then the set

$A_t = \{x \in R \mid A(x) \geq t\}$  ( $t \in [0, 1]$ ) is called the level subset of  $R$  with respect to  $A$ .

**Theorem 2-13[4].** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy ideal of a semiring  $R$ . Then the level set  $A_t$  ( $t \leq A(0)$ ) is the ideal of  $R$ .

**Theorem 2-14[4].** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy ideal of a semiring  $R$ . If  $A_t$  is  $k$ -ideal of  $R$  for each  $t$  ( $t \leq A(0)$ ), then  $A$  is  $k$ -fuzzy ideal of  $R$ .

However, the converse of Theorem 2-14 does not hold by the following example.

Let  $R = Z^*$ , the set of nonnegative integers. Define a fuzzy subset  $A$  of  $R$  by

$$A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in (2) \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } x \in (2, 3) - (2) \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in Z^* - (2, 3). \end{cases}$$

Then  $A$  is a  $k$ -fuzzy ideal but

$$A_{\frac{1}{2}} = \{x \in Z^* \mid A(x) \geq \frac{1}{2}\} = (2, 3) \text{ is not } k\text{-ideal of } R.$$

However, if  $A$  is a  $k$ -fuzzy ideal of  $R$ , then  $A_R = \{x \in R \mid A(x) = A(0)\}$  is also  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ .

In general, It is not true that if  $A$  is a fuzzy ideal of a semiring  $R$ , then  $A_t$  ( $t \leq A(0)$ ) is  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ , for we have the following example.

**Example 2-15[4].** Let  $R = Z^*$ , the set of nonnegative integers and let  $I = (2, 3)$  be an ideal of  $R$  generated by 2 and 3. Define a fuzzy subset  $A$  of

$R$  by

$$A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in I \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin I \end{cases}$$

Then  $A$  is a fuzzy ideal but  $A_R = I$  is not  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ .

**Definition 2-16[9].** A fuzzy ideal of a ring  $R$  is a function  $A : R \rightarrow [0, 1]$  satisfying the following axioms

- (1)  $A(x + y) \geq \min\{A(x), A(y)\}$

- (2)  $A(xy) \geq \max\{A(x), A(y)\}$
- (3)  $A(-x) = A(x)$

Let  $R$  be a commutative  $k$ -semiring,  $\bar{R}$  its extension ring. If  $A$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $R$  such that all its level subsets are  $k$ -ideals of  $R$ , then  $R = \bigcup_{t \in \text{Im}A} A_t$ ,  $\bar{R} = \bigcup_{t \in \text{Im}A} \bar{A}_t$  and  $s > t$  if and only if  $A_s \subset A_t$  if and only if  $\bar{A}_s \subset \bar{A}_t$ . Thus we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2-17[4].** Let  $R$  be a commutative  $k$ -semiring,  $\bar{R}$  its extension ring. Let  $A$  be a fuzzy ideal of  $R$  such that all its level subsets are  $k$ -ideals of  $R$ . Define the fuzzy subset  $\bar{A}$  of  $\bar{R}$  by for all  $x \in \bar{R}$ ,  $\bar{A}(x) = \sup\{t | x \in \bar{A}_t, t \in \text{Im}A\}$ . Then  $\bar{A}$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $\bar{R}$ .

**Theorem 2-18[4].** Let  $A$  be as in Theorem 2-17. Then  $\bar{A}$  is an extension of  $A$ .

**Definition 2-19[4].** Let  $A$  be as in Theorem 2-17 and let  $\bar{A}$  be an extension ideal of  $A$ . The fuzzy subset  $x+A : R \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by  $(x+A)(z) = \bar{A}(z \oplus x')$  is called a coset of the fuzzy ideal  $A$ .

**Theorem 2-20[4].** Let  $R, \bar{R}, A$  and  $\bar{A}$  be as in Theorem 2-17. Then  $x+A = y+A$  ( $x, y \in R$ ) if and only if  $\bar{A}(x \oplus y') = A(0)$ .

**Theorem 2-21[4].** Let  $A$  be as in Theorem 2-17 and  $\bar{A}$  an extension of  $A$ . If  $x+A = u+A$  and  $y+A = v+A$  ( $x, y, u, v \in R$ ), then

- (1)  $x+y+A = u+v+A$
- (2)  $xy+A = uv+A$

Theorem 2-21 allows us to define two binary operation "+" and "·" on the set  $R/A$  of cosets of the fuzzy ideal  $A$  as follows:

$$(x+A) + (y+A) = x+y+A$$

and

$$(x+A) \cdot (y+A) = xy+A$$

It is easy to show that  $R/A$  is a semiring under these well-defined binary operations with additive identity  $A$  and multiplicative identity  $1+A$ . In this case, the semiring  $R/A$  is called the factor semiring or the quotient semiring of  $R$  by  $A$ .

**Theorem 2-22[4].** Let  $A$  be as in Theorem 2-17 and  $\bar{A}$  an extension

of  $A$ . Then  $R/A \cong \bar{R}/\bar{A}$ .

### 3. Main results

In this section, we have some properties of the quotient ring  $R/A$  of all fuzzy cosets of a semiprimary  $k$ -fuzzy ideal  $A$  of a commutative  $k$ -semiring  $R$ . Throughout this paper unless otherwise  $R$  is a commutative  $k$ -semiring with identity.

**Definition 3-1.** A fuzzy ideal  $A$  of a semiring  $R$  is called fuzzy semiprimary if for any fuzzy ideals  $B$  and  $C$  of  $R$ , the conditions  $BC \subseteq A$  and  $B(x) > A(x^m)$  for some  $x \in R$  and for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  together imply that given  $y \in R$ , there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $C(y) \leq A(y^n)$  where  $\mathbb{N}$  is the set of natural numbers.

This definition which is given in a semiring is similar to the Definition 3-1 of [7].

**Theorem 3-2.** An ideal  $I$  of a commutative semiring with identity  $R$  is semiprimary if and only if  $\chi_I$ , the characteristic function of  $I$  is a fuzzy semiprimary ideal of  $R$ .

**Proof.** It is similar to the proof of Theorem 3-1 and Theorem 3-2 of [7].

**Theorem 3-3.** If  $R$  is a commutative semiring with identity and  $A$  is any semiprimary fuzzy ideal of  $R$ , then  $A_t$ , where  $t \in \text{Im}(A)$  is a semiprimary ideal of  $R$ .

**Proof.** It is similar to the proof of Theorem 3-4 of [7].

However, the converse of this theorem is not true by the following example.

**Example 3-4.** Let  $Z^*$  denote the semiring of nonnegative integers. Define a fuzzy subset  $A : Z^* \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by

$$A(x) = \begin{cases} t_0 & \text{if } x \in \langle 16 \rangle, \\ t_1 & \text{if } x \in \langle 8 \rangle - \langle 16 \rangle, \\ t_2 & \text{if } x \in \langle 4 \rangle - \langle 8 \rangle, \\ t_3 & \text{if } x \in Z^* - \langle 4 \rangle, \end{cases}$$

where  $1 > t_0 > t_1 > t_2 > t_3 > 0$ .

Then  $A$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $Z^*$  and the chain of level ideals of  $A$  is given by  $\langle 16 \rangle \subset \langle 8 \rangle \subset \langle 4 \rangle \subset Z^*$

Define fuzzy subsets  $B$  and  $C : Z^* \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by

$$B(x) = \begin{cases} \beta & \text{if } x \in \langle 16 \rangle, \text{ where } t_0 < \beta < 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in Z^* - \langle 16 \rangle \end{cases}$$

and  $C(x) = t_0$  for all  $x \in Z^*$ .

Clearly  $B$  and  $C$  are fuzzy ideals of  $Z^*$  and

$$(B \cap C)(x) = \begin{cases} t_0 & \text{if } x \in \langle 16 \rangle \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Further  $BC \leq B \cap C \leq A$ .

But  $B(16) = \beta > t_0 = A(16^m)$  for all  $m \in N$  and  $C(5) = t_0 > t_3 = A(5^n)$  for all  $n \in N$ . It follows that  $A$  is not fuzzy semiprimary. However, each level ideal of  $A$  is semiprimary.

**Lemma 3-5.** Let  $A$  be as in Theorem 2-17. If  $A(x) < A(y)$  for some  $x, y \in R$ , then  $\overline{A}(x \oplus y') = A(x) = \overline{A}(y \oplus x')$ .

**Proof.** It is clear that  $\overline{A}(x \oplus y') = \overline{A}(y \oplus x')$ . We must show that  $\overline{A}(x \oplus y') = A(x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A(x) &= \overline{A}(x) = \overline{A}(x \oplus y' \oplus y) \\ &\geq \min\{A(x \oplus y'), A(y)\} \\ &= \overline{A}(x \oplus y'), \end{aligned}$$

since  $\overline{A}(x) < \overline{A}(y)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{A}(x \oplus y') &\geq \min\{\overline{A}(x), \overline{A}(y)\} \\ &= \overline{A}(x) = A(x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A(x) = \overline{A}(x \oplus y')$ .

**Theorem 3-6.** Let  $R, \overline{R}, A$  and  $\overline{A}$  be as in Theorem 2-17. If  $A$  is a semiprimary fuzzy ideal of  $R$ , then every zero divisor of  $R/A$  is nilpotent.

**Proof.** Let  $x+A$  be any zero divisor of  $R/A$ . Then there exists nonzero fuzzy coset  $y+A$  in  $R/A$  such that  $(x+A)(y+A) = A$ . So  $A(xy) = A(0)$  by Theorem 2-20. Since  $A$  is fuzzy semiprimary,  $A_R$  is semiprimary by Theorem 3-3. Thus  $x^m \in A_R$  or  $y^n \in A_R$  for some  $m, n \in N$ . Let  $x^m \in A_R$ , then  $A(x^m) = A(0)$ . So  $A(r) \leq A(0) = A(x^m)$  for all  $r \in R$ . If  $A(r) < A(x^m)$  for some  $r \in R$ , then by Lemma 3-5,  $\overline{A}(r \oplus (x^m)') = A(r)$ . If  $A(r) = A(0) = A(x^m)$ , then  $x^m, r \in \overline{A}_{\overline{R}}$  and so  $\overline{A}(r \oplus (x^m)') = \overline{A}(0) = A(0) = A(r)$ . Thus in any event, it is shown that  $\overline{A}(r \oplus (x^m)') = A(r)$  for all  $r \in R$ . Since  $\overline{A}(r \oplus (x^m)') = (x^m + A)(r)$ ,  $(x^m + A)(r) = A(r)$  for all  $r \in R$ . Hence  $x+A$  is nilpotent. In case  $y^n \in A_R$  for some  $n \in N$ , then a similar argument will confirm that  $y+A$  is nilpotent.

**Theorem 3-7.** Let  $A$  be as in Theorem 2-17. and  $R/A$  the semiring of all fuzzy cosets of  $A$  in  $R$ . If every zero divisor of  $R/A$  is nilpotent, then the ideal  $A_R$  is a semiprimary  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ .

**Proof.** Let  $xy \in A_R$ . Then  $A(xy) = A(0)$ . By Theorem 2-20,  $xy + A = A$ . By hypothesis,  $(x+A)^m = A$  or  $(y+A)^n = A$  for some  $m, n \in N$ . Thus  $A(x^m) = A(0)$  or  $A(y^n) = A(0)$  for some  $m, n \in N$ . Hence  $A_R$  is semiprimary and  $A_R$  is  $k$ -ideal by the condition of  $A$ . This completes the proof.

From Theorem 2-14, Theorem 2-22, Theorem 3-3, Theorem 3-6 and Theorem 3-7, we have the following result.

**Corollary 3-8.** Let  $A$  be a semiprimary fuzzy  $k$ -ideal as in Theorem 2-17.

Then the following statements are equivalent.

- (1)  $A_R$  is a semiprimary  $k$ -ideal of  $R$ .
- (2) every zero divisor of  $R/A$  is nilpotent.
- (3) every zero divisor of  $R/A_R$  is nilpotent.

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