# Generalized Adjoint Semigroups of a Ring

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Abstract. In this paper, we introduce generalized adjoint semigroups (GA-semigroups) of a ring R. We construct generalized adjoint semigroups on a ring R by means of bitranslations of R. It is shown that GA-semigroups of a  $\pi$ -regular ring are  $\pi$ -regular. As an application we deduce that in any ring, idempotents can be lifted modulo  $\pi$ -regular ideals. GA-semigroups containing idempotents are described in terms of the ring of a Morita context.

## 1. Introduction

Let R be a ring not necessarily with identity. The composition defined by  $a \circ b = a+b+ab$  for any  $a, b \in R$  is usually called the circle or adjoint multiplication of R, which plays a role in the theory of Jacobson radical. It is well-known that  $(R, \circ)$  is a monoid with identity 0, called the circle or adjoint semigroup of R. There are many interesting connections between a ring and its adjoint semigroup, which were studied in several papers, for example, [8, 13, 14, 16, 22, 23, 24, 30, 31]. Typical results are to describe the adjoint semigroup of a given ring and the ring with a given semigroup as its adjoint semigroup.

The circle multiplication of a ring satisfies the following generalized distributive laws:

$$a \circ (b + c - d) = a \circ b + a \circ c - a \circ d, \tag{1}$$

$$(b+c-d) \circ a = b \circ a + c \circ a - d \circ a, \tag{2}$$

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or equivalently,

$$a \circ (b+c) = a \circ b + a \circ c - a \circ 0,$$
  
$$(b+c) \circ a = b \circ a + c \circ a - 0 \circ a.$$

which was observed in [1]. Thus as generalizations of the circle multiplication of a ring, a binary operation  $\diamond$  (associative or nonassociative) on an Abelian group A satisfying the generalized distributive laws have been studied by several authors making use of different terminologies, for example, pseudo-ring in [33], weak rings in [10], quasirings in [11], prerings in [3, 4, 29]. In particular, the so-called (m, n)-distributive rings studied in [5, 26, 27, 36] also satisfy the generalized distributive laws (1) and (2). To such a system  $(A, +, \diamond)$  there corresponds a unique associated ordinary ring. But, in general, even if A is a ring, there may exist no relation between the ring A and the associated ring of  $(A, +, \diamond)$ . In this paper, we are interested in a binary operation  $\diamond$  on a ring R, satisfying the associative law, the generalized distributive laws as (1) and (2), and the compatibility:

$$xy = x \diamond y - x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond y + 0 \diamond 0.$$

This is equivalent to say that  $(R, +, \diamond)$  is a weak ring such that the ring R is exactly the associated ring of  $(R, +, \diamond)$ . Such a binary operation  $\diamond$  is called a generalized adjoint multiplication on R and the semigroup  $(R, \diamond)$  is called a generalized adjoint semigroup of R, abbreviated GA-semigroup, which is a generalization of the multiplicative semigroup and the adjoint semigroup of a ring R. Essentially, the multiplicative and adjoint semigroup of R are exactly generalized adjoint semigroups of R with zero and identity, respectively (cf. Theorem 2.14). The other generalization of adjoint multiplication was studied in [21].

The aim of this paper is to describe generalized adjoint semigroups of a ring R. In Section 2, we present a way to construct generalized adjoint multiplications on a ring R by means of bitranslations of R, characterize a GA-semigroup with identity or zero and describe GA-semigroups of a ring with 1.

In Section 3, we prove that GA-semigroups of a  $\pi$ -regular ring are  $\pi$ -regular.

In Section 4, we first prove that a GA-semigroup containing idempotents can be represented as a GA-semigroup of the ring of a Morita context. Then we present a sufficient condition and a necessary condition for a GA-semigroup to contain idempotents, in virtue of which we prove that in any ring, idempotents can be lifted modulo a  $\pi$ -regular ideal. This generalizes a classical result in ring theory which states that idempotents modulo a nil ideal can be lifted ([28]) and the ring-theoretic analogue of a result of Edwards ([19, Corollary 2]) which extends the well-known Lallement' lemma to eventually regular semigroups (i.e.,  $\pi$ -regular semigroups). Finally, we prove that GA-semigroups of rings with DCC on principal right ideals contain idempotents.

In the forthcoming paper [17], we characterize the rings with a GA-semigroup having a property  $\mathbf{P}$  and its such GA-semigroups, where  $\mathbf{P}$  stands for orthodox, right inverse, inverse, pseudoinverse, *E*-unitary, and completely simple, respectively.

Although a ring R in this paper needs not contain identity, it is convenient to use a formal identity 1, which can be regarded as the identity of a unitary ring containing R, since R can be always embedded into a ring with identity 1; for example, we can write  $a \circ b = (1 + a)(1 + b) - 1$  for any  $a, b \in R$  and write  $x^0 = 1$ for any  $x \in R$  by making use of a formal 1.

For  $x \in R$  and a positive integer n we denote by  $x^{[n]}$  the *n*-th power of x with respect to a generalized adjoint multiplication  $\diamond$ , and  $x^{[0]}$  stands for an empty word.

A radical ring means a Jacobson radical ring.

For the algebraic theory and terminology on semigroups we will refer to [9, 20, 25].

## 2. A construction of GA-semigroups

**Definition 2.1.** Let R be a ring. A binary operation  $\diamond$  on R is called a generalized adjoint multiplication on R, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) the associative law:  $x \diamond (y \diamond z) = (x \diamond y) \diamond z$ ;
- (ii) the generalized distributive laws:

$$\begin{aligned} x \diamond (y+z) &= x \diamond y + x \diamond z - x \diamond 0, \\ (y+z) \diamond x &= y \diamond x + z \diamond x - 0 \diamond x; \end{aligned}$$

(iii) the compatibility:  $xy = x \diamond y - x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond y + 0 \diamond 0$ .

The semigroup  $(R,\diamond)$  is called a generalized adjoint semigroup of R, abbreviated GA-semigroup and denoted by  $R^{\diamond}$ .

We now remark that for a binary operation  $\diamond$  on R, the generalized distributive laws are equivalent to

$$w \diamond (x + y - z) = w \circ x + w \diamond y - w \diamond z,$$
  
$$(x + y - z) \diamond w = x \circ w + y \diamond w - z \diamond w.$$

**Example 2.2.** The multiplicative semigroup  $R^{\bullet}$  of a ring R is a GA-semigroup of R with zero 0. The adjoint semigroup  $R^{\circ}$  of R is a GA-semigroup of R with identity 0.

**Lemma 2.3.** For any  $x_i, y_j \in R$ , and  $p_i, q_j \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\sum p_i = \sum q_j = 0$ , we have

$$\left(\sum p_i x_i\right) \left(\sum q_j y_j\right) = \sum p_i q_j (x_i \diamond y_j).$$

*Proof.* Set  $p = \sum p_i$ , and  $q = \sum q_j$ . Then we have that

$$\begin{split} \left(\sum p_i x_i\right) \left(\sum q_j y_j\right) \\ &= \sum p_i q_j (x_i y_j) \\ &= \sum p_i q_j (x_i \diamond y_j) - \sum p_i q_j (x_i \diamond 0) \\ &- \sum p_i q_j (0 \diamond y_j) + \sum p_i q_j (0 \diamond 0) \quad \text{(by the compatibility)} \\ &= \sum p_i q_j (x_i \diamond y_j) - q \sum p_i (x_i \diamond 0) - p \sum q_j (0 \diamond y_j) + pq (0 \diamond 0) \\ &= \sum p_i q_j (x_i \diamond y_j), \end{split}$$

as desired.

**Corollary 2.4.** If  $x \diamond y = y \diamond x$ , then  $(x - y)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^{n-i} \binom{n}{i} x^{[i]} \diamond y^{[n-i]}$ .

*Proof.* As the usual binomial theorem, the corollary can be proved by use of an induction on n and Lemma 2.3.

Recall that a bitranslation is a pair  $(\lambda, \rho) \in End(R_R) \times End(R)$  such that  $x\lambda(y) = \rho(x)y$  for any  $x, y \in R$ . The set  $\Omega(R)$  of all bitranslations of R is a subring of  $End(R_R) \times End(R)$  with identity  $(1_R, 1_R)$ , called the translational hull of R. For  $a \in R$ , let  $\lambda_a$  and  $\rho_a$  be the left and right multiplications by a, respectively. Then  $(\lambda_a, \rho_a)$  is a bitranslation of R, denoted by  $\pi_a$ , and  $\pi : a \mapsto \pi_a$  defines a ring homomorphism form R into  $\Omega(R)$  such that the image  $\pi(R)$  is an ideal of  $\Omega(R)$  and the kernel is  $Ann(R) = \{x \in R \mid xR = Rx = 0\}$ . Hence we can identify  $a \in R$  with  $\pi_a$  and R with  $\pi(R)$  whenever Ann(R) = 0. A bitranslation  $\theta = (\lambda, \rho)$  will be considered as a double operator on R defined by  $\theta x = \lambda(x)$  and  $x\theta = \rho(x)$  for any  $x \in R$ . Then  $\theta = \theta'$  if and only if  $\theta x = \theta' x$  and  $x\theta = x\theta'$  for any  $x \in R$ . A bitranslation  $\theta$  is called self-permutable if  $(\theta x)\theta = \theta(x\theta)$  for any  $x \in R$  ([32, 34, 35]).

For a self-permutable bitranslation  $\theta$ , there is no ambiguity if we write  $\theta xy\theta^2 z$ , for example.

By an associated pair of R we mean a pair  $(\theta, \vartheta) \in \Omega(R) \times R$  satisfying the following conditions:

(i)  $\theta \vartheta = \vartheta \theta$ ;

(ii)  $\theta$  is self-permutable;

(iii) 
$$\theta^2 = \theta + \pi_{\vartheta}$$
.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $(\theta, \vartheta)$  be an associated pair of a ring R and define

$$x \diamond y = xy + x\theta + \theta y + \vartheta \tag{3}$$

for any  $x, y \in R$ . Then  $\diamond$  is a generalized adjoint multiplication on R (called one induced by  $(\theta, \vartheta)$ ). Conversely, every generalized adjoint multiplication  $\diamond$  on R can be obtained in this fashion by setting  $\vartheta = 0 \diamond 0$ ,  $\theta x = 0 \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0$  and  $x\theta = x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0$ . Moreover, the correspondence  $(\theta, \vartheta) \rightarrow \diamond$  is a 1-1 correspondence between the associated pairs of R and generalized adjoint multiplications on R. *Proof.* Suppose that  $(\theta, \vartheta)$  is an associated pair of R and the operation  $\diamond$  is given by (3). Then the associative law is verified as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (x \diamond y) \diamond z \\ &= (xy + x\theta + \theta y + \vartheta) \diamond z \quad (by (3)) \\ &= xyz + x\theta z + \theta yz + \vartheta z + xy\theta + x\theta^2 + \theta y\theta + \vartheta \theta + \theta z + \vartheta \\ &= xyz + xy\theta + x\theta z + x\vartheta + x\theta + \theta yz + \theta y\theta + \theta z + \vartheta z + \theta \vartheta + \vartheta \\ &= xyz + xy\theta + x\theta z + x\vartheta + x\theta + \theta yz + \theta y\theta + \theta^2 z + \theta \vartheta + \vartheta \\ &= x \diamond (yz + y\theta + \theta z + \vartheta) \quad (by (3)) \\ &= x \diamond (y \diamond z). \end{aligned}$$

For the generalized distributive laws, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} x \diamond (y+z) \\ &= xy + xz + x\theta + \theta y + \theta z + \vartheta \quad (by (3)) \\ &= (xy + x\theta + \theta y + \vartheta) + (xz + x\theta + \theta z + \vartheta) - (x\theta + \vartheta) \\ &= x \diamond y + x \diamond z - x \diamond 0, \quad (by (3)) \end{aligned}$$

and similarly  $(y+z)\diamond x = y\diamond x + z\diamond x - 0\diamond x$ . The compatibility follows from

$$\begin{aligned} x \diamond y - x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond y + \vartheta \\ &= (xy + x\theta + \theta y + \vartheta) - (x\theta + \vartheta) - (\theta y + \vartheta) + \vartheta \quad (by (3)) \\ &= xy. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\diamond$  is a generalized circle multiplication on R.

Conversely, suppose  $\diamond$  is a generalized adjoint multiplication on R. Set  $\vartheta = 0 \diamond 0$ ,  $\lambda(x) = 0 \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0$ ,  $\rho(x) = x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0$  and  $\theta = (\lambda, \rho)$ . For any  $a, x, y \in R$ , we have that

$$\lambda(x+y) = 0 \diamond (x+y) - 0 \diamond 0 = 0 \diamond x + 0 \diamond y - 2\vartheta = \lambda(x) + \lambda(y),$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(x)a &= (0 \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0)(a - 0) \\ &= 0 \diamond x \diamond a - 0 \diamond x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0 \diamond a + 0 \diamond 0 \diamond 0 \\ &= 0 \diamond (x \diamond a - x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond a + 0 \diamond 0) - 0 \diamond 0 \\ &= 0 \diamond (xa) - 0 \diamond 0 \\ &= \lambda(xa), \end{aligned}$$
 (by Lemma 2.3)

which imply that  $\lambda \in End(R_R)$ . Symmetrically,  $\rho \in End(R_R)$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} x\lambda(y) &= (x-0)(0 \diamond y - 0 \diamond 0) \\ &= x \diamond 0 \diamond y - x \diamond 0 \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0 \diamond y + 0 \diamond 0 \diamond 0 \\ &= (x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0)(y - 0) \quad \text{(by Lemma 2.3)} \\ &= \rho(x)y. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\theta$  is a bitranslation of R such that  $\theta x = 0 \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0$  and  $x\theta = x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0$ . Hence  $\theta \vartheta = 0 \diamond \vartheta - 0 \diamond 0 = \vartheta \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0 = \vartheta \theta$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} (\theta x)\theta &= (0 \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0) \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0 = 0 \diamond x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0 \diamond 0, \\ \theta(x\theta) &= 0 \diamond (x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0) - 0 \diamond 0 = 0 \diamond x \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond 0 \diamond 0, \end{aligned}$$

we have that  $(\theta x)\theta = \theta(x\theta)$ , that is,  $\theta$  is self-permutable. Observing that

$$\begin{aligned} (\theta + \pi_{\vartheta})x &= \theta x + \vartheta x \\ &= 0 \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0 + \vartheta \diamond x - \vartheta \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond x + \vartheta \\ &= \vartheta \diamond x - 0 \diamond 0 - 0 \diamond \vartheta + 0 \diamond 0 \\ &= \theta (0 \diamond x) - \theta \vartheta \\ &= \theta (0 \diamond x - \vartheta) \\ &= \theta^2 x, \end{aligned}$$

and similarly  $x(\theta + \pi_{\vartheta}) = x\theta^2$ , we see that  $\theta^2 = \theta + \pi_{\vartheta}$ . It follows that  $(\theta, \vartheta)$  is an associated pair of R. Since

$$x \diamond y = xy + x \diamond 0 + 0 \diamond y - \vartheta = xy + x\theta + \theta y + \vartheta$$

we see that  $\diamond$  is induced by  $(\theta, \vartheta)$ .

If two associated pairs  $(\theta, \vartheta)$  and  $(\theta', \vartheta')$  of R induce the same generalized adjoint multiplication on R, then for any  $x, y \in R$  we have

$$xy + x\theta + \theta y + \vartheta = xy + x\theta' + \theta'y + \vartheta',$$

and so we have  $\vartheta = \vartheta'$  by taking x = y = 0,  $x\theta = x\theta'$  by taking y = 0, and  $\theta y = \theta' y$  by taking x = 0, whence  $(\theta, \vartheta) = (\theta', \vartheta')$ . Thus the correspondence  $(\theta, \vartheta) \rightarrow \diamond$  is a 1-1 correspondence.

Theorem 2.5 is an analogue of results in [26, 27].

**Corollary 2.6.** If Ann(R) = 0, then any generalized adjoint multiplication on R is induced by a bitranslation  $\theta$  of R such that  $\theta^2 - \theta \in R$ , and further there exists a 1-1 correspondence between the set of bitranslations being idempotent modulo  $\pi(R)$  and generalized adjoint multiplications on R.

*Proof.* If Ann(R) = 0, then  $\Omega(R)$  is an ideal extension of R. Let  $\diamond$  be the generalized adjoint multiplication on R induced by an associated pair  $(\theta, \vartheta)$ . Then  $\theta^2 - \theta \in R$ , and  $\theta^2 = \theta + \pi_\vartheta$  implies  $\vartheta = \theta^2 - \theta$  since Ann(R) = 0. It is clear that  $x \diamond y = (x + \theta)(y + \theta) - \theta$ . From Theorem 2.5 the correspondence  $\theta \rightarrow \diamond$  is a 1-1 correspondence.

The following corollary will be used freely throughout the rest of this paper.

**Corollary 2.7.** For any  $x_i, y_j \in R$ , and  $p_i, q_j \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\sum p_i = \sum q_j = 1$ , we have

$$\left(\sum p_i x_i\right) \diamond \left(\sum q_j y_j\right) = \sum p_i q_j (x_i \diamond y_j).$$

*Proof.* For any  $x_i, y_j \in R$ , and  $p_i, q_j \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\sum p_i = \sum q_j = 1$ , we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i q_j(x_i \diamond y_j)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i q_j(x_i y_j) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i q_j(x_i \theta) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i q_j(\theta y_j) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i q_j \vartheta$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} q_j y_j\right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i\right) \theta + \theta \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} q_j y_j\right) + \vartheta$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i x_i\right) \diamond \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} q_j y_i\right),$$

as desired.

**Corollary 2.8.** If  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^{\diamond}$  such that  $x \diamond y = y \diamond x$  and  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that p+q = 1, then

$$(px+qy)^{[n]} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} p^{i} q^{n-i} \begin{pmatrix} n \\ i \end{pmatrix} x^{[i]} \diamond y^{[n-i]}.$$

*Proof.* As the usual binomial theorem, the corollary can be proved by use of an induction on n and Corollary 2.7.

By an affine subsemigroup of  $R^{\diamond}$  we mean a subsemigroup M of  $R^{\diamond}$  such that  $x + y - z \in S$  for any  $x, y, z \in M$ .

For example, for an ideal extension  $\tilde{R}$  of R (i.e.,  $\tilde{R}$  is a ring containing R as an ideal) and  $a \in \tilde{R}$  such that  $a^2 - a \in R$ , then  $(R + a, \bullet)$  is an affine subsemigroup of  $\tilde{R}^{\bullet}$ . The semigroup  $(R + a, \bullet)$  was studied in [18] to deal with lifting idempotents.

**Definition 2.9.** Let M and N be affine subsemigroups of GA-semigroups  $R^{\diamond}$  and  $S^{\diamond}$  of rings R and S, respectively. If there exists a bijection  $\phi$  from M onto N such that

$$\phi(x+y-z) = \phi(x) + \phi(y) - \phi(z) \quad and \quad \phi(x \diamond y) = \phi(x) \diamond \phi(y)$$

for any  $x, y, z \in M$ , then M and N are called affinely isomorphic, notationally  $M \simeq N$ .

**Corollary 2.10.** Let  $\tilde{R}$  be an ideal extension of R. Then any  $a \in \tilde{R}$  such that  $a^2 - a \in R$  induces a generalized adjoint multiplication on R given by

$$x \diamond y = (x+a)(y+a) - a$$

for  $x, y \in R$ , and  $R^{\diamond}$  is affinely isomorphic to the affine subsemigroup  $(R + a, \bullet)$  of  $\tilde{R}^{\bullet}$ .

*Proof.* It is clear that a induces a bitranslation  $\theta$  of R by  $\theta x = ax$  and  $x\theta = xa$ . If  $a^2 - a \in R$ , then  $(\theta, a^2 - a)$  is an associated pair of R and the induced generalized adjoint multiplication on R given by  $x \diamond y = xy + xa + ay + \vartheta = (x+a)(y+a) - a$ . Let  $\phi$  be a map from R into R + a given by  $\phi(x) = x + a$  for any  $x \in R$ . Then it is easy to check that  $\phi$  is an affine isomorphism from  $R^\diamond$  onto the affine subsemigroup  $(R + a, \bullet)$  of  $\tilde{R}^{\bullet}$ .

**Lemma 2.11.** Let M be an affine subsemigroup of  $R^{\diamond}$ . Then

$$M - M = M - a = \left\{ \sum p_i s_i \, \middle| \, s_i \in M, \text{ and } p_i \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ with } \sum p_i = 0 \right\}$$

for any  $a \in M$ , and M - M is a subring of R.

*Proof.* The proof is a routine computation.

**Theorem 2.12.** Let M and N be affine subsemigroups of GA-semigroups  $R^{\diamond}$  and  $S^{\diamond}$  of rings R and S, respectively. If  $M \simeq N$ , then the rings M - M and N - N are isomorphic to each other. In particular, if  $R^{\diamond} \simeq S^{\diamond}$ , then  $R \cong S$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\phi$  is an affine isomorphism from M onto N. Take a fixed  $a \in M$  and let  $\phi^*$  be the mapping from M into N defined by  $\phi^*(x-a) = \phi(x) - \phi(a)$  for any  $x \in M$ . Then we see that  $\phi^*$  is a bijection. Since for any  $x, y \in M$ ,

$$\phi^* ((x - a) - (y - a)) = \phi^* ((x - y + a) - a) = \phi(x - y + a) - \phi(a) = \phi(x) - \phi(y) + \phi(a) - \phi(a) = \phi^* (x - a) - \phi^* (y - a),$$

$$\begin{split} \phi^* \left( (x-a)(y-a) \right) \\ &= \phi^* (x \diamond y - x \diamond a - a \diamond y + a \diamond a) \\ &= \phi(x \diamond y - x \diamond a - a \diamond y + a \diamond a + a) - \phi(a) \\ &= \phi(x \diamond y) - \phi(x \diamond a) - \phi(a \diamond y) + \phi(a \diamond a) + \phi(a) - \phi(a) \\ &= \phi(x) \diamond \phi(y) - \phi(x) \diamond \phi(a) - \phi(a) \diamond \phi(y) + \phi(a) \diamond \phi(a) \\ &= (\phi(x) - \phi(a))(\phi(y) - \phi(a)) \\ &= \phi^*(x-a)\phi^*(y-a), \end{split}$$

we have that  $\phi^*$  is a ring isomorphism from the ring M - M onto N - N by Lemma 2.11.

**Lemma 2.13.** Let M be an affine subsemigroup of  $R^{\diamond}$ .

- (i) If M has identity, then  $M \simeq (M M, \circ)$ ;
- (ii) If M has zero, then  $M \simeq (M M, \bullet)$ .

*Proof.* Given  $e \in (M, \diamond)$ , we define  $\phi : M \to M - M$  by  $\phi(x) = x - e$ . It is clear that  $\phi(x + y - z) = \phi(x) + \phi(y) - \phi(z)$ . Note that for any  $x, y \in M$ 

$$(x-e)(y-e) = x \diamond y - x \diamond e - e \diamond y + e \diamond e.$$
(4)

Thus, if e is identity of M, then

$$\phi(x \diamond y) = x \diamond y - e$$
  
=  $(x - e)(y - e) + x + y - 2e$  (by (4))  
=  $(x - e) \circ (y - e)$   
=  $\phi(x) \circ \phi(y);$ 

while if e is zero of M, then by (4),

$$\phi(x \diamond y) = x \diamond y - e = (x - e)(y - e) = \phi(x)\phi(y).$$

Hence  $\phi$  is an affine isomorphism if e is identity or zero of M.

**Theorem 2.14.** Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a GA-semigroup of a ring R. Then

- (i)  $R^{\diamond}$  has identity if and only if  $R^{\diamond} \simeq R^{\circ}$ ;
- (ii)  $R^{\diamond}$  has zero if and only if  $R^{\diamond} \simeq R^{\bullet}$ ;
- (iii) if R has identity, then  $R^{\diamond} \simeq R^{\bullet} \simeq R^{\circ}$ .

*Proof.* (i) and (ii) are immediate results of Lemma 2.13. If R has 1, then  $R = \Omega(R)$  and so by Corollary 2.10 there is  $a \in R$  such that  $x \diamond y = (x+a)(y+a) - a$  for any  $x, y \in R$ . Clearly, -a is zero of  $R^\diamond$ . Thus  $R^\diamond \simeq R^\bullet$  by (ii), and  $R^\circ \simeq R^\bullet$  under the affine isomorphism  $x \to 1 + x$  from  $R^\circ$  onto  $R^\bullet$ , proving (iii).

## 3. GA-semigroups of $\pi$ -regular rings

Recall that a semigroup S is (left, right, completely)  $\pi$ -regular if and only if for any  $x \in S$  there exists a positive integer n such that  $(x^n \in Sx^{n+1}, x^n \in x^{n+1}S, x^n \in Sx^{n+1} \cap x^{n+1}S)$   $x^n \in x^n Sx^n$ .

For a positive integer n, a semigroup S is called (left, right, completely)  $\pi_n$ regular if  $(x^n \in Sx^{n+1}, x^n \in x^{n+1}S, x^n \in Sx^{n+1} \cap x^{n+1}S) x^n \in x^n Sx^n$  for any  $x \in S$ . By a (left, right, completely)  $\pi_0$ -regular semigroup we mean a (left, right, completely)  $\pi$ -regular semigroup.

For a non-negative integer n, a ring is called (left, right, completely)  $\pi_n$ -regular if its multiplicative semigroup is (left, right, completely)  $\pi_n$ -regular.

In [15] we proved that the adjoint semigroup of a  $\pi$ -regular ring is  $\pi$ -regular and in [16], we proved further that the adjoint semigroup of a (left, right, completely)  $\pi_n$ -regular ring is (left, right, completely)  $\pi_n$ -regular. In this section, we will prove that this is true for GA-semigroups.

**Lemma 3.1.** For any  $a, b, x, y, z \in R$ , we have

$$(a - a \diamond x)z(b - y \diamond b) \in a \diamond R \diamond b - a \diamond R \diamond b.$$

*Proof.* Noting that  $a \diamond R \diamond b$  is an affine subsemigroup of  $R^{\diamond}$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} &(a - a \diamond x)z(b - y \diamond b) \\ &= (a - a \diamond x)(z - 0)(b - y \diamond b) \\ &= a \diamond z \diamond b - a \diamond z \diamond y \diamond b - a \diamond 0 \diamond b + a \diamond 0 \diamond y \diamond b - a \diamond x \diamond z \diamond b \\ &+ a \diamond x \diamond z \diamond y \diamond b + a \diamond x \diamond 0 \diamond b - a \diamond x \diamond 0 \diamond y \diamond b \quad \text{(by Lemma 2.3)} \\ &\in a \diamond R \diamond b - a \diamond R \diamond b, \quad \text{(by Lemma 2.11)} \end{aligned}$$

completing the proof.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A} = b \diamond R \diamond c - b \diamond R \diamond c$ . If x commutes with c in  $\mathbb{R}^{\diamond}$ , then  $a - a \diamond x \in \mathcal{A}$  implies  $a - a \diamond x^{[n]} \in \mathcal{A}$  for any positive integer n.

*Proof.* To prove the lemma, we proceed with an induction on n. It is trivial for n = 1. Assume n > 1 and  $a - a \diamond x^{[n-1]} \in \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $a - a \diamond x^{[n-1]} = b \diamond y \diamond c - b \diamond z \diamond c$ . Then multiplication (with respect to  $\diamond$ ) by x on the right shows that

$$a \diamond x - a \diamond x^{[n]} = b \diamond y \diamond x \diamond c - b \diamond z \diamond x \diamond c,$$

whence by Lemma 2.11

$$\begin{aligned} a - a \diamond x^{[n]} &= a - a \diamond x + a \diamond x - a \diamond x^{[n]} \\ &= a - a \diamond x + b \diamond y \diamond x \diamond c - b \diamond z \diamond x \diamond c \\ &\in \mathcal{A}, \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

**Lemma 3.3.** Let a and x commute with each other in  $\mathbb{R}^{\diamond}$ . Then for any positive integers m and n we have that

$$(a - a^{[m]} \diamond x)^n = a^{[n]} - a^{[n+m-1]} \diamond y,$$

for some y commuting with a and x in  $R^\diamond$ .

Proof. By Corollary 2.4,

$$\begin{split} &(a-a^{[m]}\diamond x)^n\\ &=\sum_{i=0}^n(-1)^{n-i}\left(\begin{array}{c}n\\i\end{array}\right)a^{[i]}\diamond (a^{[m]}\diamond x)^{[n-i]}\\ &=\sum_{i=0}^n(-1)^{n-i}\left(\begin{array}{c}n\\i\end{array}\right)a^{[i+m(n-i)]}\diamond x^{[n-i]}\\ &=a^{[n]}-\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}(-1)^{n-i+1}\left(\begin{array}{c}n\\i\end{array}\right)a^{[n+m-1]}\diamond a^{[(m-1)(n-1-i)]}\diamond x^{[n-i]}\\ &=a^{[n]}-a^{[n+m-1]}\diamond\sum_{i=0}^{n-1}(-1)^{n-i+1}\left(\begin{array}{c}n\\i\end{array}\right)\left(a^{[(m-1)(n-1-i)]}\diamond x^{[n-i]}\right), \end{split}$$

since  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^{n-i+1} \binom{n}{i} = 1$ . Let

$$y = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^{n-i+1} \binom{n}{i} \left( a^{[(m-1)(n-1-i)]} \diamond x^{[n-i]} \right).$$

Then  $(a - a \diamond x)^n = a^{[n]} - a^{[n+m-1]} \diamond y$  and it is clear that y commutes with both a and x.

**Lemma 3.4.** Let  $a, w, x, y, z \in R$  such that x, y and z commute with a in  $R^{\diamond}$ , and let n be a positive integer, and k and m be non-negative integers not all zero. If

$$(a - a \diamond x \diamond a)^n = (a - a \diamond y)^k w (a - z \diamond a)^m,$$

then  $a^{[n]} = a^{[k]} \diamond u \diamond a^{[m]}$  for some  $u \in R$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{A} = a^{[k]} \diamond R \diamond a^{[m]} - a^{[k]} \diamond R \diamond a^{[m]}$ . Then by Lemma 3.3 and Lemma 3.1, we have

$$a^{[n]} - a^{[n+1]} \diamond r = (a^{[k]} - a^{[k]} \diamond s)w(a^{[m]} - t \diamond a^{[m]}) \in \mathcal{A}$$

for some  $r, s, t \in R$  commuting with a. By Lemma 3.2,  $a^{[n]} - a^{[n+k+m]} \diamond r \in \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $a^{[n]} - a^{[n+k+m]} \diamond r = a^{[k]} \diamond b \diamond a^{[m]} - a^{[k]} \diamond c \diamond a^{[m]}$ . Then we have that

$$a^{[n]} = a^{[n+k+m]} \diamond r + a^{[k]} \diamond b \diamond a^{[m]} - a^{[k]} \diamond c \diamond a^{[m]} = a^{[k]} \diamond (a^{[n]} \diamond r + b - c) \diamond a^{[m]},$$

as desired.

**Theorem 3.5.** For a non-negative integer n, if a ring R is (left, right, completely)  $\pi_n$ -regular, then so is its any GA-semigroup.

Proof. Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a GA-semigroup of R. If R be a right  $\pi_n$ -regular ring for  $n \geq 1$ , then for any  $x \in R$ , there exist  $y \in R$  such that  $(x - x^{[3]})^n = (x - x^{[3]})^{n+1}y$ . From Lemma 3.4, we deduce that  $x^{[n]} = x^{[n+1]} \diamond z$  for some  $z \in R$ , whence  $(R, \diamond)$  is a right  $\pi_n$ -regular semigroup. The remainder can be proved similarly.  $\Box$ 

#### 4. GA-semigroups with idempotents

Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a GA-semigroup of R. Then  $R^{\diamond}$  is called (centrally) 0-idempotent if the additive 0 of R is an (central) idempotent in  $R^{\diamond}$ . Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a 0-idempotent GA-semigroup induced by the associated pair  $(\theta, \vartheta)$ . Then it is clear that  $\vartheta = 0$ and so  $\theta$  is idempotent. One should note that (centrally) 0-idempotent is not an affine isomorphism invariant.

**Lemma 4.1.** Every GA-semigroup containing (central) idempotents is affinely isomorphic to a (centrally) 0-idempotent one.

*Proof.* Suppose  $R^{\diamond}$  is a GA-semigroup containing an (central) idempotent *e*. Let  $R_e = (R, \boxplus, *)$  with

$$x \boxplus y = x + y - e,$$
  
$$x * y = (x - e)(y - e) + e,$$

for any  $x, y \in R$ . Then  $R_e$  is a ring in which e acts as additive zero and \* is clearly an associative binary operation on  $R_e$ . Denote by  $\Box$  the minus in  $R_e$ . Noting that

 $x + y - z = x \boxplus y \boxminus z$  for any  $x, y, z \in R$ , we see that the operation  $\diamond$  satisfies the generalized distributive laws in  $R_e$ , and further we have that

$$x * y = (x - e)(y - e) + e$$
  
=  $x \diamond y - x \diamond e - e \diamond y + e \diamond e + e$   
=  $x \diamond y \boxminus x \diamond e \boxminus e \diamond y \boxplus e \diamond e \boxplus e$   
=  $x \diamond y \boxminus x \diamond e \boxminus e \diamond y \boxplus e \diamond e$ .

Thus  $\diamond$  is a GA-multiplication on the ring  $R_e$  such that  $R_e^{\diamond}$  is (centrally) 0idempotent. It is easy to see that the identity mapping of R is an affine isomorphism from  $R^{\diamond}$  onto  $R_e^{\diamond}$ .

Given two rings S and T, two bimodules  ${}_{S}U_{T}$  and  ${}_{T}V_{S}$ , an S-S-homomorphism  $\phi : U \otimes_{T} V \to S$  and a T-T-homomorphism  $\psi : V \otimes_{S} U \to T$  (write uv for  $\phi(u \otimes v)$  and vu for  $\psi(v \otimes u)$ ) such that u(vu') = (uv)u' and v(uv') = (vu)v' for any  $u, u' \in U$  and  $v, v' \in V$ . Let  $R = \begin{pmatrix} S & U \\ V & T \end{pmatrix}$  be the set of formal matrices. Then R is a ring with the usual matrix operations, called the ring of the Morita context, or a Morita ring, and denoted by  $\mathcal{M}(S, T, U, V)$ . Denote by  $\tilde{S}$  and  $\tilde{T}$  the Dorroh extension of S and T, respectively. Then  ${}_{\tilde{S}}U_{\tilde{T}}$  and  ${}_{\tilde{T}}V_{\tilde{S}}$  are unitary bimodules in a natural way. Let  $\tilde{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{S} & U \\ V & \tilde{T} \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\tilde{R}$  is a unitary ring with

the usual matrix operations and R is an ideal of  $\tilde{R}$ . Let  $E_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \tilde{R}$ . Then the generalized adjoint multiplication induced by  $E_{11}$  is given by

$$A \diamond B = AB + AE_{11} + E_{11}B$$
  
=  $(A + E_{11})(B + E_{11}) - E_{11}$   
=  $\begin{pmatrix} s \circ s' + uv' & (1 + s)u + ut' \\ u(1 + s') + tv' & uu' + tt' \end{pmatrix}$ 

for any  $A = \begin{pmatrix} s & u \\ v & t \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} s' & u' \\ v' & t' \end{pmatrix} \in R$ . The semigroup  $R^{\diamond}$  is called the  $E_{11}$ -GA-semigroup of R, denoted by  $\mathcal{M}_{11}^{\diamond}(S, T, U, V)$ . It is clear that the  $E_{11}$ -GA-semigroup  $\mathcal{M}_{11}^{\diamond}(S, T, U, V)$  is 0-idempotent.

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a 0-idempotent GA-semigroup induced by an idempotent self-permutable bitranslation  $\theta$ , and let  $R_{11} = \theta R \theta$ ,  $R_{10} = \theta R (1 - \theta)$ ,  $R_{01} = (1 - \theta)R\theta$ , and  $R_{00} = (1 - \theta)R(1 - \theta)$ . Then

- (i)  $R = R_{11} \oplus R_{10} \oplus R_{01} \oplus R_{00}$  as additive groups;
- (ii)  $R_{ij}R_{kl} \subset \delta_{jk}R_{jl}$ , where  $\delta_{jk}$  is the Kronecker delta, i, j, k, l = 0, 1;
- (iii) if we write  $x = \sum x_{ij}$ ,  $y = \sum y_{ij}$ , where  $x_{ij}, y_{ij} \in R_{ij}$ , i, j = 0, 1, then

$$x \diamond y = (x_{11} \circ y_{11} + x_{10}y_{01}) + (x_{10} + x_{11}x_{10} + x_{10}y_{00}) + (x_{01} + x_{01}y_{11} + x_{00}y_{01}) + (x_{01}y_{10} + x_{00}y_{00});$$

(iv)  $R_{ij}$ , i, j = 0, 1, are subrings of R such that  $R_{11}^{\diamond} = R_{11}^{\diamond}$ ,  $R_{00}^{\diamond} = R_{00}^{\bullet}$ ,  $R_{10}^{\diamond}$  is a right zero semigroup, and  $R_{01}^{\diamond}$  is a left zero semigroup.

*Proof.* Since  $\theta$  is idempotent, the proof of (i) and (ii) is essentially similar to that of Pierce decomposition of a ring. For  $x = \sum x_{ij}$ ,  $y = \sum y_{ij}$ , where  $x_{ij}, y_{ij} \in R_{ij}$ , i, j = 0, 1, we have by (ii) that

$$\begin{aligned} x \diamond y &= \left(\sum x_{ij}\right) \left(\sum y_{ij}\right) + \theta \left(\sum x_{ij}\right) + \left(\sum y_{ij}\right) \theta \\ &= \left(\sum x_{ij} y_{kl}\right) + x_{11} + x_{10} + y_{11} + y_{01} \\ &= (x_{11} \circ y_{11} + x_{10} y_{01}) + (y_{10} + x_{11} y_{10} + x_{10} y_{00}) \\ &+ (x_{01} + x_{01} y_{11} + x_{00} y_{01}) + (x_{01} y_{10} + x_{00} y_{00}), \end{aligned}$$

proving (iii). If  $x, y \in R_{11}$ , then

$$x \diamond y = xy + x\theta + \theta y = xy + x + y = x \circ y,$$

whence  $R_{11}^{\diamond} = R_{11}^{\diamond}$ , and similarly,  $R_{00}^{\diamond} = R_{00}^{\bullet}$ . For any  $x, y \in R_{10}$ , we have by (ii) that

$$x \diamond y = xy + x\theta + \theta y = y,$$

which implies that  $R_{10}^{\diamond}$  is a right zero semigroup, and similarly  $R_{01}^{\diamond}$  is a left zero semigroup, proving (iv).

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a GA-semigroup of R. If  $R^{\diamond}$  contains idempotents, then there exists a Morita ring  $\mathcal{M}(S, T, U, V)$  such that  $R \cong \mathcal{M}(S, T, U, V)$  and  $R^{\diamond} \simeq \mathcal{M}_{11}^{\diamond}(S, T, U, V)$ .

Proof. Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a GA-semigroup induced by the associated pair  $(\theta, \vartheta)$ . If  $R^{\diamond}$  contains idempotents, then by Lemma 4.1, without loss of generality, we may assume that  $R^{\diamond}$  is 0-idempotent. By Lemma 4.2, it is a routine matter to verify that  $\mathcal{M}(R_{11}, R_{00}, R_{10}, R_{01})$  is a Morita ring in a natural way. By Lemma 4.2 straightforward computation shows that the mapping  $\phi : R \to \mathcal{M}(R_{11}, R_{00}, R_{10}, R_{01})$  defined by

$$\phi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \theta x \theta & \theta x (1-\theta) \\ (1-\theta) x \theta & (1-\theta) x (1-\theta) \end{pmatrix}$$

is a ring isomorphism. Noting that

$$\begin{split} \phi(x \diamond y) &= \phi(xy + x\theta + \theta y) \\ &= \phi(x)\phi(y) + \phi(x\theta) + \phi(\theta y) \\ &= \phi(x)\phi(y) + \begin{pmatrix} \theta x\theta & 0 \\ (1-\theta)x\theta & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \theta y\theta & (1-\theta)y\theta \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \phi(x) \diamond \phi(y), \end{split}$$

we see that  $\phi$  is an affine isomorphism from  $R^{\diamond}$  onto the  $E_{11}$ -GA-semigroup of  $\mathcal{M}(R_{11}, R_{00}, R_{10}, R_{01})$ .

**Corollary 4.4.** A GA-semigroup  $R^{\diamond}$  is (centrally) 0-idempotent if and only if there exists an ideal extension  $\tilde{R}$  with 1 of R and an idempotent  $\varepsilon \in \tilde{R}$  (commuting with elements of R) such that  $x \diamond y = (x + \varepsilon)(y + \varepsilon) - \varepsilon$  for any  $x, y \in R$ .

*Proof.* It follows from Theorem 4.3, the definition of the  $E_{11}$ -GA-semigroup and taking  $\varepsilon = E_{11}$ .

**Lemma 4.5.** If  $(a - a^{[2]})^2 = 0$ , then there exists an idempotent  $e = \sum p_i a^{[i]}$  with  $\sum p_i = 1$  such that  $a^{[2]} = e \diamond a^{[2]}$ .

*Proof.* By Corollary 2.4,  $(a - a^{[2]})^2 = a^{[2]} - 2a^{[3]} + a^{[4]}$ , and so

$$a^{[2]} = 2a^{[3]} - a^{[4]} = a^{[2]} \diamond (2a - a^{[2]}) = a^{[2]} \diamond (2a - a^{[2]})^{[2]} = a^{[2]} \diamond (2a - a^{[2]})^{[3]}$$

Note that by Corollary 2.8,

$$(2a - a^{[2]})^{[3]} = 8a^{[3]} - 12a^{[4]} + 6a^{[5]} - a^{[6]} = a^{[2]} \diamond (8a - 12a^{[2]} + 6a^{[3]} - a^{[4]}).$$

Let  $b = 8a - 12a^{[2]} + 6a^{[3]} - a^{[4]}$ . Then b commutes with a and  $a^{[2]} = a^{[2]} \diamond b \diamond a^{[2]}$ . Let  $e = a^{[2]} \diamond b$ . Then it is clear that e is an idempotent of  $R^{\diamond}$  such that  $a^{[2]} = e \diamond a^{[2]}$ .  $\Box$ 

Let  $\Gamma(R) = \{ \theta \in \Omega(R) | \theta x = x\theta \text{ for any } x \in R \}.$ 

**Lemma 4.6.** A GA-semigroup of R induced by  $(\theta, \vartheta)$  has (central) idempotents if and only if  $\theta$  can be lifted to an idempotent of  $\Omega(R)$  (contained in  $\Gamma(R)$ ).

*Proof.* Assume semigroup  $R^{\diamond}$  has an idempotent e. Then

$$e = e \diamond e = e^2 + e\theta + \theta e + \vartheta,$$

whence  $\pi_e = \pi_e^2 + \pi_e \theta + \theta \pi_e + \pi_\vartheta = \pi_e^2 + \pi_e \theta + \theta \pi_e + \theta^2 - \theta = (\pi_e + \theta)^2 - \theta$ . Thus  $\pi_e + \theta$  is idempotent. Moreover, if e is central in  $R^\diamond$ , then  $e \diamond x = x \diamond e$  for any  $x \in R$ , that is,  $ex + e\theta + \theta x + \vartheta = xe + x\theta + \theta e + \vartheta$ , and particularly,  $e\theta = \theta e$  by taking x = 0. Thus  $(\pi_e + \theta)x = ex + \theta x = xe + x\theta = x(\pi_e + \theta)$ , yielding  $\pi_e + \theta \in \Gamma(R)$ .

Assume  $\theta$  can be lifted to an idempotent of  $\Omega(R)$ . Then  $\pi_a + \theta$  is idempotent for some  $a \in R$ , whence  $\pi_a = \pi_a^2 + \pi_a \theta + \theta \pi_a + \theta^2 - \theta = \pi_a^2 + \pi_a \theta + \theta \pi_a + \pi_{\vartheta}$ . Thus we have  $ax = a^2x + (a\theta)x + (\theta a)x + \vartheta x = a^{[2]}x$ , forcing  $(a - a^{[2]})R = 0$ . In particularly,  $(a - a^{[2]})^2 = 0$ , whence  $R^\diamond$  contains an idempotent  $e = \sum p_i a^{[i]}$ with  $\sum p_i = 1$  by Lemma 4.5. Further, if  $\pi_a + \theta$  is an idempotent contained in  $\Gamma(R)$ . Then for any  $x \in R$ ,  $(\pi_a + \theta)x = x(\pi_a + \theta)$ , that is,  $ax + \theta x = xa + x\theta$ , and particularly  $\theta a = a\theta$  by taking x = a, whence

$$a \diamond x = ax + \theta x + a\theta + \vartheta = xa + x\theta + \theta a + \vartheta = x \diamond a.$$

Hence  $e \diamond x = x \diamond e$ , that is, e is a central idempotent of  $R^{\diamond}$ .

**Theorem 4.7.** Consider the following conditions:

(i) every GA-semigroup of R contains (central) idempotents;

- (ii) in any ideal extension R of R, idempotents of R/R can be lifted to idempotents of R (contained in the centralizer of R in R);
- (iii) idempotents of  $\Omega(R)/\pi(R)$  can be lifted to idempotents of  $\Omega(R)$  (contained in  $\Gamma(R)$ ). Then (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii). Moreover, if Ann(R) = 0, then (i), (ii) and (iii) are equivalent.

*Proof.* (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) follows from Lemma 4.6. (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii): If  $a \in \tilde{R}$  and  $a^2 - a \in R$ , then the pair  $(\theta, \vartheta)$  defined by

$$\theta x = ax, x\theta = xa$$
, and  $\vartheta = a^2 - a$ 

is an associated pair and so  $x \diamond y = xy + xa + ay + a^2 - a$  defines a GA-multiplication on R. If e is an idempotent of  $R^{\diamond}$ , then  $e = e^2 + ea + ae + a^2 - a = (e + a)^2 - a$ , and so e + a is an idempotent of  $\hat{R}$ . Further if e is a central idempotent of  $R^{\diamond}$ , then  $e \diamond x = x \diamond e$  for any  $x \in R$ , that is

$$ex + ea + ax + \vartheta = xe + xa + ae + \vartheta,$$

and particularly, ea = ae by taking x = 0. Thus (e + a)x = ex + ax = xe + xa =x(e+a), which implies that e+a is contained in the centralizer of R in R. 

The remainder is clear.

The following corollary is independently interesting, which is a generalization of a classical result in ring theory which states that idempotents modulo a nil ideal can be lifted ([28]) and is a generalization of ring-theoretic analogue of a result of Edwards ([19, Corollary 2]) which extends the well-known Lallement's lemma to eventually regular semigroups (i.e.,  $\pi$ -regular semigroups).

**Theorem 4.8.** In any ring, idempotents modulo a  $\pi$ -regular ideal can be lifted.

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.5, any GA-semigroup of a  $\pi$ -regular ring contains idempotent, and so by Theorem 4.7 idempotents modulo a  $\pi$ -regular ideal can be lifted.

If R is a ring with ECI, then idempotents can be lifted from  $\Omega(R)/R$  to  $\Omega(R)$  ([7, Corollary 3.6]), and so any GA-semigroup of R contains idempotents by Theorem 4.7. Particularly, every GA-semigroup of a biregular ring contains idempotents. On the other hand, there is a ring such that idempotents modulo the radical cannot be lifted. Hence a GA-semigroup of a radical ring need not contain idempotents.

A semigroup S is called completely primitive if the left ideal Se and the right ideal eS are minimal for every idempotent e of S ([6]). A completely primitive semigroup S has kernel which is completely simple and contains all of idempotents of S ([9]).

**Lemma 4.9.** Let  $R^{\diamond}$  be a GA-semigroup of a radical ring R. If  $R^{\diamond}$  contains idempotents, then  $R^{\diamond}$  is completely primitive.

*Proof.* Let e be an idempotent of  $R^{\diamond}$ . Then it is sufficient to prove that  $e \diamond R \diamond e$  is a group. Since  $e \diamond R \diamond e \simeq (e \diamond R \diamond e - e \diamond R \diamond e, \circ)$  by Lemma 2.11 and Lemma 2.13, we have to prove that  $e \diamond R \diamond e - e \diamond R \diamond e$  is a radical ring. By Corollary 4.4, there are an ideal extension  $\tilde{R}$  of R and an idempotent  $\varepsilon \in \tilde{R}$  such that  $x \diamond y = (x + \varepsilon)(y + \varepsilon) - \varepsilon$  for any  $x, y \in R$ . Thus  $e \diamond R \diamond e - e \diamond R \diamond e = (e + \varepsilon)(R + \varepsilon)(e + \varepsilon) - (e + \varepsilon)(R + \varepsilon)(e + \varepsilon) = (e + \varepsilon)R(e + \varepsilon)$ . Since  $e \diamond e = e$ , we have that  $e + \varepsilon$  is an idempotent of  $\tilde{R}$  and so it is easy to see that  $(e + \varepsilon)R(e + \varepsilon)$  is a radical ring.

Lemma 4.9 is a GA-semigroup version of [18, Theorem 1 (b)–(c)]. Actually, many results in [18] can be reexplained in terms of GA-semigroup.

**Theorem 4.10.** Any GA-semigroup of a nil ring is a completely primitive  $\pi$ -regular semigroup.

*Proof.* It follows from Theorem 3.5 and Lemma 4.9.

**Theorem 4.11.** Let R be a ring with descending chain condition for principal right ideals. Then any GA-semigroup of R is completely  $\pi$ -regular. Particularly, any GA-semigroup of a right Artinian ring is completely  $\pi$ -regular.

*Proof.* If R is a ring with descending chain condition for principal right ideals, then R is completely  $\pi$ -regular by Dischinger [12, Theorem 1] and Azumaya [2, Lemma 1].

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