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Ascending chain conditions on right ideals of semigroups

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ABSTRACT

We call a semigroup S *right noetherian* if it satisfies the ascending chain condition on right ideals, and we say that S *satisfies ACCPR* if it satisfies the ascending chain condition on *principal* right ideals. We investigate the behavior of these two conditions with respect to ideals and ideal extensions, with a particular focus on minimal and 0-minimal one-sided ideals. In particular, we show that the property of satisfying ACCPR is inherited by right and left ideals. On the other hand, we exhibit an example of a right noetherian semigroup with a minimal ideal that is not right noetherian.

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1. Introduction

A *finiteness condition* for a class of universal algebras is a property that is satisfied by at least all finite members of that class. Ascending chain conditions are classic examples. A poset P satisfies the *ascending chain condition* if every ascending chain

$$a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots$$

eventually stabilizes. Ascending chain conditions on ideals of rings, introduced by Noether in the landmark paper [19], have played a crucial role in the development of ring theory, appearing in major results such as Hilbert's basis theorem, Krull's height theorem and the Noether-Lasker theorem. Analogous conditions naturally arise in semigroup theory. A *right ideal* of a semigroup S is a subset $I \subseteq S$ such that $IS \subseteq I$. We call S *right noetherian* if its poset of right ideals (under containment) satisfies the ascending chain condition, and we say that S *satisfies ACCPR* if its poset of principal right ideals satisfies the ascending chain condition. Right noetherian semigroups have received a significant amount of attention; see for instance [1, 6, 9, 18, 20]. Semigroups satisfying ACCPR have been considered in [15, 16, 21].

A related semigroup finiteness condition arises from the notion of a *right congruence*, that is, an equivalence relation ρ on a semigroup S such that $(a, b) \in \rho$ implies $(ac, bc) \in \rho$ for all $a, b, c \in S$. We call a semigroup *strongly right noetherian* if its poset of right congruences satisfies the ascending chain condition.¹ The study of such semigroups was initiated by Hotzel in [8], and further developed in [11, 12, 17]. As the name suggests, strongly right noetherian semigroups are right noetherian [17, Lemma 2.7]. The converse, however, does not hold. Indeed, unlike the situation for rings, the lattice of right ideals of a semigroup is not in general isomorphic to the lattice of right congruences. For example, the lattice of right ideals of a group is trivial, whereas its lattice of right congruences is isomorphic to its

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¹Strongly right noetherian semigroups are also known in the literature as 'right noetherian', and the term 'weakly right noetherian' has been used to denote semigroups that satisfy the ascending chain condition on right ideals.

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lattice of subgroups. Consequently, every group is trivially right noetherian, but a group is strongly right noetherian if and only if it satisfies the ascending chain condition on subgroups.

For any finiteness condition, it is natural to investigate the behavior of the condition with respect to substructures, quotients and extensions. In particular, for a semigroup finiteness condition \mathcal{P} , the following questions arise. For a semigroup S and an ideal I of S :

1. does I satisfy \mathcal{P} if S satisfies \mathcal{P} ?
2. does the Rees quotient S/I satisfy \mathcal{P} if S satisfies \mathcal{P} ?
3. does S satisfy \mathcal{P} if both I and S/I satisfy \mathcal{P} ?

The purpose of this article is to study the finiteness conditions of satisfying ACCPR and of being right noetherian, with (1)–(3) as our guiding questions.

The paper is organized as follows. In [Section 2](#) we provide the necessary preliminary material. In particular, we collect some known results regarding the properties of satisfying ACCPR and being right noetherian, including some equivalent formulations of these conditions. The main results of the paper are contained in [Sections 3](#) and [4](#). In [Section 3](#) we consider the property of satisfying ACCPR, while [Section 4](#) is concerned with the property of being right noetherian. These two sections follow the same format: they split into two subsections, the first concerning ideals in general and the second focusing on (0-)minimal ideals.

2. Preliminaries

2.1. Ideals and related concepts

Let S be a semigroup. We denote by S^1 the monoid obtained from S by adjoining an identity if necessary (if S is already a monoid, then $S^1 = S$). Similarly, we denote by S^0 the monoid obtained from S by adjoining a zero if necessary.

Recall that a right ideal of S is a subset $I \subseteq S$ such that $IS \subseteq I$, and the principal right ideals of S are those of the form aS^1 , $a \in S$. Dually, we have the notion of (*principal*) *left ideals*. An *ideal* of S is a set that is both a right ideal and left ideal of S , and the *principal ideals* of S are the sets S^1aS^1 , $a \in S$. Principal (one-sided) ideals determine the five Green's relations on a semigroup. Green's relation \mathcal{R} on S is given by

$$a \mathcal{R} b \Leftrightarrow aS^1 = bS^1.$$

Green's relations \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{J} are defined similarly, in terms of principal left ideals and principal ideals, respectively. Green's relation \mathcal{H} is defined as $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{R} \cap \mathcal{L}$, and finally we have $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{R} \circ \mathcal{L} (= \mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{L} \vee \mathcal{R})$. It is clear from the definitions that Green's relations are equivalence relations on S . Moreover, \mathcal{R} is a right congruence on S and \mathcal{L} is a left congruence on S .

It is easy to see that the following inclusions between Green's relations hold:

$$\mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{J}.$$

It can be easily shown that every right (resp. left, two-sided) ideal is a union of \mathcal{R} -classes (resp. \mathcal{L} -classes, \mathcal{J} -classes). A semigroup with no proper right (resp. left) ideals is called *right* (resp. *left*) *simple*. A semigroup is *simple* if it has no proper ideals. Clearly any right/left simple semigroup is simple.

A right (resp. left, two-sided) ideal I of S is said to be *minimal* if there is no right (resp. left, two-sided) ideal of S properly contained in I . It turns out that, considered as semigroups, minimal right (resp. left) ideals are right (resp. left) simple [[3](#), Theorem 2.4], and minimal ideals are simple [[3](#), Theorem 1.1]. A semigroup contains at most one minimal ideal but may possess multiple minimal right/left ideals. The minimal ideal of a semigroup S is also known as the *kernel*, and we denote it by $\mathcal{K}(S)$. If S has a minimal right (resp. left) ideal, then $\mathcal{K}(S)$ exists and is equal to the union of all the minimal right (resp. left) ideals [[3](#), Theorem 2.1]. A *completely simple* semigroup is a simple semigroup that possesses both minimal right ideals and minimal left ideals. A semigroup has both minimal right ideals and minimal left ideals if and only if it has a completely simple kernel [[3](#), Theorem 3.2].

For semigroups with zero, the theory of minimal ideals becomes trivial, so we require the notion of 0-minimality. Suppose that S has a zero element 0 . For convenience, we will usually just write the set $\{0\}$ as 0 . We say that S is *right* (resp. *left*) *0-simple* if $S^2 \neq 0$ and S contains no proper right (resp. left) ideals except 0 , and S is called *0-simple* if $S^2 \neq 0$ and 0 is its only proper ideal. A right (resp. left, two-sided) ideal I of S is said to be *0-minimal* if 0 is the only proper right (resp. left, two-sided) ideal of S contained in I . A 0-minimal ideal I of S is either null or 0-simple [4, Theorem 2.29] (a semigroup T is *null* if $T^2 = 0$). If I is a 0-minimal ideal of S containing a 0-minimal right ideal of S , then I is the union of all the 0-minimal right ideals of S contained in I [4, Theorem 2.33]. A *completely 0-simple* semigroup is a 0-simple semigroup that possesses both 0-minimal right ideals and 0-minimal left ideals.

For any 0-minimal right ideal R of S , since R^2 is a right ideal of S contained in R , it follows by 0-minimality that either R is null or $R^2 = R$. Similarly, for any $a \in R$ we have either $aR = 0$ or $aR = R$. If R is a 0-minimal right ideal such that $R^2 = R$, we say that R is *globally idempotent*. In contrast to the situation for 0-minimal two-sided ideals, globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideals need not be right 0-simple; see the remark immediately after Lemma 2.31 in [4].

Let R be a globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideal of S . For any $s \in S$, the set sR is either 0 or a 0-minimal right ideal of S [4, Lemma 2.32]. Thus, the set SR , the (two-sided) ideal of S generated by R , is a union of 0-minimal right ideals of S . Let A^R denote the union of $\{0\}$ and all the null 0-minimal right ideals of S contained in SR , and let B^R denote the union of all the globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideals of S contained in SR . We call A^R the *null part* of SR , and B^R the *globally idempotent part* of SR . We note that A^R may equal 0 . We provide a structure theorem describing SR in terms of A^R and B^R ; in order to do so, we first recall a couple of definitions.

Let S be a semigroup with 0 that is the union of subsemigroups S_i ($i \in I$). If $S_i \cap S_j = 0$ for all $i, j \in I$, $i \neq j$, we say that S is the *0-disjoint union* of S_i ($i \in I$). If, additionally, $S_i S_j = 0$ for all $i, j \in I$, $i \neq j$, we say that S is the *0-direct union* of S_i ($i \in I$).

Theorem 2.1. [5, Theorem 6.19] *Let S be a semigroup with a globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideal R . Then:*

1. SR is a 0-disjoint union of A^R and B^R ;
2. A^R is a null semigroup and an ideal of S ;
3. B^R is a 0-simple semigroup and a right ideal of S ;
4. a subset of B^R is a (0-minimal) right ideal of B^R if and only if it is a (0-minimal) right ideal of S .

Let S be a semigroup with 0 . The *right socle* of S is the union of 0 and all the 0-minimal right ideals of S . We denote the right socle by $\Sigma^r(S)$, or just Σ^r when there is no ambiguity. It turns out that Σ^r is a (two-sided) ideal of S [5, Theorem 6.22].

Let $A^r = A^r(S)$ denote the union of 0 and all the null 0-minimal right ideals of S , and let $B^r = B^r(S)$ denote the union of 0 and all the globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideals of S . We call A^r the *null part* of Σ^r , and B^r the *globally idempotent part* of Σ^r . Of course, if S has no 0-minimal right ideals then $\Sigma^r = A^r = B^r = 0$.

Theorem 2.2. [5, Theorem 6.23] *Let S be a semigroup with 0 . Then:*

1. Σ^r is a 0-disjoint union of A^r and B^r ;
2. A^r is a null semigroup and an ideal of S ;
3. B^r is a right ideal of S ;
4. either $B^r = 0$ or there exists a set $\{R_i : i \in I\}$ of globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideals of S such that B^r is the 0-direct union of the 0-simple semigroups B^{R_i} ($i \in I$).

The above definitions and results regarding 0-minimal right ideals have obvious duals for 0-minimal left ideals, and we use analogous notation (A^L , B^L , $\Sigma^l(S)$, etc.).

Given an ideal I of S , the *Rees quotient* of S by I , denoted by S/I , is the set $(S \setminus I) \cup \{0\}$ with multiplication given by

$$a \cdot b = \begin{cases} ab & \text{if } a, b, ab \in S \setminus I, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let J be a \mathcal{J} -class of S . The *principal factor* of J is defined as follows. If $J = \mathcal{K}(S)$ then its principal factor is itself. Otherwise, the principal factor of J is the Rees quotient of the principal ideal $S^1 x S^1$, where x is any element of J , by the ideal $(S^1 x S^1) \setminus J$. The *principal factors* of S are the principal factors of its \mathcal{J} -classes. As mentioned above, if $\mathcal{K}(S)$ exists then it is simple; all other principal factors are either 0-simple or null.

2.2. Acts

Semigroup acts play the analogous role in semigroup theory as that of modules in the theory of rings. We provide some basic definitions about acts; one should consult [10] for more information.

A (*right*) S -act is a non-empty set A together with a map

$$A \times S \rightarrow A, (a, s) \mapsto as$$

such that $a(st) = (as)t$ for all $a \in A$ and $s, t \in S$. A subset B of an S -act A is a *subact* of A if $bs \in B$ for all $b \in B$ and $s \in S$. Note that S itself is an S -act via right multiplication, and its subacts are precisely its right ideals. For clarity, a right ideal I of S will be written as I_S when we are viewing it as a subact (including the case $I = S$).

Given an S -act A and a subact B of A , the *Rees quotient* of A by B , denoted by A/B , is the S -act with universe $(A \setminus B) \cup \{0\}$ and action given by: for all $a \in A/B$ and $s \in S$,

$$a \cdot s = \begin{cases} as & \text{if } a, as \in A \setminus B, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

A subset X of an S -act A is a *generating set* for A if $A = XS^1$, and A is said to be *finitely generated* (resp. *principal*) if it has a finite (resp. one-element) generating set. Thus, the principal right ideals of S are precisely the principal subacts of S_S .

Note that when we speak of a right ideal I of a semigroup S being generated by a set X , we mean that X generates I as an S -act, i.e. $I = XS^1$.

We call an S -act A *noetherian* if the poset of subacts of A (under containment) satisfies the ascending chain condition, and we say that A *satisfies ACCP* if the poset of principal subacts satisfies the ascending chain condition. In particular, the S -act S_S is noetherian (resp. satisfies ACCP) if and only if S is right noetherian (resp. satisfies ACCPR).

Given an S -act A , we define an equivalence relation \mathcal{R}_S on A by

$$a \mathcal{R}_S b \Leftrightarrow aS^1 = bS^1.$$

Notice that \mathcal{R}_S on the S -act S_S coincides with Green's relation \mathcal{R} on S . We denote the \mathcal{R}_S -class of an element $a \in A$ by R_a . There is a natural partial order \leq on the set of \mathcal{R}_S -classes of A given by

$$R_a \leq R_b \Leftrightarrow aS^1 \subseteq bS^1.$$

It is easy to see that the poset of \mathcal{R}_S -classes is isomorphic to the poset of principal subacts of A via the isomorphism $R_a \rightarrow aS^1$.

We call an S -act A *simple* if it contains no proper subact. If an S -act A has a *zero* 0 (that is, $0s = 0$ for all $s \in S$), we say that A is *0-simple* if $\{0\}$ is its only proper subact. Notice that the simple subacts of S_S are precisely the minimal right ideals of S , and, if S has a zero 0 , the 0-simple subacts of S_S are precisely the 0-minimal right ideals of S .

2.3. Foundational results

In this subsection we establish some foundational results, many of which will be required later in the paper. Some of these results are folklore but we provide proofs for completeness. We begin by presenting some equivalent characterizations of the property of satisfying ACCP.

Proposition 2.3. *Let S be a semigroup and let A be an S -act. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. A satisfies ACCP;
2. the poset of \mathcal{R}_S -classes of A satisfies the ascending chain condition;
3. every non-empty set of principal subacts of A contains a maximal element.

Proof. (1) \Leftrightarrow (2) follows from the fact, established above, that the poset of \mathcal{R}_S -classes of A is isomorphic to the poset of principal subacts of A .

(1) \Rightarrow (3). Suppose for a contradiction that there exists a non-empty set \mathcal{F} of principal subacts of A with no maximal element. Pick any $a_1S^1 \in \mathcal{F}$. Since a_1S^1 is not maximal, there exists $a_2S^1 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $a_1S^1 \subsetneq a_2S^1$. Continuing in this way, we obtain an infinite ascending chain

$$a_1S^1 \subsetneq a_2S^1 \subsetneq \dots$$

of principal subacts of A , contradicting the fact that A satisfies ACCP.

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Consider an ascending chain

$$a_1S^1 \subseteq a_2S^1 \subseteq \dots$$

where $a_i \in A$. By assumption, the set $\{a_iS^1 : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ contains a maximal element, say a_mS^1 . Then we must have that $a_nS^1 = a_mS^1$ for all $n \geq m$. Thus A satisfies ACCP. \square

Corollary 2.4. *The following are equivalent for a semigroup S :*

1. S satisfies ACCPR;
2. every non-empty set of principal right ideals of S contains a maximal element;
3. the poset of \mathcal{R} -classes of S satisfies the ascending chain condition.

We now provide several equivalent formulations of the property of being noetherian for acts. For this result, recall that an *antichain* of a poset is a subset consisting of pairwise incomparable elements.

Theorem 2.5. *Let S be a semigroup and let A be an S -act. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. A is noetherian;
2. every subact of A is finitely generated;
3. every non-empty set of subacts of A contains a maximal element;
4. A satisfies ACCP and contains no infinite antichain of principal subacts;
5. the poset of \mathcal{R}_S -classes of A satisfies the ascending chain condition and contains no infinite antichain.

Proof. The proof that (1), (2), and (3) are equivalent is essentially the same as that of the analogue for modules over rings; see [13, Section 10.1]. (4) \Leftrightarrow (5) follows from the fact that the poset of \mathcal{R}_S -classes of A is isomorphic to the poset of principal subacts of A .

(1) \Rightarrow (4). Clearly A satisfies ACCP. Suppose for a contradiction that there exists an infinite antichain $\{a_iS^1 : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ of principal subacts of A . For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let A_n be the subact $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}S^1$. Clearly $A_n \subseteq A_{n+1}$. We cannot have $A_n = A_{n+1}$, for otherwise we would have $a_{n+1} \in a_iS^1$ for some $i \leq n$, and hence $a_{n+1}S^1 \subseteq a_iS^1$, contradicting the fact that a_iS^1 and a_nS^1 are incomparable. Thus, we have an infinite strictly ascending chain

$$A_1 \subsetneq A_2 \subsetneq \dots$$

of right ideals of S , contradicting the assumption that A is noetherian.

(4) \Rightarrow (1). Suppose that A is not noetherian but does satisfy ACCP. We need to construct an infinite antichain of principal subacts of A . Since A is not noetherian, there exists an infinite strictly ascending chain

$$A_1 \subsetneq A_2 \subsetneq \dots$$

of subacts of A . Choose elements $a_1 \in A_1$ and $a_k \in A_k \setminus A_{k-1}$ for $k \geq 2$. Then certainly $a_k S^1$ is not contained in any $a_j S^1, j < k$, since $a_j S^1 \subseteq A_j$ and $a_k \in A_k \setminus A_j$.

Consider the infinite set $P_1 = \{a_i S^1 : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ of principal subacts of A . Since A satisfies ACCP, P_1 contains a maximal element, say $a_{k_1} S^1$, by Proposition 2.3. Now consider the infinite set $P_2 = \{a_i S^1 : i \geq k_1 + 1\}$. Again, P_2 contains a maximal element, say $a_{k_2} S^1$. Then $a_{k_2} S^1$ is not contained in $a_{k_1} S^1$ since $k_1 < k_2$, and $a_{k_1} S^1$ is not contained in $a_{k_2} S^1$ since a_{k_1} is maximal in P_1 . Similarly, the infinite set $P_3 = \{a_i S^1 : i \geq k_2 + 1\}$ contains a maximal element, say $a_{k_3} S^1$, and $a_{k_1} S^1, a_{k_2} S^1$ and $a_{k_3} S^1$ are pairwise incomparable. Continuing this process ad infinitum, we obtain an infinite antichain $\{a_{k_i} S^1 : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ of principal subacts of A , as required. \square

From Theorem 2.5 we deduce a number of corollaries.

Corollary 2.6. [18, Proposition 3.1 and Theorem 3.2] *The following are equivalent for a semigroup S :*

1. S is right noetherian;
2. every right ideal of S is finitely generated;
3. every non-empty set of right ideals of S contains a maximal element;
4. S satisfies ACCPR and contains no infinite antichain of principal right ideals;
5. the poset of \mathcal{R} -classes of S satisfies the ascending chain condition and contains no infinite antichain.

Corollary 2.7. *Let S be a semigroup. Any S -act A with finitely many \mathcal{R}_S -classes is noetherian.*

Corollary 2.8. *Any semigroup with finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes is right noetherian.*

Corollary 2.9. *Let S be a semigroup, and let A be an S -act (with 0) that is the union of (0-)simple subacts $A_i, i \in I$. Then A satisfies ACCP. Furthermore, A is noetherian if and only if I is finite.*

Proof. It is clear that A satisfies ACCPR. The (0-)simple subacts of A are clearly principal and form an antichain (under containment), so the second statement follows from Corollary 2.6. \square

Corollary 2.10. *Let S be a semigroup (with 0) that is the union of (0-)minimal right ideals $R_i, i \in I$, of S . Then S satisfies ACCPR. Furthermore, S is right noetherian if and only if I is finite.*

The next result states, for both the properties of being noetherian and satisfying ACCP, an act has the property if and only if both a subact and the associated Rees quotient do.

Proposition 2.11. *Let S be a semigroup, let A be an S -act, and let B be a subact of A . Then A is noetherian (resp. satisfies ACCP) if and only if both B and A/B are noetherian (resp. satisfy ACCP).*

Proof. Suppose that A is noetherian (resp. satisfies ACCP). Since any ascending chain of (principal) subacts of B is also an ascending chain of (principal) subacts of A , it follows that B is noetherian (resp. satisfies ACCP). Now consider an ascending chain

$$C_1 \subseteq C_2 \subseteq \dots$$

of (principal) subacts of A/B . Let $\theta : A \rightarrow A/B$ be the quotient map, and set $D_n = C_n\theta^{-1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then we have an ascending chain

$$D_1 \subseteq D_2 \subseteq \dots$$

of (principal) subacts of A . Since A is noetherian, there exists $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $D_n = D_m$ for all $n \geq m$. Then $C_n = D_n\theta = D_m\theta = C_m$ for all $n \geq m$. Hence, A/B is noetherian (resp. satisfies ACCP).

Conversely, suppose that both B and A/B are noetherian (resp. satisfy ACCP). Consider an ascending chain

$$A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq \dots$$

of (principal) subacts of A . If $A_n \cap B = \emptyset$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then each A_n is a subact of A/B , and hence the above chain must eventually stabilize since A/B is noetherian. Assume then that there exists $i_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $A_{i_0} \cap B \neq \emptyset$. Setting $B_n = A_n \cap B$ and $C_n = (A_n \cup B)/B$ for all $n \geq i_0$, we obtain ascending chains

$$B_{i_0} \subseteq B_{i_0+1} \subseteq \dots \quad \text{and} \quad C_{i_0} \subseteq C_{i_0+1} \subseteq \dots$$

of B and A/B , respectively. Since B and A/B are noetherian, these chains eventually stabilize, and thus there exists $m \geq i_0$ such that $B_n = B_m$ and $C_n = C_m$ for all $n \geq m$. Then we have that

$$A_n = (A_n \setminus B_n) \cup B_n = (C_n \setminus \{0\}) \cup B_n = (C_m \setminus \{0\}) \cup B_m = (A_m \setminus B_m) \cup B_m = B_m$$

for all $n \geq m$. Hence, A is noetherian. □

We now focus on the semigroup conditions of being right noetherian and of satisfying ACCPR. Every free semigroup satisfies ACCPR, but a free semigroup is right noetherian if and only if it is monogenic:

Proposition 2.12. [18, Proposition 3.5] *Let X be a non-empty set. The free semigroup X^* on X satisfies ACCPR, but X^* is right noetherian if and only if $|X| = 1$.*

Since every free semigroup satisfies ACCPR, this property is certainly not closed under quotients. On the other hand, the property of being right noetherian is closed under quotients:

Lemma 2.13. [18, Lemma 4.1] *Let S be a semigroup and let ρ be a congruence on S . If S is right noetherian, then so is S/ρ .*

The property of being right noetherian is not in general inherited by ideals; see [18, Remark 6.10]. Going in the other direction, if both an ideal and the associated Rees quotient are right noetherian, then so is the ideal extension:

Proposition 2.14. [18, Corollary 4.5] *Let S be a semigroup and let I be an ideal of S . If both I and S/I are right noetherian, then so is S .*

Recall that an element a of a semigroup S is *regular* if there exists $b \in S$ such that $a = aba$, and S is *regular* if all its elements are regular. The property of being right noetherian is inherited by regular subsemigroups:

Proposition 2.15. [18, Corollary 5.7] *Let S be a semigroup with a regular subsemigroup T . If S is right noetherian then so is T .*

The corresponding statement for the property of satisfying ACCPR also holds:

Proposition 2.16. *Let S be a semigroup with a regular subsemigroup T . If S satisfies ACCPR then so does T .*

Proof. Consider an ascending chain

$$a_1T_1 \subseteq a_2T^1 \subseteq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of T . Then clearly we have an ascending chain

$$a_1S_1 \subseteq a_2S^1 \subseteq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of S . Since S is right noetherian, there exists $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a_nS^1 = a_mS^1$ for all $n \geq m$. Therefore, for any $n \geq m$ there exists $s_n \in S$ such that $a_n = a_ms_n$. Since T is regular, there exists $x \in T$ such that $a_m = a_mxa_m$. Then we have that

$$a_n = a_mxa_ms_n = a_m(xa_n) \in a_mT,$$

and hence $a_nT^1 = a_mT^1$. Thus T satisfies ACCPR. □

3. Semigroups satisfying ACCPR

In this section we consider the relationship between semigroups and their (one-sided) ideals with respect to the property of satisfying ACCPR. We first consider ideals in general, and we then focus on minimal and 0-minimal ideals.

3.1. General ideals

It turns out that, unlike the property of being right noetherian, the property of satisfying ACCPR is closed under ideals. In fact, we show that this property is closed under the more general class of (m, n) -ideals, introduced by Lajos in [14].

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. An (m, n) -ideal of a semigroup S is a subsemigroup A of S such that $A^mSA^n \subseteq A$. Notice that any one-sided ideal is an (m, n) -ideal. $(1, 1)$ -ideals are also known as *bi-ideals*, which were introduced by Good and Hughes in [7].

Theorem 3.1. *Let S be a semigroup, and let A be an (m, n) -ideal of S for some $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. If S satisfies ACCPR, then so does A .*

Proof. Assume for a contradiction that there exists an infinite strictly ascending chain

$$a_1A^1 \subsetneq a_2A^1 \subsetneq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of A . Then clearly we have an ascending chain

$$a_1S^1 \subseteq a_2S^1 \subseteq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of S . Since S satisfies ACCPR, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a_NS^1 = a_pS^1$ for all $p \geq N$. Now, we have $a_{N+m+j} \in a_{N+m+j+1}A$ for each $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $a_{N+m+n+1} \in a_NS$, and $a_{N+i} \in a_{N+i+1}A$ for each $i \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$. Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_{N+m+1} \in a_{N+m+2}A &\subseteq a_{N+m+3}A^2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq a_{N+m+n+1}A^n \subseteq a_NS A^n \\ &\subseteq a_{N+1}ASA^n \subseteq a_{N+2}A^2SA^n \subseteq \dots \subseteq a_{N+m}A^mSA^n \subseteq a_{N+m}A, \end{aligned}$$

where the final containment follows from the fact that A is an (m, n) -ideal of S . But then $a_{N+m}A^1 = a_{N+m+1}A^1$, contradicting the assumption. □

Corollary 3.2. *Let S be a semigroup and let I be a right/left/two-sided ideal of S . If S satisfies ACCPR, then so does I .*

It was noted in Section 2 that the property of satisfying ACCPR is not closed under quotients. However, we shall see that this property is closed under Rees quotients. First note that, given an ideal I of S , we have both the semigroup Rees quotient S/I and the S -act Rees quotient S_S/I_S (with the same universe).

Lemma 3.3. *Let S be a semigroup and let I be an ideal of S . Then S/I satisfies ACCPR if and only if S_S/I_S satisfies ACCP.*

Proof. Since I is an ideal of S , for any $a, b \in S \setminus I$ we have that $aS^1 \subseteq bS^1$ if and only if $a(S/I)^1 \subseteq b(S/I)^1$. From this fact the result readily follows. \square

Corollary 3.4. *Let S be a semigroup and let I be an ideal of S . If S satisfies ACCPR, then both I and S/I satisfy ACCPR.*

Proof. We have that I satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 3.2](#). Since S_S satisfies ACCP, the quotient S_S/I_S satisfies ACCP by [Proposition 2.11](#), and hence S/I satisfies ACCPR by [Lemma 3.3](#). \square

Corollary 3.5. *Let S be a semigroup and let I be an ideal of S . Then S satisfies ACCPR if and only if S/I satisfies ACCPR and (the S -act) I_S satisfies ACCP.*

Proof. If S satisfies ACCPR, then S/I satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 3.4](#). Since S_S satisfies ACCP, the subact I_S satisfies ACCP by [Proposition 2.11](#). The converse follows from [Proposition 2.11](#) and [Lemma 3.3](#). \square

Recall that a principal factor of a semigroup is either the minimal ideal (if it exists) or the Rees quotient of a certain ideal by another ideal. Thus, [Corollary 3.4](#) yields:

Corollary 3.6. *If a semigroup S satisfies ACCPR, then so do all its principal factors.*

We shall show that the converse of [Corollary 3.4](#) does not hold. To this end, we introduce the following construction.

Construction 3.7. Let S be a semigroup and let A be an S -act. Let $\{x_a : a \in A\}$ be a set in one-to-one correspondence with A and disjoint from S , and let 0 be an element disjoint from $S \cup \{x_a : a \in A\}$. Define a multiplication on $U = S \cup \{x_a : a \in A\} \cup \{0\}$, extending that on S , by

$$x_a s = x_{as} \text{ and } s x_a = x_a x_b = u 0 = 0 u = 0$$

for all $s \in S, a, b \in A$ and $u \in U$. With this multiplication, U is a semigroup, and we denote it by $\mathcal{U}(S, A)$. Notice that $\{x_a : a \in A\} \cup \{0\}$ is a null semigroup and an ideal of S .

Proposition 3.8. *Let S be a semigroup, let A be an S -act, and let $U = \mathcal{U}(S, A)$. Then U satisfies ACCPR if and only if S satisfies ACCPR and A satisfies ACCP.*

Proof. Let $I = \{x_a : a \in A\} \cup \{0\}$. By [Corollary 3.5](#), we have that U satisfies ACCPR if and only if U/I satisfies ACCPR and I_U satisfies ACCP. Clearly $U/I \cong S^0$ satisfies ACCPR if and only if S satisfies ACCPR. It is easy to show that, for any $a, b \in A$, we have $0U^1 = 0 \subsetneq x_a U^1$, and $x_a U^1 \subseteq x_b U^1$ if and only if $aS^1 \subseteq bS^1$. Thus, the poset of principal subacts of I_U has the form $P \cup \{0\}$, where P is isomorphic to the poset of principal subacts of A . It follows that I_U satisfies ACCP if and only if A satisfies ACCP. This completes the proof. \square

We now show that the converse of [Corollary 3.4](#) does not hold.

Let S be a semigroup that satisfies ACCPR with an S -act A that does not satisfy ACCP. (For example, we can take A to be any *semigroup* that does not satisfy ACCPR and S to be a free semigroup with a surjective homomorphism $\theta : S \rightarrow A$. We turn A into an S -act by defining $a \cdot s = a(s\theta)$ for all $a \in A$ and $s \in S$. We have that S satisfies ACCPR by [Proposition 2.12](#), and it is straightforward to show that A does not satisfy ACCP.) The semigroup $U = \mathcal{U}(S, A)$ does not satisfy ACCPR by [Proposition 3.8](#). On

the other hand, the ideal $I = \{x_a : a \in A\} \cup \{0\}$ certainly satisfies ACCPR (indeed, any null semigroup satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 2.10](#)), and the Rees quotient $U/I \cong S^0$ satisfies ACCPR since S satisfies ACCPR.

We now consider conditions on an ideal I such that converse of [Corollary 3.4](#) does hold.

Given a semigroup S , we say that an element $a \in S$ has a *local right identity* (in S) if there exists $s \in S$ such that $a = as$; i.e. $a \in aS$. If S is a monoid or a regular semigroup, then clearly every element has a local right identity.

Proposition 3.9. *Let S be a semigroup, let I be an ideal of S , and suppose that every element of I has a local right identity in I . Then S satisfies ACCPR if and only if both I and S/I satisfy ACCPR.*

Proof. We show that the S -act I_S satisfies ACCP. The result then follows from [Corollary 3.5](#). So, consider an ascending chain

$$a_1S^1 \subseteq a_2S^1 \subseteq \dots$$

of principal subacts of I_S . Then for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have that

$$a_n = a_{n+1}S^1 \subseteq a_{n+1}IS^1 \subseteq a_{n+1}I,$$

using the fact that a_{n+1} has a local right identity in I . Therefore, we have an ascending chain

$$a_1I^1 \subseteq a_2I^1 \subseteq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of I . Since I satisfies ACCPR, there exists $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a_nI^1 = a_mI^1$ for all $n \geq m$. Thus $a_nS^1 = a_mS^1$ for all $n \geq m$. □

Proposition 3.10. *Let S be a semigroup, let I be an ideal of S , and suppose that there is no infinite antichain of principal right ideals of I . Then the following are equivalent:*

1. S satisfies ACCPR;
2. both I and S/I satisfy ACCPR;
3. I is right noetherian and S/I satisfies ACCPR.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2) is [Corollary 3.4](#).

(2) \Rightarrow (3). Since I satisfies ACCPR and has no infinite antichain of principal right ideals, it is right noetherian by [Corollary 2.6](#).

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Assume for a contradiction that S does not satisfy ACCPR. Then there exists an infinite strictly ascending chain

$$a_1S^1 \subsetneq a_2S^1 \subsetneq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of S . We cannot have $a_i \in S \setminus I$ for any $i \in \mathbb{N}$, for then we would have an infinite ascending chain

$$a_i(S/I)^1 \subseteq a_{i+1}(S/I)^1 \subseteq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of S/I . Thus $a_i \in I$ for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Consider the set $\{a_iI^1 : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ of principal right ideals of I . By assumption, this set does not contain an infinite antichain. Also, we cannot have $a_iI^1 \subseteq a_jI^1$ for any $i > j$, for then we would have $a_iS^1 = a_jS^1$. Thus, there exist $i_1, j_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ with $i_1 < j_1$ such that $a_{i_1}I^1 \subsetneq a_{j_1}I^1$. Hence $a_{i_1} \in a_{j_1}I$.

Now consider the set $\{a_iI^1 : i \geq j_1\}$. By a similar argument as above, there exist $i_2, j_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ with $j_1 \leq i_2 < j_2$ such that $a_{i_2}I^1 \subsetneq a_{j_2}I^1$. Now, we have

$$a_{i_1} \in a_{j_1}I \subseteq (a_{i_2}S^1)I = a_{i_2}(S^1I) \subseteq a_{i_2}I,$$

and hence $a_{i_1}I^1 \subsetneq a_{i_2}I^1$. Continuing this process ad infinitum, we obtain an infinite strictly ascending chain

$$a_{i_1}I^1 \subsetneq a_{i_2}I^1 \subsetneq a_{i_3}I^1 \subsetneq \dots$$

of principal right ideals of I , contradicting the fact that I is right noetherian. Hence, S satisfies ACCPR. \square

3.2. Minimal and 0-minimal ideals

In the remainder of this section we focus on minimal and 0-minimal (one-sided) ideals. Recall that the minimal ideal of a semigroup S , if it exists, is denoted by $\mathcal{K}(S)$.

Proposition 3.11. *Let S be a semigroup with at least one minimal right ideal, and let $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}(S)$. Then S satisfies ACCPR if and only if S/\mathcal{K} satisfies ACCPR.*

Proof. Clearly \mathcal{K} , being the union of all the minimal right ideals of S , satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 2.10](#). Consider $a \in \mathcal{K}$. Then $a \in R$ for some minimal right ideal R of S . Clearly $a\mathcal{K}$ is a right ideal of S contained in R , so $a\mathcal{K} = R$ by the minimality of R , and hence $a \in a\mathcal{K}$. Thus every element of \mathcal{K} has a local right identity. The result now follows from [Proposition 3.9](#). \square

We now consider semigroups satisfying ACCPR with minimal left ideals.

Theorem 3.12. *Let S be a semigroup that satisfies ACCPR. Then S has a minimal left ideal if and only if S has a completely simple kernel.*

Proof. If S has a completely simple kernel, then, as established in [Section 2](#), S has minimal left ideals.

Now suppose that S has a minimal left ideal. Then $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}(S)$ is the union of all the minimal left ideals of S . We shall prove that \mathcal{K} has an idempotent, and then \mathcal{K} is completely simple by [[5](#), [Theorem 8.14](#)].

Let L be a minimal left ideal of S , and consider the set $\{aS^1 : a \in L\}$ of principal right ideals of S . This set contains a maximal element, say xS^1 . Since Lx is left ideal of S contained in L , we have that $L = Lx$ by the minimality of L . Thus $x = yx$ for some $y \in L$, and hence $xS^1 \subseteq yS^1$. Since xS^1 is maximal in the set $\{aS^1 : a \in L\}$, we conclude that $xS^1 = yS^1$. Then $y = xs$ for some $s \in S^1$, and hence

$$y^2 = y(xs) = (yx)s = xs = y.$$

Thus, $L \subseteq \mathcal{K}$ has an idempotent, as required. \square

Corollary 3.13. *Let S be a semigroup. Then S satisfies ACCPR and has a minimal left ideal if and only if S has a completely simple minimal ideal \mathcal{K} and S/\mathcal{K} satisfies ACCPR.*

Proof. The forward implication follows from [Theorem 3.12](#) and [Corollary 3.5](#). Conversely, since S has a completely simple minimal ideal, it certainly has a minimal left ideal, and S satisfies ACCPR by [Proposition 3.9](#), since every element of \mathcal{K} has a local right identity. \square

The following result is an analogue of [Theorem 3.12](#) for 0-minimal ideals.

Theorem 3.14. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup that satisfies ACCPR and has a 0-minimal ideal I . Then I contains a globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideal of S if and only if I is completely 0-simple.*

Proof. (\Rightarrow) Suppose that I contains a globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideal L of S . Since $L^2 = L$, therefore $I^2 \neq 0$ and hence I is 0-simple. We shall prove that I contains an idempotent, and then it is completely 0-simple by [[5](#), [Theorem 8.22](#)].

Recall that for any $a \in L$, either $La = L$ or $La = 0$. Consider the set

$$P = \{aS^1 : a \in L, La = L\}$$

of principal right ideals of S . By the 0-minimality of L , we have $L = S^1a$ for each $a \in L$. Since $L = L^2$, there exist $b, c \in L$ such that $bc \in L$, and hence $L = S^1(bc) = (S^1b)c = Lc$. Thus P is non-empty. Since S satisfies ACCPR, P contains a maximal element, say xS^1 . Then $x \in L$ and $L = Lx$. Thus $x = yx$ for some $y \in L$, and hence $xS^1 \subseteq yS^1$. Since $(Ly)x = L(yx) = Lx = L$, we cannot have $Ly \neq 0$, so $Ly = L$ and hence $yS^1 \in P$. Since xS^1 is maximal in P , we conclude that $xS^1 = yS^1$. Then, as in the proof of [Theorem 3.12](#), we have $y^2 = y$, so I contains an idempotent, as required.

(\Leftarrow) If I is completely 0-simple, then it has a globally idempotent 0-minimal ideal L . We have that

$$SL = SL^2 = (SL)L \subseteq IL \subseteq L,$$

and $SL \neq 0$ since $L^2 = L$, so $SL = L$ by the 0-minimality of L . Thus, L is a left ideal of S . Clearly any left ideal of S contained in L also a left ideal of I , so it follows from the 0-minimality of L in I that L is 0-minimal in S . □

Corollary 3.15. *Let S be a 0-simple semigroup. Then S satisfies ACCPR and has a 0-minimal left ideal if and only if S is completely 0-simple.*

Proof. Suppose that S satisfies ACCPR and has a 0-minimal left ideal L . Since S is 0-simple, we have that $L^2 \neq 0$ by [\[4, Lemma 2.34\]](#), and hence L must be globally idempotent. It follows from [Theorem 3.14](#) that S is completely 0-simple.

The converse clearly holds. □

Corollary 3.16. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup with a globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideal L . If S satisfies ACCPR, then the globally idempotent part B^L of LS is completely 0-simple.*

Proof. By the left-right dual of [Theorem 2.1](#), B^L is a left ideal of S . Therefore, since S satisfies ACCPR, B^L satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 3.2](#). Also by the left-right dual of [Theorem 2.1](#), B^L is 0-simple and has globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideals (of itself). Hence, by [Corollary 3.15](#), B^L is completely 0-simple. □

Recall that the left socle $\Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$ of a semigroup S with 0 is the 0-disjoint union of A^l and B^l , which are the null part and globally idempotent part of Σ^l , respectively. Note that since A^l is an ideal of S , we may view it as a subact of S_S .

Theorem 3.17. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup, and let $\Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. S satisfies ACCPR;
2. B^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups B_i ($i \in I$), the S -act A^l_S satisfies ACCP, and S/Σ^l satisfies ACCPR.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). Suppose that $B^l \neq 0$. Then, by the left-right dual of [Theorem 2.2](#), there exists a set $\{L_i : i \in I\}$ of globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideals of S such that B^l is the 0-direct union of the 0-simple semigroups $B_i = B^{L_i}$ ($i \in I$). Each B_i is completely 0-simple by [Corollary 3.16](#). The subact A^l_S of S_S satisfies ACCP by [Proposition 2.11](#), and S/Σ^l satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 3.4](#).

(2) \Rightarrow (1). Let T denote the Rees quotient S/A^l . Since A^l_S satisfies ACCP, by [Corollary 3.5](#) it suffices to prove that T satisfies ACCPR. Notice that B_l is (isomorphic to) an ideal of T . Since B^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups, it satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 2.10](#), and every

element of B^l has a local right identity. Now, $T/B^l \cong S/\Sigma^l$ (by the Third Isomorphism Theorem), so T/B^l satisfies ACCPR by assumption. Hence, by [Proposition 3.9](#), T satisfies ACCPR, as required. \square

If $S = S^0$ has no null 0-minimal ideals then $\Sigma^l(S) = B^l$, so by [Theorem 3.17](#) we have:

Corollary 3.18. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup without null 0-minimal ideals, and let $\Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. S satisfies ACCPR;
2. Σ^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups, and S/Σ^l satisfies ACCPR.

We shall find some necessary and sufficient conditions for a semigroup $S = \Sigma^l(S)$ to satisfy ACCPR, but first we provide the following lemma.

Lemma 3.19. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup such that $S = \Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$, and let $\Sigma^r = \Sigma^r(S)$. Then the following statements hold.*

1. If $A^l \neq 0$, then $\{a, 0\}$ is a 0-minimal right ideal of S for each $a \in A^l \setminus \{0\}$.
2. $A^r = A^l$, $B^r \subseteq B^l$, and B^r is an ideal of S .
3. Σ^r is the 0-direct union of A^r and B^r .
4. $S/\Sigma^r \cong B^l/B^r$.

Proof. By the left-right dual of [Theorem 2.2](#), B^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of 0-simple semigroups B_i ($i \in I$). Consider $x \in A^r \cap B^l$. Since either $x = 0$ or x belongs to a 0-simple semigroup, we have $x \in J_x^2$, where J_x denotes the \mathcal{J} -class of x . We have $J_x \subseteq A^r$ since A^r is an ideal, and hence $x \in (A^r)^2 = 0$, so $x = 0$. Thus $A^r \cap B^l = 0$, and hence $A^r \subseteq A^l$. Since A^l is an ideal of S and B^l is a left ideal of S , it follows that $A^l B^l = 0$. Since $S = A^l \cup B^l$ and $(A^l)^2 = 0$, we conclude that $A^l S = 0$. Therefore, if $A^l \neq 0$ then $\{a, 0\}$ is a 0-minimal right ideal for each $a \in A^l \setminus \{0\}$. Thus, $A^l \subseteq A^r$, and hence $A^r = A^l$. Then $0 = A^r \cap B^r = A^l \cap B^r$, so $B^r \subseteq B^l$.

If $B^r = 0$, then it is clear that B^r is an ideal of S and that statements (3) and (4) hold, so we may assume that $B^r \neq 0$. Let

$$J = \{j \in I : B_j \cap B^r \neq 0\}.$$

Consider $b \in B_j \cap B^r$, $b \neq 0$. We have that $B_j \subseteq SbS$ since B_j is 0-simple, and hence $B_j \subseteq \Sigma^r$ as Σ^r is an ideal. We must have that $B_j \subseteq B^r$, for otherwise we would have $b \in A^r$ (using the fact B_j is 0-simple and A^r is an ideal). It follows that B^r is the 0-direct union of B_j , $j \in J$.

Now, B^r is a right ideal of S by [Theorem 2.2](#), so to prove that it is an ideal, it suffices to show that it is a left ideal. So, let $s \in S$ and $b \in B^r$. If $s \in A^l$, then $sb \in A^l S = 0$. Suppose that $s \in B^l$. We have that $s \in B_i$ and $b \in B_j$ for some $i \in I$, $j \in J$. If $i = j$, then $sb \in B_j \subseteq B^r$. If $i \neq j$, then $sb \in B_i B_j = 0$. Thus B^r is an ideal of S .

Since A^r and B^r are both ideals of S , and $A^r \cap B^r = 0$, it follows that $A^r B^r = B^r A^r = 0$. Thus Σ^r is the 0-direct union of A^r and B^r .

Since $B^r \subseteq B^l$ and B^r is an ideal of S , it is certainly an ideal of B^l . Observing that the universe of S/Σ^r is $(B^l \setminus B^r) \cup \{0\}$, it is easy to see that $S/\Sigma^r \cong B^l/B^r$. \square

Theorem 3.20. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup such that $S = \Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$, and let $\Sigma^r = \Sigma^r(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. S satisfies ACCPR;
2. B^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups;
3. Σ^r is either a null semigroup or the 0-direct union of a null semigroup and completely 0-simple semigroups, and either $\Sigma^r = S$ or S/Σ^r is the 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2) follows immediately from [Theorem 3.17](#).

(2) \Rightarrow (3). By [Lemma 3.19](#), $A^r = A^l$, $B^r \subseteq B^l$, and Σ^r is the 0-direct union of A^r and B^r . If $B^r = 0$, then $\Sigma^r = A^r$ is a null semigroup. If $B^r \neq 0$, then $B^l \neq 0$, so B^l is the 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups B_i ($i \in I$). As in the proof of [Lemma 3.19](#), there exists a set $J \subseteq I$ such that B^r is the 0-direct union of B_j , $j \in J$. By [Lemma 3.19](#), we have that $S/\Sigma^r \cong B^l/B^r$. Thus, if $\Sigma^r \neq S$ then S/Σ^r is (isomorphic to) the 0-direct union of B_i , $i \in J \setminus I$.

(3) \Rightarrow (1). We have that $S/A^r \cong B^r$ is a 0-direct union of completely 0-simple semigroups, and hence satisfies ACCPR by [Corollary 2.10](#). Therefore, to prove that S satisfies ACCPR, by [Corollary 3.5](#) it suffices to show that A^r_S is noetherian (as an S -act). If $A^r_S = 0$ then it is obviously noetherian. Otherwise, by [Lemma 3.19](#), we have that A^r_S is the union of 0-simple subacts $\{a, 0\}$ ($a \in A^r_S$), and hence A^r_S is noetherian by [Corollary 2.9](#). \square

4. Right noetherian semigroups

In this section we consider right noetherian semigroups. Paralleling the previous section, this section splits into two parts, the first of which deals with ideals in general, and the section concerns minimal and 0-minimal ideals.

4.1. General ideals

As mentioned in [Section 3](#), unlike the property of satisfying ACCPR, the property of being right noetherian is not closed under ideals. The following result provides a condition under which ideals, and more generally (m, n) -ideals, inherit the property of being right noetherian. In what follows, a right ideal I of a semigroup A is *decomposable* (in A) if $I = IA$.

Proposition 4.1. *Let S be a semigroup, let A be an (m, n) -ideal of S , and suppose that every right ideal of A is decomposable in A . If S is right noetherian, then so is A .*

Proof. Let I be a right ideal of A . Then $I = IA$ by assumption. This implies that $I = IA^m = IA^n$. Since S is right noetherian and IS^1 is a right ideal of S , there exists a finite set $X \subseteq I$ such that $IS^1 = XS^1$. For each $x \in X$ choose $y_x \in I$ such that $x \in y_x A^m$, and let $Y = \{y_x : x \in X\}$. We claim that $I = YA$. Clearly $YA \subseteq I$. Now consider $a \in I$. Then $a = bv$ for some $b \in I$ and $v \in A^n$, and $b = xs$ for some $x \in X$ and $s \in S^1$. Now, $x = y_x u$ for some $u \in A^m$. Therefore, we have that

$$a = y_x(usv) \in Y(A^m S^1 A^n) \subseteq YA,$$

using the fact that A is an (m, n) -ideal of S . Thus $I \subseteq YA$, and hence $I = YA$, as desired. \square

Corollary 4.2. *Let S be a semigroup, and suppose that A is a left ideal of S such that every element of A is regular in S . If S is right noetherian, then so is A .*

Proof. Let I be a right ideal of A . For any $a \in I$ there exists $b \in S$ such that $a = aba$. Since A is a left ideal, we have $ba \in A$, so $a \in IA$. Thus $I = IA$ is decomposable. Hence, by [Proposition 4.1](#), A is right noetherian. \square

By [Propositions 2.14](#) and [4.1](#) we have:

Corollary 4.3. *Let S be a semigroup, let I be an ideal of S , and suppose that every right ideal of I is decomposable. Then S is right noetherian if and only if both I and S/I are right noetherian.*

Recall that a semigroup is strongly right noetherian if its poset of right congruences satisfies the ascending chain condition. The following result, due to Kozhukhov, describes the non-null principal factors of a strongly right noetherian semigroup.

Proposition 4.4. [11, Lemma 1.3] *Any (0-)simple principal factor of a strongly right noetherian semigroup is completely (0-)simple and has only finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes.*

From Proposition 4.4 and Corollary 2.10 we immediately deduce:

Corollary 4.5. *Every non-null principal factor of a strongly right noetherian semigroup is right noetherian.*

Corollary 4.6. *Let S be a semigroup with an ideal I such that for every \mathcal{J} -class $J \subseteq I$ the principal factor of J is either simple or 0-simple. If S is strongly right noetherian, then I is regular and hence right noetherian.*

Proof. The ideal I is a union of \mathcal{J} -classes. For every \mathcal{J} -class $J \subseteq I$, its principal factor is either completely simple or completely 0-simple by Proposition 4.4. It follows that element of I is regular (in I), so I is a regular semigroup. Hence, by Proposition 2.15, I is right noetherian. \square

A semigroup is said to be *semisimple* if each of its principal factors is simple or 0-simple. If a semigroup has a null principal factor, then the non-zero elements of that principal factor are not regular. Thus regular semigroups are semisimple. This fact, together with Corollary 4.6, yields:

Corollary 4.7. *Let S be a strongly right noetherian semigroup. Then S is semisimple if and only if it is regular, in which case every ideal of S is right noetherian.*

Remark 4.8. Ideals, indeed kernels, of strongly right noetherian (regular) semigroups need not be strongly right noetherian; see [17, Example 6.5 and Proposition 6.6].

We end this subsection with some results that will be useful in the next subsection.

Lemma 4.9. *Let S be a semigroup and let I be an ideal of S . Then S/I is right noetherian if and only if the S -act S_S/I_S is noetherian.*

Proof. It can easily be seen that a subset of S/I is a right ideal of S/I if and only if it is a subact of S_S/I_S , and that finite generation is preserved in both directions. \square

Corollary 4.10. *Let S be a semigroup and let I be an ideal of S . Then S is right noetherian if and only if S/I is right noetherian and (the S -act) I_S is noetherian.*

Proof. If S is right noetherian, then so is S/I by Lemma 2.13. Since S_S is noetherian, the subact I_S is noetherian by Proposition 2.11. The converse follows from Lemma 4.9 and Proposition 2.14. \square

Recalling Construction 3.7, an argument similar to the proof of Proposition 3.8 yields:

Proposition 4.11. *Let S be a semigroup, let A be an S -act, and let $U = \mathcal{U}(S, A)$. Then U is right noetherian if and only if S is right noetherian and A is noetherian.*

4.2. Minimal and 0-minimal ideals

From now on we focus on minimal and 0-minimal ideals. We begin by exhibiting an example of a right noetherian semigroup with a kernel that is not right noetherian.

Example 4.12. Let S be the semigroup defined by the presentation

$$\langle a, b \mid ab^2 = b, aba = a^2b \rangle.$$

Corresponding to the above presentation, we have a rewriting system on $\{a, b\}$ consisting of the rules $ab^2 \rightarrow b$ and $aba \rightarrow a^2b$. It is straightforward to check that this rewriting is complete (i.e. noetherian and confluent) and hence yields the following set of normal forms for S :

$$\{a^i, b^i a^j, b^j a^i b : i > 0, j \geq 0\};$$

that is, the set of all the words over $\{a, b\}$ that do not contain ab^2 or aba as a subword. For more information about rewriting systems, one may consult [2] for instance.

Let $A = \langle a \rangle \cong \mathbb{N}$. We have that

$$a^i (b^j a^j) b^{j+1} = a^i b^{i+1} = b,$$

and hence $a^i (b^j a^j b) b^j = b$. Thus, $S \setminus A$ is the \mathcal{J} -class of b . Since $S \setminus A$ is an ideal of S , we conclude that it is the kernel $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}(S)$.

(1) S is right noetherian.

Since $S/\mathcal{K} \cong \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ is right noetherian, by Corollary 4.10 it suffices to prove that \mathcal{K}_S is noetherian. So, let $I_S \subseteq \mathcal{K}_S$ be a subact of S_S . We shall prove that I_S is finitely generated. Let $i_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ be minimal such that $b^{i_0} \in I_S$. If there exist $j \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $b^{i_0-1} a^j \in I_S$, let j_0 be the minimal such j and set $Y = \{b^{i_0-1} a^{j_0}\}$; otherwise, let $Y = \emptyset$. If there exist $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $b^{i_0-1} a^{k_0} b \in I_S$, let k_0 be the minimal such k and set $Z = \{b^{i_0-1} a^{k_0} b\}$; otherwise, let $Z = \emptyset$. We claim that I_S is generated by $\{b^{i_0}\} \cup Y \cup Z$. So, let $s \in I_S$. There are two cases to consider.

Case 1: $s = b^i a^j$ for some $i > 0$ and $j \geq 0$.

If $i \geq i_0$, then $s = b^{i_0} b^{i-i_0} a^j \in b^{i_0} S^1$. Suppose then that $i < i_0$. Now $b^{i+1} = s b^{i+1}$, so $i + 1 \geq i_0$ and hence $i = i_0 - 1$. It follows that $j \geq j_0$, and hence $s = b^{i_0-1} a^{i_0} a^{j-j_0} \in Y S^1$.

Case 2: $s = b^i a^j b$ for some $i \geq 0$ and $j > 0$.

If $i \geq i_0$, then $s \in b^{i_0} S$, so assume that $i < i_0$. We have that $b^{i+1} = s b^i \in I_S$, so $i = i_0 - 1$ and $j \geq k_0$. Thus $s = b^{i_0-1} a^{k_0} b a^{j-k_0} \in Z S^1$.

(2) \mathcal{K} is not right noetherian.

We claim that the infinite set $\{(b^i a^j) \mathcal{K}^1 : i \geq 0\}$ is an antichain of principal right ideals of \mathcal{K} , and hence \mathcal{K} is not right noetherian by Corollary 2.6. Indeed, consider $b a^i u$ where $u \in \mathcal{K}$.

Suppose first that $u = b^m a^n$ for some $m \geq 1$ and $n \geq 0$. If $i < m$, then $b a^i u = b^{m-i+1} a^n$ and $m - i + 1 \geq 2$. If $i \geq m$, then $b a^i u = b a^{i-m+n+1} b$.

Now suppose that $u = b^m a^n b$ for some $m \geq 0$ and $n \geq 1$. If $m = 0$, then $b a^i u = b a^{i+n} b$. If $1 \leq m \leq i$, then

$$b a^i u = b a^{i-m+1} b a^n b = b a^{i-m+1+n} b^2 = b a^{i-m+n} b.$$

Finally, if $m > i$ then $b a^i u = b^{m-i+1} a^n b$.

In any case, in view of the normal form for \mathcal{K} , we conclude that $b a^i u \neq b a^j$ for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$. It follows that $(b a^i) \mathcal{K}^1$ and $(b a^j) \mathcal{K}^1$ are incomparable whenever $i \neq j$.

The next two results show that in a right noetherian semigroup with minimal one-sided ideals, the kernel is also right noetherian.

Proposition 4.13. *Let S be a semigroup with at least one minimal right ideal, and let $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}(S)$. If S is right noetherian, then \mathcal{K} has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes (of itself), and hence \mathcal{K} is right noetherian.*

Proof. The kernel \mathcal{K} is the union of all the minimal right ideals of S . By [3, Theorem 2.4], each of these minimal right ideals is a minimal right ideal of \mathcal{K} . Moreover, due to their minimality, they form an antichain of principal right ideals of S . Hence, by Corollary 2.6, \mathcal{K} is the union of finitely many minimal right ideals. Hence, by Corollary 2.10, \mathcal{K} is right noetherian. □

Proposition 4.14. *Let S be a semigroup with at least one minimal left ideal, and let $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}(S)$. If S is right noetherian, then \mathcal{K} is completely simple and right noetherian (and hence has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes).*

Proof. Since S satisfies ACCPR, the kernel \mathcal{K} is completely simple by [Theorem 3.12](#). Since \mathcal{K} is a regular subsemigroup of S , it is right noetherian by [Proposition 2.15](#), and hence \mathcal{K} has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes by [Corollary 2.10](#). \square

Corollary 4.15. *Let S be a semigroup with a minimal one-sided ideal, and let $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}(S)$. Then S is right noetherian if and only if both \mathcal{K} and S/\mathcal{K} are right noetherian.*

Proof. The forward direction follows from [Lemma 2.13](#) and [Propositions 4.13](#) and [4.14](#), and the reverse implication follows from [Proposition 2.14](#). \square

The remainder of this section concerns semigroups with zero. The following example demonstrates that a right noetherian semigroup can have a right/left socle that is not right noetherian.

Example 4.16. (1) Let S be any right noetherian semigroup, let A be a noetherian S -act (such as S_S), and let $U = \mathcal{U}(S, A)$. Then U is right noetherian by [Proposition 4.11](#). For each $a \in A$, the set $\{x_a, 0\}$ is a null 0-minimal left ideal of U , and $\Sigma^l(U) = \{x_a : a \in A\} \cup \{0\}$. If A is infinite, then $\Sigma^l(U)$ is not right noetherian; indeed, any infinite null semigroup is not right noetherian by [Corollary 2.10](#).

(2) Let S be the free commutative semigroup on two generators y and z . Let $A = \{a_i : i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ be the S -act with action given by $a_i \cdot y^j z^k = a_{i+j-k}$. It is easy to see that A has no proper subacts, and hence A is noetherian. Since S is right noetherian, we have that $U = \mathcal{U}(S, A)$ is right noetherian by [Proposition 4.11](#). We have that $R = \{x_a : a \in A\} \cup \{0\}$ is a null 0-minimal right ideal of U , and $\Sigma^r(U) = R$ is not right noetherian.

The following result provides a necessary and sufficient condition for a 0-minimal right ideal to be right noetherian.

Theorem 4.17. *Let R be a 0-minimal right ideal of a semigroup S . Then R is right noetherian if and only if the set $\{a \in R \setminus \{0\} : aR = 0\}$ is finite.*

Proof. For each $a \in R$, we have either $aR = 0$ or $aR = R$. Thus, if $a, b \in R \setminus \{0\}$ with $a \subseteq bR$, then $bR = R$. It follows that R satisfies ACCPR. Thus, by [Corollary 2.6](#), R is right noetherian if and only if it has no infinite antichain of principal right ideals. Now, for any $a, b \in R \setminus \{0\}$ with $a \neq b$, the principal right ideals aR^1 and bR^1 are incomparable if and only if $b \notin aR$ and $a \notin bR$ if and only if $aR \neq R$ and $bR \neq R$ if and only if $aR = bR = 0$. The result now follows. \square

Completely 0-simple semigroups have the following well-known representation, due to Rees. Let G be a group, let I and J be non-empty sets, and let $P = (p_{ji})$ be a $J \times I$ matrix over G^0 in which every row and column contains at least one element of G . The *Rees matrix semigroup with zero over G with respect to P* is the semigroup $\mathcal{M}^0(G; I, J; P)$ with universe $(I \times G \times J) \cup \{0\}$ and multiplication given by

$$(i, g, j)(k, h, l) = \begin{cases} (i, gp_{jk}h, l) & \text{if } p_{jk} \in G \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad 0(i, g, j) = (i, g, j)0 = 0^2 = 0.$$

The 0-minimal right ideals of $\mathcal{M}^0(G; I, J; P)$ are the sets $R_i = (\{i\} \times G \times J) \cup \{0\}$ ($i \in I$). From [Theorem 4.17](#) we deduce:

Corollary 4.18. *Let $S = \mathcal{M}^0(G; I, J; P)$ be a completely 0-simple semigroup. Then a 0-minimal right ideal $R_i = (\{i\} \times G \times J) \cup \{0\}$ of S is right noetherian if and only if the set $\{(g, j) \in G \times J : p_{ji} = 0\}$ is finite.*

Corollary 4.19. *Let $S = \mathcal{M}^0(G; I, J; P)$ be a completely 0-simple semigroup where G is infinite. Then a 0-minimal right ideal $R_i = (\{i\} \times G \times J) \cup \{0\}$ of S is right noetherian if and only if $p_{ji} \in G$ for all $j \in J$.*

Remark 4.20. Let $S = \mathcal{M}^0(\mathbb{Z}; I, I; P)$ where $|I| = 2$ and $P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then S is strongly right noetherian by [12, Corollary 2.2], but neither of its two 0-minimal right ideals are right noetherian by Corollary 4.19.

Although the right socle of a right noetherian semigroup need not be right noetherian itself, it is necessary that the globally idempotent part of the right socle be right noetherian.

Proposition 4.21. *Let $S = S^0$ be a right noetherian semigroup. Then S has finitely many 0-minimal right ideals. Moreover, if S has a globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideal, then the globally idempotent part B^r of $\Sigma^r = \Sigma^r(S)$ is a union of finitely many 0-minimal right ideals of itself, and hence B^r is right noetherian.*

Proof. The set of 0-minimal right ideals of S , if non-empty, is an antichain of principal right ideals of S . Therefore, since S is right noetherian, it has finitely many 0-minimal right ideals by Corollary 2.6.

Now suppose that S has a globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideal. By Theorem 2.2, there exists a set $\{R_i : i \in I\}$ of globally idempotent 0-minimal right ideals of S such that B^r is the 0-direct union of the B^{R_i} ($i \in I$). Then I is finite, and it follows from Theorem 2.1(4) that each B^{R_i} is a union of 0-minimal right ideals of itself. It then clearly follows that B^r is a union of finitely many 0-minimal right ideals of itself. Hence, by Corollary 2.10, B^r is right noetherian. □

Corollary 4.22. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup, and let $\Sigma^r = \Sigma^r(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. S is right noetherian;
2. S has finitely many 0-minimal right ideals and S/Σ^r is right noetherian.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2) follows immediately from Proposition 4.21 and Lemma 2.13.

(2) \Rightarrow (1). The right socle Σ^r contains only finitely many right ideals of S ; equivalently, Σ^r_S contains only finitely many subacts of S_S . Thus Σ^r_S is noetherian. Since S/Σ^r is right noetherian, we have that S is right noetherian by Corollary 4.10. □

Corollary 4.23. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup without null 0-minimal ideals, and let $\Sigma^r = \Sigma^r(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:*

1. S is right noetherian;
2. Σ^r is a union of finitely many 0-minimal right ideals of itself, and S/Σ^r is right noetherian;
3. both Σ^r and S/Σ^r are right noetherian.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). We have $\Sigma^r = B^r$, so Σ^r is a union of finitely many 0-minimal right ideals of itself by Proposition 4.21. By Lemma 2.13, S/Σ^r is right noetherian.

(2) \Rightarrow (3) follows from Corollary 2.10, and (3) \Rightarrow (1) follows from Proposition 2.14. □

The following result is an analogue of Proposition 4.14 for 0-minimal left ideals.

Proposition 4.24. *Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup with a globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideal L . If S is right noetherian, then the globally idempotent part B^L of LS is completely 0-simple and right noetherian (and hence has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes). Moreover, L is right noetherian.*

Proof. Since S satisfies ACCPR, B^L is completely 0-simple by Corollary 3.16. Therefore, B^L is right noetherian by Proposition 2.15, and hence B^L has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes by Corollary 2.10. Since L is contained in B_L , which is regular, L is right noetherian by Corollary 4.2. □

We now characterize the property of being right noetherian in terms of the left socle.

Theorem 4.25. Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup, and let $\Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:

1. S is right noetherian;
2. B^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of finitely many completely 0-simple semigroups that each have finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes, the S -act A_S^l is noetherian, and S/Σ^l is right noetherian.
3. both Σ^l and S/Σ^l are right noetherian.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). By [Corollary 4.10](#), A_S^l is noetherian and S/Σ^l is right noetherian. Suppose that $B^l \neq 0$. Then, by the left-right dual of [Theorem 2.2](#), there exists a set $\{L_i : i \in I\}$ of globally idempotent 0-minimal left ideals such that B^l is a 0-direct union of B_i ($i \in I$), where $B_i = B^{L_i}$. By [Proposition 4.24](#), each B_i is completely 0-simple and has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes. For each $i \in I$, let e_i be a non-zero idempotent in B_i . We cannot have $e_j \in e_i S$ for any $i \neq j$, for that would imply that $e_i e_j = e_j$, contradicting the fact that $B_i B_j = 0$. Thus, $\{e_i S^l : i \in I\}$ is an antichain of principal right ideals of S , and hence I is finite by [Corollary 2.6](#).

(2) \Rightarrow (3). We have that $\Sigma^l/A_l \cong B^l$ is right noetherian by [Corollary 2.10](#). Therefore, since A_S^l is noetherian, Σ^l is right noetherian by [Corollary 4.10](#).

(3) \Rightarrow (1) follows from [Proposition 2.14](#). □

Corollary 4.26. Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup without null 0-minimal ideals, and let $\Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:

1. S is right noetherian;
2. Σ^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of finitely many completely 0-simple semigroups that each have finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes, and S/Σ^l satisfies ACCPR.

We now find several equivalent characterizations for a semigroup $S = \Sigma^l(S)$ to be right noetherian.

Theorem 4.27. Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup such that $S = \Sigma^l = \Sigma^l(S)$, and let $\Sigma^r = \Sigma^r(S)$. Then the following are equivalent:

1. S is right noetherian;
2. A^l is finite, and B^l is either 0 or the 0-direct union of finitely many completely 0-simple semigroups that each have finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes;
3. Σ^r is either a finite null semigroup or the 0-direct union of a finite null semigroup and finitely many completely 0-simple semigroups that each have finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes, and either $\Sigma^r = S$ or S/Σ^r is the 0-direct union of finitely many completely 0-simple semigroups that each have finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes;
4. S has finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). Given [Theorem 4.25](#), we only need to prove that A^l is finite. By [Lemma 3.19](#), either $A^l \neq 0$ or $\{a, 0\}$ is a 0-minimal right ideal of Σ^l for each $a \in A^l \setminus \{0\}$. Since Σ^l is right noetherian, it has only finitely many 0-minimal right ideals by [Proposition 4.21](#), so A^l is finite.

The proof of (2) \Rightarrow (3) is essentially the same as that of (2) \Rightarrow (3) of [Theorem 3.20](#). (3) \Rightarrow (4) is obvious, and (4) \Rightarrow (1) follows from [Corollary 2.8](#). □

Corollary 4.28. Let $S = S^0$ be a semigroup such that $S = \Sigma^l(S) = \Sigma^r(S)$. Then S is right noetherian if and only if it is either a finite null semigroup or the 0-direct union of a finite null semigroup and finitely many completely 0-simple semigroups that each have finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes.

We now present an example to illustrate [Theorem 4.27](#), and to demonstrate that a right noetherian semigroup can be the union, but not 0-direct union, of its 0-minimal left ideals.

Example 4.29. Let V be the 0-disjoint union of two completely 0-simple semigroups S and T , each with finitely many \mathcal{R} -classes, and let x be an element disjoint from V . Let $U = V \cup \{x\}$, and define a multiplication on U , extending that on V , as follows:

$$sx = x \text{ and } xv = x^2 = tx = 0x = 0$$

for all $s \in S, t \in T$ and $v \in V$. It is straightforward to show that U is a semigroup under this multiplication. It is easy to see that the 0-minimal left ideals of U are $\{x, 0\}$ and the 0-minimal left ideals of S and T . Thus $U = \Sigma^l(U)$, where $A^l = \{x, 0\}$ and $B^l = V$, and U is right noetherian by [Theorem 4.27](#). The 0-minimal right ideals of U are $\{x, 0\}$ and the 0-minimal right ideals of T , and Σ^r is the 0-direct union of $\{x, 0\}$ and T . On the other hand, U is not the 0-direct union of its 0-minimal left ideals (since $sx = x$ for all $s \in S$).

Remark 4.30. Let S be any right simple semigroup, and let $U = \mathcal{U}(S, S_S)$. Then S is right noetherian by [Proposition 4.11](#). It is easy to see that U is the union of its two 0-minimal right ideals, $I = \{x_s : s \in S\} \cup \{0\}$ and S^0 . Thus $U = \Sigma^r(U)$, where $I = A^r$ and $S^0 = B^r$. Since $x_s t = x_{st}$ for all $s, t \in S$, the semigroup U is not the 0-direct union of I and S^0 .

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