

# A Note on Characterization of Prime Ideals of $\Gamma$ -Semigroups in terms of Fuzzy Subsets

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## Abstract

In this paper the notion of fuzzy prime ideal in  $\Gamma$ -semigroups has been introduced and studied. Relationship between prime ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and that of its operator semigroups have been obtained which are used to revisit analogous results on ideals of  $\Gamma$ -semigroups and its operator semigroups.

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## 1 Introduction

$\Gamma$ -semigroup was introduced by Sen and Saha[8] as a generalization of semigroup and ternary semigroup. Many results of semigroups have been extended to  $\Gamma$ -semigroups directly and via operator semigroups[1, 2, 3] of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. Fuzzy semigroups have been introduced by Kuroki[4] as a generalization of classical semigroups, using the concept of fuzzy set introduced by Zadeh[9]. Since then many authors have studied semigroups in terms of fuzzy sets. Motivated by Kuroki[4], Mustafa et all[5] we have initiated the study of  $\Gamma$ -semigroups in terms of fuzzy sets[7]. This paper is a continuation of our study of  $\Gamma$ -semigroups in terms of fuzzy sets. We introduce here the notion of fuzzy prime ideals in  $\Gamma$ -semigroups. They are found to satisfy characteristic function criterion and level subset criterion. As we did for fuzzy ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup in [7], in order to make operator semigroups to work, we establish here various relationships between fuzzy prime ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and that of its operator semigroups. Among other results we obtain an inclusion preserving bijection between the set of all prime ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup( not necessarily with unities) and that of its operator semigroups. As an immediate application of this we obtain a new proof of an important result of  $\Gamma$ -semigroup.

## 2 Preliminaries

We recall the following definitions and results which will be used in the sequel.

**Definition 2.1** [9] *A fuzzy subset of a non-empty set  $X$  is a function  $\mu : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ .*

**Definition 2.2** [3] *Let  $S$  and  $\Gamma$  be two non-empty sets.  $S$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup if there exist mappings from  $S \times \Gamma \times S$  to  $S$ , written as  $(a, \alpha, b) \longrightarrow a\alpha b$ , and from  $\Gamma \times S \times \Gamma$  to  $\Gamma$ , written as  $(\alpha, a, \beta) \longrightarrow \alpha a \beta$  satisfying the following associative laws  $(a\alpha b)\beta c = a(\alpha b\beta)c = a\alpha(b\beta c)$  and  $\alpha(a\beta b)\gamma = (\alpha a\beta)b\gamma = \alpha a(\beta b\gamma)$  for all  $a, b, c \in S$  and for all  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ .*

**Definition 2.3** [7] *A non-empty fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is called a fuzzy left ideal(right ideal) of  $S$  if  $\mu(x\gamma y) \geq \mu(y)$ (resp.  $\mu(x\gamma y) \geq \mu(x)$ )  $\forall x, y \in S, \forall \gamma \in \Gamma$ .*

**Definition 2.4** [7] *A non-empty fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is called a fuzzy ideal of  $S$  if it is both fuzzy left ideal and fuzzy right ideal of  $S$ .*

**Definition 2.5** [7] *Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy subset of a set  $S$ . Then for  $t \in [0, 1]$  the set  $\mu_t = \{x \in S : \mu(x) \geq t\}$  is called  $t$ -level subset or simply level subset of  $\mu$ .*

**Proposition 2.6** [7] *Let  $I$  be a non-empty subset of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  and  $\mu_I$  be the characteristic function of  $I$ , then  $I$  is a left ideal (resp. right ideal, ideal) of  $S$  if and only if  $\mu_I$  is a fuzzy left ideal (resp. fuzzy right ideal, fuzzy ideal) of  $S$ .*

**Proposition 2.7** [7] *A non-empty fuzzy subset  $\mu$  in a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is a fuzzy ideal iff for any  $t \in [0, 1]$ , the  $t$ -level subset of  $\mu$  (if non-empty), is an ideal of  $S$ .*

**Definition 2.8** [2] *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. An ideal  $P$  of  $S$  is said to be prime if, for any two ideals  $A$  and  $B$  of  $S$ ,  $A\Gamma B \subseteq P$  implies that  $A \subseteq P$  or  $B \subseteq P$ .*

**Theorem 2.9** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $I$  is prime.
- (ii) For  $x, y \in S$ ,  $x\Gamma S\Gamma y \subseteq I \Rightarrow x \in I$  or  $y \in I$ .
- (iii) For  $x, y \in S$ ,  $x\Gamma y \subseteq I \Rightarrow x \in I$  or  $y \in I$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 3.4[2] (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii).

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii)

Let us suppose that (ii) holds and  $x\Gamma y \subseteq I$ . Then  $x\Gamma s\Gamma y \subseteq I$  as  $x\Gamma s\Gamma y \subseteq x\Gamma y$ . Hence by (ii),  $x \in I$  or  $y \in I$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)

Let us suppose that (iii) holds. Let for two ideals  $A, B$  of  $S$ ,  $A\Gamma B \subseteq I$ . If possible, suppose  $A \not\subseteq I$  or  $B \not\subseteq I$ . Then  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  such that  $x \notin I$  and  $y \notin I$ . This implies that  $x\Gamma y \subseteq I$  with  $x \notin I$ ,  $y \notin I$ . This is a contradiction to (iii). Hence either  $A \subseteq I$  or  $B \subseteq I$ . Consequently  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $S$ . ■

### 3 Fuzzy Prime Ideal

**Definition 3.1** *A fuzzy ideal  $\mu$  of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is called fuzzy prime ideal if  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y) = \max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} \forall x, y \in S$ .*

**Example:** Let  $S$  be the set of all  $1 \times 2$  matrices over  $GF_2$  (the finite field with two elements) and  $\Gamma$  be the set of all  $2 \times 1$  matrices over  $GF_2$ . Then  $S$  is a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup where  $a\alpha b$  and  $\alpha a\beta$  ( $a, b \in S$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ ) denote the usual matrix product. Let  $\mu : S \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be defined by

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 0.3 & \text{if } a=(0,0) \\ 0.2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ .

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\emptyset \neq I \subseteq S$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

(i)  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $S$ .

(ii) The characteristic function  $\mu_I$  of  $I$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)

Let  $I$  be a prime ideal of  $S$  and  $\mu_I$  be the characteristic function of  $I$ . Since  $I \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\mu_I$  is non-empty. Let  $x, y \in S$ . Suppose  $x\Gamma y \subseteq I$ . Then  $\mu_I(x\gamma y) = 1$  for  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Hence  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu_I(x\gamma y) = 1$ . Now  $I$  being prime,  $x \in I$  or  $y \in I$  (cf. Theorem 2.9). Hence  $\mu_I(x) = 1$  or  $\mu_I(y) = 1$  which gives  $\max\{\mu_I(x), \mu_I(y)\} = 1$ . Thus we see that  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu_I(x\gamma y) = \max\{\mu_I(x), \mu_I(y)\}$ . Now suppose that  $x\Gamma y \not\subseteq I$ . Then for  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $x\gamma y \not\subseteq I$  which means that  $\mu_I(x\gamma y) = 0$ . Consequently,  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu_I(x\gamma y) = 0$ . Now since  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $S$ ,  $x \notin I$  and  $y \notin I$ . Hence  $\mu_I(x) = 0$  and  $\mu_I(y) = 0$ . Consequently,  $\max\{\mu_I(x), \mu_I(y)\} = 0$ . Thus we see that in this case also  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu_I(x\gamma y) = \max\{\mu_I(x), \mu_I(y)\}$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)

Let  $\mu_I$  be a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ . Then  $\mu_I$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $S$ . So by Proposition 2.6,  $I$  is an ideal of  $S$ . Let  $x, y \in S$  such that  $x\Gamma y \subseteq I$ . Then  $\mu_I(x\gamma y) = 1$ . Hence  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu_I(x\gamma y) = 1$ . Let  $x \notin I$  and  $y \notin I$ . Then  $\mu_I(x) = 0 = \mu_I(y)$ , which means  $\max\{\mu_I(x), \mu_I(y)\} = 0$ . This implies that  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu_I(x\gamma y) = 0$ . Thus we get a contradiction. Hence  $x \in I$  or  $y \in I$ . Thus we see that  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $S$  (cf. Theorem 2.9). ■

**Theorem 3.3** *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $\mu$  be a non-empty fuzzy subset of  $S$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

(i)  $\mu$  is fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$

(ii) For any  $t \in [0, 1]$  the  $t$ -level subset of  $\mu$  (if it is non-empty) is a prime ideal of  $S$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii)

Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ . Let  $t \in [0, 1]$  such that  $\mu_t$  is non-empty. Let for  $x, y \in S$ ,  $x\Gamma y \subseteq \mu_t$ . Then  $\mu(x\gamma y) \geq t \forall \gamma \in \Gamma$ . So  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y) \geq t$ . Since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal, it follows that  $\max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} \geq t$ . So  $\mu(x) \geq t$  or  $\mu(y) \geq t$ . Hence  $x \in \mu_t$  or  $y \in \mu_t$ . So  $\mu_t$  is a prime ideal of  $S$  (cf. Theorem 2.9).

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)

Let every non-empty level subset  $\mu_t$  of  $\mu$  be a prime ideal of  $S$ . Let  $x, y \in S$ . Let  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y) = t$  (we note here that since  $\mu(x\gamma y) \in [0, 1] \forall \gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y)$  exists). Then  $\mu(x\gamma y) \geq t \forall \gamma \in \Gamma$ . So  $x\gamma y \in \mu_t \forall \gamma \in \Gamma$ . So  $\mu_t$  is non-empty and  $x\Gamma y \subseteq \mu_t$ . Since  $\mu_t$  is a prime ideal of  $S$ ,  $x \in \mu_t$  or  $y \in \mu_t$  (cf. Theorem 2.9). So  $\mu(x) \geq t$  or  $\mu(y) \geq t$ . So  $\max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} \geq t$ , i.e.,  $\max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} \geq$

$\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y) \dots (1)$ . Again by Proposition 2.7,  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $S$ . So  $\forall \gamma \in \Gamma, \mu(x\gamma y) \geq \mu(x)$  and  $\mu(x\gamma y) \geq \mu(y)$ . So  $\mu(x\gamma y) \geq \max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}$   $\forall \gamma \in \Gamma$ . Hence  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y) \geq \max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} \dots (2)$ . Combining (1) and (2), thus  $\inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu(x\gamma y) = \max\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}$ . Hence  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ . ■

## 4 Corresponding Fuzzy Prime Ideals

Unless otherwise stated, throughout this section  $S$  denotes a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $L, R$  its left and right operator semigroups respectively.

**Definition 4.1** [2] *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup. Let us define a relation  $\rho$  on  $S \times \Gamma$  as  $(x, \alpha) \rho (y, \beta)$  if and only if  $x\alpha s = y\beta s$  for all  $s \in S$  and  $\gamma x\alpha = \gamma y\beta$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Then  $\rho$  is an equivalence relation. Let  $[x, \alpha]$  denote the equivalence class containing  $(x, \alpha)$ . Let  $L = \{[x, \alpha] : x \in S, \alpha \in \Gamma\}$ . Then  $L$  is a semigroup with respect to the multiplication defined by  $[x, \alpha][y, \beta] = [x\alpha y, \beta]$ . This semigroup  $L$  is called the left operator semigroup of the  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ .*

*Dually the right operator semigroup  $R$  of  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  is defined where the multiplication is defined by  $[\alpha, a][\beta, b] = [\alpha\beta, b]$ .*

**Definition 4.2** *For a fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $R$  we define a fuzzy subset  $\mu^*$  of  $S$  by  $\mu^*(a) = \inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mu([\gamma, a])$ , where  $a \in S$ . For any subset  $\sigma$  of  $S$  we define a fuzzy subset  $\sigma^{* \prime}$  of  $R$  by  $\sigma^{* \prime}([\alpha, a]) = \inf_{s \in S} \sigma(s\alpha a)$ , where  $[\alpha, a] \in R$ . For a fuzzy subset  $\delta$  of  $L$ , we define a fuzzy subset  $\delta^+$  of  $S$  by  $\delta^+(a) = \inf_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \delta([a, \gamma])$  where  $a \in S$ . For any fuzzy subset  $\eta$  of  $S$  we define a fuzzy subset  $\eta^{+ \prime}$  of  $L$  by  $\eta^{+ \prime}([a, \alpha]) = \inf_{s \in S} \eta(a\alpha s)$ , where  $[a, \alpha] \in L$ .*

**Lemma 4.3** [7] *If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy subset of  $R$ , then  $(\mu_t)^* = (\mu^*)_t$  where  $t \in Im(\mu)$ , provided the sets are non-empty.*

**Lemma 4.4** [7] *If  $\sigma$  is a fuzzy subset of  $S$ , then  $(\sigma_t)^{* \prime} = (\sigma^{* \prime})_t$  where  $t \in Im(\sigma)$ , provided the sets are non-empty.*

**Proposition 4.5** *Suppose  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\mu^*$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $R$ ,  $\mu_t$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  [6]  $\forall t \in Im(\mu)$ . Hence  $(\mu_t)^*$  is a prime ideal of  $S$  [2]. Now  $(\mu_t)^*$  and  $(\mu^*)_t$  are non-empty. Hence  $(\mu_t)^* = (\mu^*)_t$  (cf. Lemma 4.3). This gives  $(\mu^*)_t$  is a prime ideal of  $S$  for all  $t \in Im(\mu)$ . Hence  $\mu^*$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$  (cf. Theorem 3.3). ■

**Proposition 4.6** *Suppose  $\sigma$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ . Then  $\sigma^*$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $R$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $\sigma$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $S$ ,  $\sigma_t$  is a prime ideal of  $S \forall t \in Im(\sigma)$  (cf. Theorem 3.3). Hence  $(\sigma_t)^*$  is a prime ideal of  $R[2]$ . Also  $(\sigma_t)^*$  and  $(\sigma^*)_t$  are non-empty. So  $(\sigma_t)^* = (\sigma^*)_t$  (cf. Lemma 4.4),  $(\sigma^*)_t$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  for all  $t \in Im(\mu)$ . Consequently  $\sigma^*$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $R[6]$ . ■

**Remark:** The left operator analogous of the above two propositions are also true.

**Theorem 4.7** *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and  $R$  be its right operator semigroup. Then there exist an inclusion preserving bijection  $\mu \mapsto \mu^*$  between the set of all fuzzy prime ideals of  $R$  and set of all fuzzy prime ideals of  $S$ , where  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $R$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $x \in S$ . Then  $(\mu^*)^*(x) = \inf_{\alpha \in \Gamma} \mu^*[\alpha, x] = \inf_{\alpha \in \Gamma} \inf_{s \in S} \mu(s\alpha x) \geq \mu(x)$  (since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal). Again for  $x \in S$ ,  $(\mu^*)^*(x) = \inf_{\alpha \in \Gamma} \inf_{s \in S} \mu(s\alpha x) = \inf_{\alpha \in \Gamma} \inf_{s \in S} \mu(s\alpha x) = \inf_{s \in S} (\max\{\mu(s), \mu(x)\})$  (since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal)  $\leq \max\{\mu(x), \mu(x)\} = \mu(x)$ .

Thus we see that  $(\mu^*)^* = \mu$ . Hence the mapping is one-one. Now for  $[\alpha, x] \in R$ ,  $(\mu^*)^*[\alpha, x] = \inf_{s \in S} \mu^*(s\alpha x) = \inf_{s \in S} \inf_{\beta \in \Gamma} \mu([\beta, s\alpha x]) = \inf_{s \in S} \inf_{\beta \in \Gamma} \mu([\beta, s][\alpha, x]) \geq \mu[\alpha, x]$ .

Hence  $\mu \subseteq (\mu^*)^*$ . Since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy prime ideal,  $\mu([\alpha, x], [\beta, s]) = \max(\mu[\alpha, x], \mu[\beta, s]) \forall s \in S$  and  $\forall \beta \in \Gamma$ . Hence for  $s = x$  and  $\beta = \alpha$ ,  $\mu([\alpha, x], [\beta, s]) = \mu[\alpha, x]$ . This together with the relation  $(\mu^*)^*[\alpha, x] = \inf_{s \in S} \inf_{\beta \in \Gamma} \mu([\alpha, x], [\beta, s])$  gives

$(\mu^*)^*[\alpha, x] \leq \mu[\alpha, x]$  for all  $[\alpha, x] \in R$ . This means  $(\mu^*)^* \subseteq \mu$ . Thus we see that  $\mu = (\mu^*)^*$ . This proves that the mapping is onto. Now let  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in FI(S)$  be such that  $\mu_1 \subseteq \mu_2$ . Then for all  $[\alpha, x] \in R$ ,  $\mu_1^*([\alpha, x]) = \inf_{s \in S} \mu_1(s\alpha x) \leq \inf_{s \in S} \mu_2(s\alpha x) = \mu_2^*([\alpha, x])$ . Thus  $\mu_1^* \subseteq \mu_2^*$ . Similarly we can show that if  $\mu_1 \subseteq \mu_2$

where  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in FI(R)$  ( $FLI(R)$ ) then  $\mu_1^* \subseteq \mu_2^*$ . Hence  $\mu \mapsto \mu^*$  is an inclusion preserving bijection. ■

**Remark:** Similar result holds for the  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  and the left operator semigroup  $L$  of  $S$ .

Now we establish the following two lemmas to deduce the inclusion preserving bijections between the set of all prime ideals of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup and that of its operator semigroups with the fuzzy notions of  $\Gamma$ -semigroups.

**Lemma 4.8** *Let  $I$  be an ideal,  $\mu$  a fuzzy ideal of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  and  $R$  the right operator semigroup of  $S$ . Then  $(\mu_I)^* = \mu_{I^*}$ , where  $\mu_I$  is the characteristic function of  $I$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $[\beta, y] \in R$ . Then  $(\mu_I)^*([\beta, y]) = \inf_{s \in S} \mu(s\beta y)$ . Suppose  $[\beta, y] \in I^*$ . Then  $s\beta y \in I$  for all  $s \in S$ . Hence  $\mu_I(s\beta y) = 1$  for all  $s \in S$ . This gives  $\inf_{s \in S} \mu(s\beta y) = 1$  whence  $(\mu_I)^*([\beta, y]) = 1$ . Also  $\mu_{I^*'}([\beta, y]) = 1$ . Hence  $(\mu_I)^*([\beta, y]) = \mu_{I^*'}([\beta, y])$ . Suppose  $[\beta, y] \notin I^*$ . Then for some  $t \in S, t\beta y \notin I$ . So  $\mu_I(t\beta y) = 0$ . This gives  $\inf_{s \in S} \mu_I(s\beta y) = 0$  i.e.,  $(\mu_I)^*([\beta, y]) = 0$ . Again  $\mu_{I^*'}([\beta, y]) = 0$ . Thus in this case also  $(\mu_I)^*([\beta, y]) = \mu_{I^*'}([\beta, y])$ . Hence  $(\mu_I)^* = \mu_{I^*'}$ . ■

Similar is the proof of the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.9** *Let  $I$  be a (left) ideal of the right operator semigroup  $R$  of a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$ . Then  $(\lambda_I)^* = \lambda_{I^*}$ , where  $\lambda_I$  denotes the characteristic function of  $I$ .*

**Remark 4.10** *Dually we can deduce for left operator semigroup  $L$  of the  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S, (i)(\lambda_I)^+ = \lambda_{I^+'}, (ii)(\lambda_I)^+ = \lambda_{I^+}$ , where  $\lambda_I$  denotes the characteristic function of  $I$ .*

**Theorem 4.11** [2] *Let  $S$  be a  $\Gamma$ -semigroup(not necessarily with unities). Then there exists an inclusion preserving bijection between the set of all prime ideals of  $S$  and that of its right operator semigroup  $R$  via the mapping  $I \rightarrow I^*$ .*

**Proof.** Let us denote the mapping  $I \rightarrow I^*$  by  $\phi$ . This is actually a mapping follows from dual of Lemma 3.12[2]. Now let  $\phi(I_1) = \phi(I_2)$ . Then  $I_1^* = I_2^*$ . This implies that  $\lambda_{I_1^*} = \lambda_{I_2^*}$ . ( where  $\lambda_I$  is the characteristic function  $I$ .) Hence by Lemma 4.8,  $(\lambda_{I_1})^* = (\lambda_{I_2})^*$ . This together with Theorem 4.7 gives  $\lambda_{I_1} = \lambda_{I_2}$  whence  $I_1 = I_2$ . Consequently  $\phi$  is one-one. Let  $I$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ . Then its characteristic function  $\lambda_I$  is a fuzzy prime ideal of  $R$ . Hence by Theorem 4.7,  $((\lambda_I)^*)^* = \lambda_I$ . This implies that  $\lambda_{(I^*)^*} = \lambda_I$  (cf. Lemmas 4.8 and 4.9). Hence  $(I^*)^* = I$  i.e.,  $\phi(I^*) = I$ . Now since  $I^*$  is a prime ideal of  $S$  ([2]), it follows that  $\phi$  is onto. Let  $I_1, I_2$  be two prime ideals of  $S$  with  $I_1 \subseteq I_2$ . Then  $\lambda_{I_1} \subseteq \lambda_{I_2}$ . Hence by Theorem 4.7, we see that  $(\lambda_{I_1})^* \subseteq (\lambda_{I_2})^*$  i.e.,  $\lambda_{I_1^*} \subseteq \lambda_{I_2^*}$  (cf. Lemma 4.8) which gives  $I_1^* \subseteq I_2^*$ . ■

**Remark:** The result similar to the above for the left operator semigroup  $L$  of the  $\Gamma$ -semigroup  $S$  can be deduced by the Remark 4.10 and Theorem 4.7.

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