

## MAXIMAL IDEALS OF TRANSITIVE $BE$ -ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. The notion of maximal ideals is introduced in transitive  $BE$ -algebras. Some equivalent conditions are derived for a proper ideal of  $BE$ -algebra to become a maximal ideal. The concept of semi-simple  $BE$ -algebras is introduced and its properties are studied in terms of maximal ideals of  $BE$ -algebras.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of  $BE$ -algebras was introduced and extensively studied in [8]. The class of  $BE$ -algebras was introduced as a generalization of the class of  $BCK$ -algebras of K. Iseki and S. Tanaka [6]. Some properties of filters of  $BE$ -algebras were studied by S.S. Ahn and Y.H. Kim in [1] and by B.L. Meng in [9]. The notion of dual ideals in  $BCK$ -algebras was introduced by E.Y. Deeba [4] in 1979. Later 2000, P. Sun [12] investigated the homomorphism theorems via dual ideals in bounded  $BCK$ -algebras. In [10], J. Meng introduced the notion of  $BCK$ -filters in  $BCK$ -algebras and presented a description of the  $BCK$ -filter generated by a set. In the paper [10], he discussed prime decompositions and irreducible decompositions. In [7], Y.B. Jun, S.M. Hong, and J. Meng, considered the fuzzification of the concept of  $BCK$ -filters, and investigate their properties.

In this work, the notion of maximal ideals is introduced in transitive  $BE$ -algebras. A necessary and sufficient condition is derived for a proper ideal of  $BE$ -algebra to become a maximal ideal. The concept of semi-simple  $BE$ -algebras is introduced and its properties are studied in terms of maximal ideals of  $BE$ -algebras.

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## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we present certain definitions and results which are taken mostly from the papers [1], [2], [3], [8], [9] and [11] for the ready reference of the reader.

**Definition 2.1.** [8] An algebra  $(X, *, 1)$  of type  $(2, 0)$  is called a *BE*-algebra, if it satisfies the following properties:

- (1)  $x * x = 1$ ,
- (2)  $x * 1 = 1$ ,
- (3)  $1 * x = x$ ,
- (4)  $x * (y * z) = y * (x * z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

A *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called self-distributive if  $x * (y * z) = (x * y) * (x * z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . A *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called transitive if  $y * z \leq (x * y) * (x * z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Every self-distributive *BE*-algebra is transitive. A *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called commutative if  $(x * y) * y = (y * x) * x$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . We introduce a relation  $\leq$  on a *BE*-algebra  $X$  by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 1$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Clearly,  $\leq$  is reflexive. If  $X$  is commutative, then the relation  $\leq$  is both anti-symmetric, transitive and so it is a partial order on  $X$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** [9] Let  $X$  be a transitive *BE*-algebra and  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then

- (1)  $1 \leq x$  implies  $x = 1$ ,
- (2)  $y \leq z$  implies  $x * y \leq x * z$  and  $z * x \leq y * x$ .

**Definition 2.2.** [8] A non-empty subset  $F$  of a *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called a filter of  $X$  if, for all  $x, y \in X$ , it satisfies the following properties:

- (1)  $1 \in F$ ,
- (2)  $x \in F$  and  $x * y \in F$  imply that  $y \in F$ .

[1] For any  $a \in X$ ,  $\langle a \rangle = \{x \in X \mid a^n * x = 1 \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is called the principal filter generated  $a$ . If  $X$  is self-distributive, then  $\langle a \rangle = \{x \in X \mid a * x = 1\}$ . For a commutative *BE*-algebra, define  $x \vee y = (y * x) * x$  for any  $x, y \in X$ . Then

$x \vee y = y \vee x$  and the supremum of  $x$  and  $y$  is  $x \vee y$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Hence  $(X, \vee)$  become a semilattice which is called a *BE*-semilattice.

A *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called bounded [3], if there exists an element  $0$  satisfying  $0 \leq x$  (or  $0 * x = 1$ ) for all  $x \in X$ . Define an unary operation  $N$  on a bounded *BE*-algebra  $X$  by  $xN = x * 0$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** [3] *Let  $X$  be a transitive *BE*-algebra and  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then*

- (1)  $1N = 0$  and  $0N = 1$ ,
- (2)  $x \leq xNN$ ,
- (3)  $x * yN = y * xN$ .

An element  $x$  of a bounded *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called *dense* [11] if  $xN = 0$ . We denote the set of all dense elements of a *BE*-algebra  $X$  by  $\mathcal{D}(X)$ . A *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called a *dense *BE*-algebra* if every non-zero element of  $X$  is dense (that is  $xN = 0$  for all  $0 \neq x \in X$ ). Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two bounded *BE*-algebras, then a homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called bounded[2], if  $f(0) = 0$ . If  $f$  is a bounded homomorphism, then it is easily observed that  $f(xN) = f(x)N$  for all  $x \in X$ . For any bounded homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ , define the *dual kernel* of the homomorphism  $f$  as  $Dker(f) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) = 0\}$ . It is easy to check that  $Dker(f) = \{0\}$  whenever  $f$  is an injective homomorphism.

### 3. MAXIMAL IDEALS

In this section, some properties of ideals of a transitive *BE*-algebras are studied and the notion of maximal ideals is introduced in transitive *BE*-algebras. Some properties of maximal ideals are studied. The notion of semi-simple *BE*-algebra is introduced and characterized in terms of maximal ideals.

**Definition 3.1.** A non-empty subset  $I$  of a *BE*-algebra  $X$  is called an *ideal* of  $X$  if it satisfies the following conditions for all  $x, y \in X$ :

- (I1)  $0 \in I$ ,
- (I2)  $x \in I$  and  $(xN * yN)N \in I$  imply that  $y \in I$ .

Obviously the single-ton set  $\{0\}$  is an ideal of a  $BE$ -algebra  $X$ . For, suppose  $x \in \{0\}$  and  $(xN * yN)N \in \{0\}$  for  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $x = 0$  and  $yNN = (0N * yN)N \in \{0\}$ . Hence  $y \leq yNN = 0 \in \{0\}$ . Thus  $\{0\}$  is an ideal of  $X$ . In the following example, we observe non-trivial ideals of a  $BE$ -algebra.

**Example 3.1.** Let  $X = \{1, a, b, c, d, 0\}$ . Define an operation  $*$  on  $X$  as follows:

$*$	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	0
1	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	0
$a$	1	1	$a$	$c$	$c$	$d$
$b$	1	1	1	$c$	$c$	$c$
$c$	1	$a$	$b$	1	$a$	$b$
$d$	1	1	$a$	1	1	$a$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1

Clearly,  $(X, *, 0, 1)$  is a bounded  $BE$ -algebra. It can be easily verified that the set  $I = \{0, c, d\}$  is an ideal of  $X$ . However, the set  $J = \{0, a, b, d\}$  is not an ideal of  $X$ , because  $a \in J$  and  $(aN * cN)N = (d * b)N = aN = d \in J$  but  $c \notin J$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $X$  be a transitive  $BE$ -algebra  $X$ . For any  $x, y, z \in X$ , we have:

- (1)  $xNNN \leq xN$ ,
- (2)  $x * y \leq yN * xN$ ,
- (3)  $x * yN \leq xNN * yN$ ,
- (4)  $(x * yNN)NN \leq x * yNN$ ,
- (5)  $(xN * yN)NN \leq xN * yN$ ,
- (6)  $x \leq y$  implies  $yN \leq xN$ ,
- (7)  $x \leq y$  implies  $y * zN \leq x * zN$ .

*Proof.* (1). Let  $x \in X$ . Then  $1 = (x * 0) * (x * 0) = x * ((x * 0) * 0) = x * xNN \leq x * xNNNN = xNNN * xN$ . Hence  $xNNN * xN = 1$ , which gives  $xNNN \leq xN$ .

(2). Let  $x, y \in X$ . Since  $X$  is transitive, then  $yN = y * 0 \leq (x * y) * (x * 0) = (x * y) * xN$ . Hence  $1 = yN * yN \leq yN * ((x * y) * xN) = (x * y) * (yN * xN)$ . Thus  $(x * y) * (yN * xN) = 1$ . Therefore,  $x * y \leq yN * xN$ .

(3). Let  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $x * yN = y * xN \leq y * xNNN = xNN * yN$ .

(4). Let  $x, y \in X$ . Clearly,  $(x * yNN)N \leq (x * yNN)NNN$ . Since  $X$  is transitive, then  $yN * (x * yNN)N \leq yN * (x * yNN)NNN$  and so  $x * (yN * (x * yNN)N) \leq x * (yN * (x * yNN)NNN)$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
1 &= (x * yNN) * (x * yNN) \\
&= x * ((x * yNN) * yNN) \\
&= x * (yN * (x * yNN)N) \\
&\leq x * (yN * (x * yNN)NNN) \\
&= x * ((x * yNN)NN * yNN) \\
&= (x * yNN)NN * (x * yNN).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(x * yNN)NN * (x * yNN) = 1$ . Therefore,  $(x * yNN)NN \leq (x * yNN)$ .

(5). From (4), it can be easily verified.

(6). Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $x \leq y$ . Then by (2),  $1 = x * y \leq yN * xN$ . Hence  $yN * xN = 1$ . Therefore,  $yN \leq xN$ .

(7). Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $x \leq y$ . Then by (6),  $yN \leq xN$ . Since  $X$  is transitive, then  $z * yN \leq z * xN$ . Therefore,  $y * zN \leq x * zN$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of a transitive BE-algebra  $X$ . Then we have:*

- (1) *For any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $x \in I$  and  $y \leq x$  imply  $y \in I$ ,*
- (2) *For any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $xN = yN$ ,  $x \in I$  imply  $y \in I$ ,*
- (3) *For any  $x \in X$ ,  $x \in I$  if and only if  $xNN \in I$ .*

*Proof.* (1). Let  $x, y \in X$ . Suppose  $x \in I$  and  $y \leq x$ . Then  $xN \leq yN$ , which implies  $xN * yN = 1$ . Hence  $(xN * yN)N = 0 \in I$ . Since  $x \in I$ , then  $y \in I$ .

(2). Let  $x, y \in X$ . Assume that  $xN = yN$ . Suppose  $x \in I$ . Then  $(xN * yN)N = 1N = 0 \in I$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ , then  $y \in I$ .

(3). Let  $x \in X$ . Suppose  $x \in I$ . Then  $(xN * xNNN)N = (xNN * xNN)N = 1N = 0 \in I$ . Since  $x \in I$ , it yields  $xNN \in I$ . Conversely, let  $xNN \in I$  for any  $x \in X$ . Since  $x \leq xNN$ , by property (1) we get that  $x \in I$ .  $\square$

We denote by  $\mathcal{I}(X)$  the set of all ideals of a BE-algebra  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F}(X)$  the set of all filters of  $X$ . Let  $A$  be a non-empty subset of  $X$ , then the set

$$[A] = \bigcap \{I \in \mathcal{I}(X) \mid A \subseteq I\}$$

is called the ideal generated by  $A$ , denoted  $[A]$ . In the following, we characterize the elements of a principal ideal generated by a set.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a transitive BE-algebra and  $\emptyset \neq A \subseteq X$ . Then*

$$[A] = \{x \in X \mid a_1N * (a_2N * (\dots (a_nN * xN) \dots)) = 1 \text{ for some } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in A \text{ and } n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

*Proof.* It is enough to show that  $[A]$  is the smallest ideal of  $X$  containing the set  $A$ . Clearly,  $0 \in [A]$ . Let  $x \in [A]$  and  $(xN * yN)N \in [A]$ . Then there exist  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m \in A$  such that  $a_1N * (a_2N * (\dots (a_nN * xN) \dots)) = 1$  and  $b_1N * (b_2N * (\dots (b_mN * (xN * yN)NN) \dots)) = 1$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= b_mN * (\dots * (b_1N * (xN * yN)NN) \dots) \\ &\leq b_mN * (\dots * (b_1N * (xN * yN)) \dots) \\ &= b_mN * (\dots * (xN * (b_1N * yN)) \dots) \\ &\quad \dots \\ &\quad \dots \\ &= xN * (b_mN * (\dots * (b_1N * yN)) \dots). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $xN \leq b_mN * (\dots * (b_1N * yN) \dots)$ . Since  $X$  is transitive, then  $1 = a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * xN) \dots) \leq a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * (b_mN * (\dots * (b_1N * yN) \dots)))) \dots$ . Hence

$$a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * (b_mN * (\dots * (b_1N * yN) \dots)))) \dots = 1$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m \in A$ . From the structure of  $[A]$ , it yields that  $y \in [A]$ . Therefore,  $[A]$  is an ideal of  $X$ . For any  $x \in A$ , we get  $xN * (\dots * (xN * xN) \dots) = 1$ . Hence  $x \in [A]$ . Therefore,  $A \subseteq [A]$ .

Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $X$  containing  $A$ . Let  $x \in [A]$ . Then there exists  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in A \subseteq I$  such that  $a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * xN) \dots) = 1$ . Hence  $(a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * xN) \dots))NN \leq (a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * xN) \dots))N = 0 \in I$ . Thus by Proposition 3.1(1), we get  $(a_nN * (\dots * (a_1N * xN) \dots))NN \in I$ . Since  $a_n \in I$  and  $I$  is an ideal, then  $(a_{n-1}N * (\dots * (a_1N * xN) \dots))N \in I$ . We continue in this manner, we finally get  $x \in I$ . Hence  $[A] \subseteq I$ . Therefore,  $[A]$  is the smallest ideal containing  $A$ .  $\square$

For  $A = \{a\}$ , we then denote  $[\{a\}]$ , briefly by  $[a]$ . We call this ideal by *principal ideal generated by  $a$*  and is represented by  $[a] = \{x \in X \mid (aN)^n * xN = 1 \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .

The following is a direct consequence of the above theorem:

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a transitive BE-algebra. For any  $a, b \in X$ , and  $A, B \subseteq X$ , we have*

- (1)  $[0] = \{0\}$ ,
- (2)  $[X] = X$  and  $[1] = X$ ,
- (3)  $A \subseteq B$  implies  $[A] \subseteq [B]$ ,
- (4)  $a \leq b$  implies  $[a] \subseteq [b]$ ,
- (5) if  $A$  is an ideal, then  $[A] = A$ ,
- (6) if  $A$  is an ideal and  $a \in A$ , then  $[a] \subseteq A$ .

*Proof.* (1). Let  $x \in [0]$ . Then  $(0N)^n * xN = 1$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence  $xN = 1$ . Thus  $x \leq xNN = 1N = 0$ . Therefore,  $x = 0$ , which means  $[0] = \{0\}$ .

(2). For all  $x \in X$ , we get  $1N * xN = 1 = 0 * xN = 1$ . Hence  $[1] = X$ .

(3). Suppose  $A \subseteq B$  and let  $x \in [A]$  then  $a_1N * (a_2N * (\dots (a_nN * xN) \dots)) = 1$  for some  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in A$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $A \subseteq B$  implies  $a_1N * (a_2N * (\dots (a_nN * xN) \dots)) = 1$  for some  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in B$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we get  $x \in [B]$  and hence  $[A] \subseteq [B]$

(4). Suppose  $a \leq b$ . By Lemma 3.1(6), we get  $bN \leq aN$ . Again by Lemma 3.1(7), we get  $aN * xN \leq bN * xN$  for any  $x \in X$ . Similarly, we can get  $(aN)^n * xN \leq (bN)^n * xN$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $x \in [a]$  then  $(aN)^n * xN = 1$ . Thus  $1 = (aN)^n * xN \leq (bN)^n * xN$ . Hence  $(bN)^n * xN = 1$ , which gives  $x \in [b]$ . Therefore,  $[a] \subseteq [b]$ .

(5). From the construction of  $[A]$ , it is obvious.

(6). Let  $A$  be an ideal and  $a \in A$ . Suppose  $x \in [a]$ . Then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $(aN)^n * xN = 1$ . Thus  $1 = aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN) \leq aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN)NN$ . Hence  $aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN)NN = 1$ , which gives  $(aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN)NN)N = 0 \in A$ . Since  $a \in A$  and  $A$  is an ideal, then  $((aN)^{n-1} * xN)N \in A$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} (aN * ((aN)^{n-2} * xN)NN)N &\leq (aN * ((aN)^{n-2} * xN))N \\ &= ((aN)^{n-1} * xN)N \in A. \end{aligned}$$

Which yields  $(aN * ((aN)^{n-2} * xN)NN)N \in A$ . Since  $a \in A$ , then  $(aN)^{n-2} * xN \in A$ . We continue in this manner, we finally get  $x \in A$ . Therefore,  $[a] \subseteq A$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be a transitive BE-algebra and  $a \in X$ . For any  $A \subseteq X$ , the set  $[A \cup \{a\}]$  is the smallest ideal of  $X$  that contains both  $A$  and  $a$ .*

**Corollary 3.3.** *If  $X$  is self-distributive and  $a \in X$ . Then*

$$[a] = \{x \in X \mid aN * xN = 1\}.$$

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be a transitive BE-algebra and  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ . For any  $a \in X$ ,*

$$[I \cup \{a\}] = \{x \in X \mid ((aN)^n * xN)N \in I \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

*Proof.* Let us consider,  $B = \{x \in X \mid ((aN)^n * xN)N \in I \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . It is enough to show that  $B$  is the smallest ideal of  $X$  containing both  $I$  and  $a$ . Clearly,  $0 \in B$ . Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $x \in B$  and  $(xN * yN)N \in B$ . Then there exists  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $((aN)^n * xN)N \in I$  and  $((aN)^m * (xN * yN)NN)N \in I$ . By Lemma 3.1(5), we have

$$(aN)^m * (xN * yN)NN \leq (aN)^m * (xN * yN) = xN * ((aN)^m * yN).$$

By Lemma 3.1(6), we get  $(xN * ((aN)^m * yN))N \leq ((aN)^m * (xN * yN)NN)N \in I$ . By applying the transitivity of  $X$  and Lemma 3.1(2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} xN * ((aN)^m * yN) &\leq ((aN)^n * xN) * ((aN)^n * ((aN)^m * yN)) \\ &\leq ((aN)^n * xN)NN * ((aN)^{n+m} * yN)NN. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $((aN)^n * xN)NN * ((aN)^{n+m} * yN)NN \leq (xN * ((aN)^m * yN))N \in I$ . Since  $((aN)^n * xN)N \in I$  and  $I$  is an ideal, then  $((aN)^{n+m} * yN)N \in I$ . Thus  $y \in B$ . Therefore,  $B$  is an ideal of  $X$ . Let  $x \in I$ . Clearly,  $aN * xN \leq (aN * xN)NN$ . Then by Lemma 3.1(6),

$$\begin{aligned} (xN * (aN * xN)NN)N &\leq (xN * (aN * xN))N \\ &= (aN * (xN * xN))N \\ &= (aN * 1)N \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$



Hence  $(xN * (aN * xN)NN)N = 0 \in I$ . Since  $x \in I$  and  $I$  is an ideal, then  $(aN * xN)N \in I$ . Thus  $x \in B$ . Since  $(aN * aN)N = 0 \in I$ , then  $a \in B$ . Therefore,  $B$  is an ideal of  $X$  containing both  $I$  and  $a$ .

Suppose  $K$  is an ideal of  $X$  such that  $I \subseteq K$  and  $a \in K$ . Let  $x \in B$ . Then  $((aN)^n * xN)N \in I \subseteq K$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$(aN)^n * xN = aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN) \leq aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN)NN.$$

Hence  $(aN * ((aN)^{n-1} * xN)NN)N \leq ((aN)^n * xN)N \in K$ . Since  $a \in K$ , then  $((aN)^{n-1} * xN)N \in K$ . We continue in this manner, finally we get  $x \in K$ . Hence  $B \subseteq K$ . Thus  $B$  is the smallest ideal of  $X$  containing both  $I$  and  $a$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $X$  be a self-distributive BE-algebra and  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ . Then for any  $a \in X$ ,  $[I \cup \{a\}] = \{x \in X \mid (aN * xN)N \in I\}$ .*

**Definition 3.2.** An ideal  $I$  of a BE-algebra  $X$  is said to be *proper* if  $I \neq X$ .

**Definition 3.3.** A proper ideal  $M$  of a BE-algebra  $X$  is said to be *maximal*, if  $M$  is not properly contained in any other proper ideal of  $X$  (that is  $M \subseteq I \subseteq X$  implies  $M = I$  or  $I = X$  for any ideal  $I$  of  $X$ ).

**Example 3.2.** *Let  $X = \{0, a, b, c, d, 1\}$ . Define an operation  $*$  on  $X$  as follows:*

$*$	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	0
1	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	0
$a$	1	1	1	1	$d$	$d$
$b$	1	$c$	1	$c$	$d$	$c$
$c$	1	$b$	$b$	1	$d$	$b$
$d$	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	1	$a$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1

Clearly,  $(X, *, 0, 1)$  is a bounded BE-algebra. It is easy to check that  $I_1 = \{0\}$ ,  $I_2 = \{0, a\}$ ,  $I_3 = \{0, b\}$ ,  $I_4 = \{0, c\}$ ,  $I_5 = \{0, a, b\}$  and  $I_6 = \{0, a, c\}$  are ideals of  $X$  in which  $I_2, I_3, I_4, I_5$  and  $I_6$  are proper ideals. Also here we can easily observe that  $I_5$  and  $I_6$  are only maximal ideals of  $X$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *A proper ideal  $M$  of a transitive BE-algebra  $X$  is maximal if and only if  $[M \cup \{x\}] = X$  for any  $x \in X - M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a proper ideal of  $X$ . Assume that  $M$  is maximal. Let  $x \in X - M$ . Suppose  $[M \cup \{x\}] \neq X$ . Choose  $a \in X$  such that  $a \notin [M \cup \{x\}]$ . Hence  $M \subseteq [M \cup \{x\}] \subset X$ . Since  $M$  is maximal, then  $M = [M \cup \{x\}]$ . Hence  $x \in M$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $[M \cup \{x\}] = X$ .

Conversely, assume the condition. Suppose there exists an ideal  $I$  of  $X$  such that  $M \subseteq I \subseteq X$ . Let  $M \neq I$ . Then  $M \subset I$ . Choose  $x \in I$  such that  $x \notin M$ . By the assumed condition, we get  $[M \cup \{x\}] = X$ . If  $a \in X$ , then  $a \in [M \cup \{x\}]$ . Hence  $((xN)^n * aN)N \in M \subseteq I$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then

$$(xN)^n * aN = xN * ((xN)^{n-1} * aN) \leq xN * ((xN)^{n-1} * aN)NN.$$

By Lemma 3.1(6) and Proposition 3.1(1), we get  $(xN * ((xN)^{n-1} * aN)NN)N \leq ((xN)^n * aN)N \in I$ . Since  $x \in I$ , implies  $((xN)^{n-1} * aN)N \in I$ . We continue in this manner, finally we get  $a \in I$ . Hence  $I = X$ . Therefore,  $M$  is a maximal ideal of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.3.** *Consider the BE-algebra,  $X = \{0, a, b, c, d, 1\}$  given in Example 3.2. Here, the set  $I_5 = \{0, a, b\}$  is a maximal ideal of  $X$ . Take,  $c \in X$  then clearly  $[I_5 \cup \{c\}] = X$  for  $c \in X - I_5$ . Similarly,  $[I_5 \cup \{d\}] = X$  for  $d \in X - I_5$ .*

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $X$  be a BE-algebra and  $I$  is an ideal of  $X$ . Then*

- (1)  *$I$  is proper if and only if  $1 \notin I$ .*
- (2) *each proper ideal is contained in a maximal ideal.*

*Proof.* (1) Assume that  $I$  is proper. Then  $I \neq X$ . Suppose  $1 \in I$ . For  $x \in X$ , we have  $(1N * xN)N = 1N = 0 \in I$ . Since  $1 \in I$  and  $I$  is an ideal, then  $x \in I$ . Hence  $X \subseteq I$ . Thus  $I = X$ , which is a contradiction. The converse is clear.

(2) By the Zorn's lemma, it follows immediately.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Every BE-algebra contains at least one maximal ideal.*

*Proof.* Since  $\{0\}$  is a proper ideal of  $X$ , it is clear by above Theorem 3.3.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $I$  be a proper ideal of a self-distributive BE-algebra  $X$ . Then  $I$  is maximal if and only if for any  $x \in X$ ,*

$$x \notin I \text{ implies } xN \in I.$$

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $X$ . Assume that  $I$  is maximal. Let  $x \notin I$ . Then  $[I \cup \{x\}] = X$ . Hence  $1 \in [I \cup \{x\}]$ . Since  $X$  is self-distributive, then  $xNNN = (xN * 1N)N \in I$ . Since  $xN \leq xNNN$ , then  $xN \in I$ .

Conversely, assume the condition. Suppose  $I$  is not maximal. Then there exists a proper ideal  $Q$  of  $X$  such that  $I \subset Q$ . Choose  $x \in Q - I$ . Then  $x \notin I$ . By the assumed condition, we get  $xN \in I \subseteq Q$ . Since  $xNNN \leq xN$ , then  $(xN * 1N)N = xNNN \in Q$ . Since  $x \in Q$  and  $Q$  is an ideal, then  $1 \in Q$  which is contradiction to that  $Q$  is proper. Therefore,  $I$  is a maximal ideal of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $X$  be a BE-algebra. Then the *radical* of  $X$ , denoted as  $rad(X)$ , defined as,

$$rad(X) = \cap \{I \mid I \in Max(X)\}$$

where  $Max(X)$  is the family of all maximal ideals of  $X$ .

It is clear that  $rad(X)$  is always exists for a BE-algebra. In the contemporary algebra, the following is a standard terminology. We say that a BE-algebra is semi-simple if  $rad(X) = \{0\}$ . We first observe the non-trivial examples:

**Example 3.4.** Let  $X = \{0, a, b, 1\}$ . Define an operation  $*$  on  $X$  as follows:

$*$	1	$a$	$b$	0
1	1	$a$	$b$	0
$a$	1	1	$b$	$b$
$b$	1	$a$	1	$a$
0	1	1	1	1

Clearly,  $(X, *, 0, 1)$  is a bounded BE-algebra. It can be easily verified that the sets  $I_1 = \{0\}$ ,  $I_2 = \{0, a\}$ ,  $I_3 = \{0, b\}$  are ideals of  $X$  in which  $I_2$  and  $I_3$  are the only maximal ideals. Hence  $rad(X) = I_2 \cap I_3 = \{0\}$ . Therefore,  $X$  is semi-simple.

**Example 3.5.** Let  $X = \{0, a, b, c, d, 1\}$ . Define an operation  $*$  on  $X$  as follows:

$*$	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	0
1	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	0
$a$	1	1	1	1	$d$	$d$
$b$	1	$c$	1	$c$	$d$	$c$
$c$	1	$b$	$b$	1	$d$	$b$
$d$	1	$a$	$b$	$c$	1	$a$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1

Clearly,  $(X, *, 0, 1)$  is a bounded BE-algebra. It is easy to check that  $I_1 = \{0\}$ ,  $I_2 = \{0, a\}$ ,  $I_3 = \{0, b\}$ ,  $I_4 = \{0, c\}$ ,  $I_5 = \{0, a, b\}$  and  $I_6 = \{0, a, c\}$  are ideals of  $X$  in which  $I_5$  and  $I_6$  are only maximal ideals of  $X$ . Hence  $\text{rad}(X) = I_5 \cap I_6 = I_2 \neq \{0\}$ . Therefore,  $X$  is not semi-simple.

**Theorem 3.5.** A transitive BE-algebra  $X$  is semi-simple if and only if for each  $0 \neq x \in X$ , there exists a proper ideal  $I$  of  $X$  such that  $[I \cup \{x\}] = X$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $X$  is semi-simple. Then  $\bigcap_{I \in \text{Max}(X)} I = \{0\}$ . Let  $0 \neq x \in X$ . Then there exists a maximal ideal  $I$  of  $X$  such that  $x \notin I$  (otherwise, if every maximal ideal contains  $x$ , then  $0 \neq x \in \bigcap_{I \in \text{Max}(X)} I = \{0\}$ ). Since  $I$  is maximal, then  $[I \cup \{x\}] = X$ .

Conversely, assume the condition. Suppose  $\bigcap_{I \in \text{Max}(X)} I \neq \{0\}$ . Choose  $0 \neq x \in \bigcap_{I \in \text{Max}(X)} I$ . By the assumed condition, there exists a proper ideal  $I$  of  $X$  such that  $[I \cup \{x\}] = X$ . Hence  $x \notin I$ . Consider,  $\mathfrak{I} = \{J \mid J \text{ is an ideal of } X, x \notin J \text{ and } I \subseteq J\}$ . Clearly,  $I \in \mathfrak{I}$  and  $\mathfrak{I} \neq \emptyset$ . Clearly,  $\mathfrak{I}$  is a partially ordered set, with the set inclusion, in which every chain has an upper bound. By the Zorn's lemma,  $\mathfrak{I}$  has a maximal element say  $I_0$ . Then  $x \notin I_0$  and  $I \subseteq I_0$ . Suppose there exists a proper ideal  $M$  of  $X$  such that  $I \subseteq I_0 \subset M \subseteq X$ . By the maximality of  $M$ , we get  $x \in M$ . Hence  $X = [I \cup \{x\}] \subset [M \cup \{x\}] = M$ . Thus  $I_0$  is a maximal ideal of  $X$  and  $x \notin I_0$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\bigcap_{I \in \text{Max}(X)} I = \{0\}$ , which means that  $X$  is semi-simple.  $\square$

**Example 3.6.** Consider the BE-algebra,  $X = \{0, a, b, 1\}$  given in Example 3.4. Here, the sets  $I_2 = \{0, a\}$ ,  $I_3 = \{0, b\}$  are proper ideals of  $X$ . Take,  $0 \neq b \in X$

then clearly  $[I_2 \cup \{b\}] = X$ . Similarly,  $[I_3 \cup \{a\}] = X$  for  $0 \neq a \in X$ . Hence  $X$  is semi-simple.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $X$  be a self-distributive BE-algebra. Then for every  $0 \neq x \in X$  there exists a maximal ideal  $I$  of  $X$  such that  $x \notin I$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $0 \neq x \in X$ . We first claim that  $[xN]$  is a proper ideal of  $X$ . Suppose  $1 \in [xN]$ . Since  $X$  is self-distributive, then  $xNNN = xNN * 1N = 1$ . Hence  $x \leq xNN \leq xNNNN = 0$ . Thus  $x = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $[xN]$  is a proper ideal of  $X$ . Then there exists a maximal ideal  $I$  of  $X$  such that  $[xN] \subseteq I$ . Suppose  $x \in I$ . Then  $(xN * 1N)N = xNNN \leq xN \in [xN] \subseteq I$ . Hence  $(xN * 1N)N \in I$ . Since  $x \in I$ , then  $1 \in I$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $I$  is a maximal ideal of  $X$  such that  $x \notin I$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.** *Every self-distributive BE-algebra is semi-simple.*

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