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## ANNIHILATORS IN NORMAL AUTOMETRIZED ALGEBRAS

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*Abstract.* The concepts of an annihilator and a relative annihilator in an autometrized  $l$ -algebra are introduced. It is shown that every relative annihilator in a normal autometrized  $l$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  and every principal ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  is an annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$ . The set of all annihilators of  $\mathcal{A}$  forms a complete lattice. The concept of an  $I$ -polar is introduced for every ideal  $I$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ . The set of all  $I$ -polars is a complete lattice which becomes a two-element chain provided  $I$  is prime. The  $I$ -polars are characterized as pseudocomplements in the lattice of all ideals of  $\mathcal{A}$  containing  $I$ .

*Keywords:* autometrized algebra, annihilator, relative annihilator, ideal, polar

*MSC 2000:* 06F05

1. AUTOMETRIZED  $l$ -ALGEBRAS, BASIC CONCEPTS

The concept of an annihilator was introduced for lattices by M. Mandelker [5] as a generalization of the concept of a pseudocomplement. Since the set of all annihilators of a lattice  $\mathcal{L}$  need not form a lattice with respect to inclusion, the first author introduced in [2] the concept of the so called indexed annihilator; the set of indexed annihilators in  $\mathcal{L}$  does form a lattice. Both the annihilators and the indexed annihilators characterize distributive and modular lattices. Recall that for a lattice  $\mathcal{L} = (\mathcal{L}; \vee, \wedge)$  and elements  $a, b \in L$  the annihilator  $\langle a, b \rangle$  is the set  $\langle a, b \rangle = \{x \in L; a \wedge x \leq b\}$ ; an indexed annihilator in  $\mathcal{L}$  is every subset of  $L$  which is the intersection of a system of annihilators of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

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Autometrized algebras were introduced by K. L. N. Swamy [8] as a common generalization of Brouwerian algebras and commutative lattice ordered groups (*l*-groups, for short). Let us recall this basic concept:

**Definition.** An algebraic system  $\mathcal{A} = (A; +, \iota, \leq, *)$  is called an *autometrized algebra* if

- (1)  $(A; +, 0)$  is a commutative monoid;
- (2)  $(A; +, \leq)$  is an ordered semigroup, i.e.  $\leq$  is an order on  $A$  and  $a \leq b \implies a + c \leq b + c$  for all  $a, b, c \in A$ ;
- (3)  $*$  is a binary operation on  $A$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} a * b &\geq 0, \\ a * b = 0 &\text{ if and only if } a = b, \\ a * b &= b * a, \\ a * c &\leq (a * b) + (b * c) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ ;  $*$  is called an *autometric* on  $A$ .

If, moreover,  $(A, \leq)$  is a lattice whose operations are denoted by  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a + (b \vee c) &= (a + b) \vee (a + c), \\ a + (b \wedge c) &= (a + b) \wedge (a + c) \end{aligned}$$

for every  $a, b, c \in A$ , then  $\mathcal{A}$  is called an *autometrized lattice algebra*, briefly an *Al-algebra*.

In this case  $\mathcal{A}$  is considered to be also equipped by the lattice operations and this fact is expressed by the notation  $\mathcal{A} = (A; +, 0, \vee, \wedge, *)$ .

However, the concept of an *Al*-algebra can be too general for our purpose, so we use the following specification (which was introduced by Swamy [8]):

**Definition.** An *Al*-algebra  $\mathcal{A} = (A; +, 0, \vee, \wedge, *)$  is called *normal* (briefly an *NAl-algebra* if

$$\begin{aligned} a &\leq a * 0, \\ (a + c) * (b + d) &\leq (a * b) + (c * d), \\ (a * c) * (b * d) &\leq (a * b) + (c * d), \\ a \leq b &\implies \exists x \geq 0 \text{ such that } a + x = b \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, c, d \in A$ .

**Remark.**

(a) Having an abelian  $l$ -group  $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{G}; +, 0, -, \vee, \wedge)$  we can set

$$a * b = |a - b| = (a - b) \vee (b - a)$$

for  $a, b \in G$ . Then  $(G; +, 0, \vee, \wedge, *)$  is an  $NAl$ -algebra.

(b) Having a Brouwerian algebra  $\mathcal{B} = (B; \vee, \wedge)$ , i.e. a dually relative pseudocomplemented lattice with the greatest element (it means that for each  $a, b \in B$  there is a least  $x \in B$  with  $b \vee x \geq a$ ), denote by  $a - b$  this relative pseudocomplement  $x$  of  $b$  with respect to  $a$  and set  $a * b = (a - b) \vee (b - a)$ . Thus also  $(B; +, 0, \vee, \wedge, *)$  is an  $NAl$ -algebra where  $+$  denotes the lattice join  $\vee$ .

The concept of an ideal of an  $NAl$ -algebra was introduced in [9]:

**Definition.** Let  $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{A}; +, 0, \vee, \wedge, *)$  be an  $NAl$ -algebra and  $\emptyset \neq I \subseteq A$ . The set  $I$  is called an *ideal* of  $\mathcal{A}$  if it satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} a, b \in I &\implies a + b \in I, \\ a \in I, x \in A, x * 0 \leq a * 0 &\implies x \in I \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, x \in A$ .

Denote by  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  the set of all ideals of an  $NAl$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . Following Theorem 1 in [9],  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  is an algebraic lattice with respect to set inclusion where  $\inf M = \bigcap M$  for every subset  $M \subseteq \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ . If  $B \subseteq A$ , denote by  $I(B)$  the ideal of  $A$  generated by  $B$ , i.e. the least ideal of  $A$  containing  $B$ ; if  $B$  is a singleton, say  $\{b\}$ , we will write briefly  $I(b)$ . Then  $I(b)$  is called a *principal ideal* of  $\mathcal{A}$  generated by  $b$ .

It is easy to verify that

$$\begin{aligned} I(B) &= \{x \in A; x * 0 \leq (b_1 * 0) + \dots + (b_n * 0); b_1, \dots, b_n \in B\}, \\ I(b) &= \{x \in A; x * 0 \leq m(b * 0), \text{ for } m \in \mathbb{N}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Two elements  $a, b$  in any  $NAl$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  are said to be *orthogonal* (denoted by  $a \perp b$ ) if

$$(a * 0) \wedge (b * 0) = 0.$$

For a subset  $B$  of  $A$  we denote by  $B^\perp$  the set of all elements of  $A$  which are orthogonal to every element of  $B$ , i.e.

$$B^\perp = \{x \in A; x \perp b \text{ for each } b \in B\}.$$

The set  $B^\perp$  is called the *polar* of  $B$ . For  $B = \{b\}$  we will write briefly  $b^\perp$  instead of  $\{b\}^\perp$ . A subset  $C$  of  $A$  is called a *polar in*  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $C = B^\perp$  for some subset  $B$  of  $A$ .

Now, we specify some kinds of *NAl*-algebras: An *NAl*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called  
(a) *semiregular* if for every  $a \in A$

$$a \geq 0 \implies a * 0 = a;$$

(b) *interpolation* if for all  $a, b, c \in A$ ,  $0 \leq a, b, c$  and  $a \leq b + c$  imply the existence of  $b_1, c_1 \in A$  such that  $0 \leq b_1 \leq b$ ,  $0 \leq c_1 \leq c$  and  $a = b_1 + c_1$ .

Denote by  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  the set of all polars of an *NAl*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . It was proved in [9], Theorem 7, that for a semiregular  $\mathcal{A}$  the set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  ordered by inclusion is a complete Boolean algebra. The properties of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  for an interpolation semiregular *NAl*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  were investigated in [7].

On the other hand, the assumption “to be interpolation” can be omitted by virtue of Lemma 1.2 in [3]. Further, Lemma 5 in [9] enables us to omit the assumption of semiregularity in the most cases as it was done in [4], where some results on lattices  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$  are generalized to arbitrary *NAl*-algebras. This way will be used also here for an investigation of the above introduced concepts in a general setting.

## 2. ANNIHILATORS AND RELATIVE ANNIHILATORS

**Definition.** Let  $a, b$  be elements in an *NAl*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . A subset

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \{x \in A; (a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \leq n(b * 0) \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

will be called the *relative annihilator of a with respect to b*.

A subset  $B$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *relative annihilator in  $\mathcal{A}$*  if  $B = \langle a, b \rangle$  for some elements  $a, b \in A$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Every relative annihilator of an *NAl*-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $a, b, x, y \in A$  and suppose  $x, y \in \langle a, b \rangle$ . Then there are  $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$(a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \leq n_1(b * 0),$$

$$(a * 0) \wedge (y * 0) \leq n_2(b * 0).$$

On account of normality of  $\mathcal{A}$  we have

$$(a * 0) \wedge ((x + y) * 0) \leq (a * 0) \wedge ((x * 0) + (y * 0)).$$

By Lemma 1.2 in [3], this yields

$$\begin{aligned} (a * 0) \wedge ((x * 0) + (y * 0)) &\leq ((a * 0) \wedge (x * 0)) + ((a * 0) \wedge (y * 0)) \\ &\leq n_1(b * 0) + n_2(b * 0) \\ &= (n_1 + n_2)(b * 0), \end{aligned}$$

whence  $x + y \in \langle a, b \rangle$ .

It is obvious that for  $z \in A$  we have  $z * 0 \leq x * 0 \implies z \in \langle a, b \rangle$ . □

**Remark.**

- (a) Of course,  $\langle a, a \rangle = A$  for each  $a \in A$ , thus  $A$  is a relative annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$  for each  $NAl$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- (b) If  $a \in A$  then  $\langle a, 0 \rangle = a^\perp$ , the polar of  $a$ .
- (c) The set of all relative annihilators of  $\mathcal{A}$  need not be a complete lattice with respect to set inclusion. We can illuminate this fact by the following example:

Let  $G$  be an abelian  $l$ -group. For  $a \in G$  we denote  $|a| = a \vee -a$ . Then  $a * b = |a - b|$  is an autometric on  $G$  with  $a * 0 = |a|$ , thus

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \{x \in G; |a| \wedge |x| \leq n|b|, n \in \mathbb{N}\},$$

and hence  $a^\perp = \{x \in G; |x| \wedge |a| = 0\}$ . Therefore polars in the autometrized algebra  $\mathcal{G}$  coincide with polars in the  $l$ -group  $G$ . Recall that an element  $b$  in an  $l$ -group  $G$  is a weak unit of  $G$  if  $b^\perp = \{0\}$ .

Suppose now that the  $l$ -group  $G$  contains no weak units and let  $a, b \in G$  be elements with  $\langle a, b \rangle = \{0\}$ . Since  $|a| \wedge |b| \leq n|b|$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $n|b| = 0$ . Since  $G$  is torsion free, this yields  $b = 0$ . Then  $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle a, 0 \rangle = a^\perp$ , i.e.  $a^\perp = \{0\}$ , a contradiction. Hence there are no elements  $a, b \in G$  with  $\langle a, b \rangle = \{0\}$ , i.e.  $\{0\}$  is not a relative annihilator of  $G$ .

On the other hand,  $\{0\} = I(0)$ , and, as will be shown in Theorem 4 later, every ideal generated by a singleton is the intersection of a set of relative annihilators. Altogether,  $\{0\}$  is the intersection of all relative annihilators of  $G$  but it is not a relative annihilator of  $G$ .

The foregoing Remark (c) motivates us to introduce the following concept:

**Definition.** A subset  $B$  of an  $NAl$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called an *annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$*  if  $B = \bigcap \{B_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  for a system of relative annihilators in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Let us note that for lattices a different terminology was used, see [2] and [5], namely, relative annihilators in our sense are annihilators in [5] and annihilators in our sense are called indexed annihilators in [2].

**Corollary 2.** *Every annihilator of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

**Proof.** It follows from Theorem 1 and the fact that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  forms a lattice where meets are intersections.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.** *The set  $\text{Ann}(\mathcal{A})$  of all annihilators of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  forms a complete lattice with respect to set inclusion. For  $B_\gamma \in \text{Ann}(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , we have*

$$\inf\{B_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\} = \bigcap\{B_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\}.$$

Applying Corollary 3, we conclude that for every NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and each subset  $M$  of  $A$  there exists the least annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$  containing  $M$ . We denote it by  $A(M)$  and call it the *annihilator generated by  $M$* .

For principal ideals of  $\mathcal{A}$ , we can prove

**Theorem 4.** *Every principal ideal of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is an annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $c \in A$  and  $A(c) = A(\{c\})$ . For the principal ideal  $I(c)$  we clearly have  $I(c) \subseteq A(c)$ . Let us prove the converse inclusion. Let  $z \in A(c)$ . Then for every  $a, b \in A$  we obviously have  $c \in \langle a, b \rangle \Rightarrow z \in \langle a, b \rangle$ . Since  $(z * 0) \wedge (c * 0) \leq c * 0$ , there must exist  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(z * 0) \wedge (z * 0) \leq s(c * 0)$ , i.e.  $z * 0 \leq s(c * 0)$ . Then, of course,  $z \in I(c)$ .  $\square$

**Remark.**

- (a) By Theorem 4,  $I(0) = \{0\}$  is the least element of the lattice  $\text{Ann}(\mathcal{A})$ ; of course,  $A$  is the greatest element of  $\text{Ann}(\mathcal{A})$  by Remark after Theorem 1.
- (b) By the proof of Theorem 4,  $I(c) = A(c) = A(I(c))$  for each element  $c \in A$ .

The concept of a relative annihilator can be also generalized to subsets:

**Definition.** Let  $B, C$  be non-void subsets of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . The set  $\langle B, C \rangle = \bigcap\{\langle b, c \rangle; b \in B, c \in C\}$  is called the *generalized relative annihilator of  $B$  with respect to  $C$* . A subset  $D$  of  $A$  is a *generalized relative annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$*  if  $D = \langle B, C \rangle$  for some non-void subsets  $B, C$  of  $A$ .

**Remark.**

- (a) Every relative annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a generalized annihilator since  $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle \{a\}, \{b\} \rangle$ .
- (b) Every generalized annihilator is an annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- (c) For every subset  $B$  of  $A$  we have  $B^\perp = \langle B, \{0\} \rangle$ , thus each polar of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a generalized relative annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

It can be of some interest to study the set of generalized relative annihilators with a fixed second component:

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $B$  be a non-void subset of an  $NAl$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . The set of all generalized relative annihilators  $\langle X, B \rangle$  where  $X$  runs over all non-void subsets of  $A$  forms a complete lattice with respect to set inclusion where infima coincide with intersections and  $A$  is the greatest element.*

*Proof.* Of course,  $\langle \{0\}, B \rangle = A$ , thus  $A$  is the greatest generalized annihilator of  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is an easy computation that for any non-void subsets  $C_\gamma$  of  $A$  we have  $\bigcap \{\langle C_\gamma, B \rangle; \gamma \in \Gamma\} = \bigcap \{\langle c, b \rangle; c \in C_\gamma, b \in B; \gamma \in \Gamma\} = \bigcap \{\langle c, b \rangle; b \in B, c \in \bigcup \{C_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\}\} = \langle \bigcup \{C_\gamma; \gamma \in \Gamma\}, B \rangle$ .  $\square$

### 3. $I$ -POLARS

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an  $NAl$ -algebra and  $a, b$  elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Using the concept of a principal ideal, we have

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \{x \in A; (a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I(b)\}.$$

Since  $I(0) = \{0\}$ , the polar of  $a$  can be expressed by

$$a^\perp = \{x \in A; (a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I(0)\}.$$

From this point of view, it is natural to substitute  $I(0)$  by an arbitrary ideal  $I$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  to obtain the following concept:

**Definition.** Let  $I$  be an ideal of an  $NAl$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $a \in A$ . By the  $I$ -polar of  $a$  we mean the set

$$a(I)^\perp = \{x \in A; (a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I\}.$$

By the  $I$ -polar of a non-void subset  $B$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  we mean the set

$$B(I)^\perp = \bigcap \{a(I)^\perp; a \in B\}.$$

A subset  $C$  is called an  $I$ -polar of  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $C = B(I)^\perp$  for some non-void subset  $B$  of  $A$ .

**Remark.**

- (a) Of course, if  $I = I(0)$  then  $a(I(0))^\perp = a^\perp$  and  $B(I(0))^\perp = B^\perp$  for each  $a \in A$  and every  $\emptyset \neq B \subseteq A$ . Moreover, a subset  $C$  of  $A$  is an  $I(0)$ -polar of  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if  $C$  is a polar of  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- (b) For every two elements  $a, b \in A$  we have  $a(I(b))^\perp = \langle a, b \rangle$  and for each subset  $\emptyset \neq C \subseteq A$  we have  $C(I(b))^\perp = \langle C, \{b\} \rangle$ .



We are able to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . The set  $\mathcal{P}(I)$  of all  $I$ -polars of  $\mathcal{A}$  forms a complete lattice with respect to set inclusion where infima coincide with intersections, the least element is  $I$  and the greatest one is  $A$ . Moreover, every  $I$ -polar of  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  and for each non-void subset  $B$  of  $A$  we have  $B(I)^\perp = \{x \in A; I(x) \cap I(B) \subseteq I\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $B \subseteq A$ . Denote

$$C = \{x \in A; I(x) \cap I(B) \subseteq I\}.$$

(a) Suppose  $x \in B(I)^\perp$  and  $z \in I(x) \cap I(B)$ . Then there exist  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and elements  $b_1, \dots, b_n \in B$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} z * 0 &\leq m(x * 0), \\ z * 0 &\leq (b_1 * 0) + \dots + (b_n * 0). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq z * 0 \leq m(x * 0) \wedge ((b_1 * 0) + \dots + (b_n * 0)) \\ &\leq m((x * 0) \wedge (b_1 * 0)) + \dots + m((x * 0) \wedge (b_n * 0)) \in I, \end{aligned}$$

thus  $z * 0 \in I$  and also  $z \in I$ . We have  $I(x) \cap I(B) \subseteq I$ , i.e.  $B(I)^\perp \subseteq C$ .

(b) Let  $x \in A$  be an element satisfying  $I(x) \cap I(B) \subseteq I$ , let  $b \in B$  and put  $c = (x * 0) \wedge (b * 0)$ . Then  $0 \leq c \leq x * 0$  and, by Lemma 2 and Theorem 5 in [4],  $I(x) = I(x * 0)$  and every ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a convex subset of  $A$ , i.e.  $c \in I(x)$ .

Analogously,  $c \in I(b)$ , which implies  $c \in I$ . Thus  $x \in B(I)^\perp$  proving  $C \subseteq B(I)^\perp$ .

We conclude  $B(I)^\perp = \{x \in A; I(x) \cap I(B) \subseteq I\}$ . Suppose now  $x \notin I$ . Then  $(x * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \notin I$  whence  $x \notin A(I)^\perp$ . Conversely, if  $x \notin A(I)^\perp$  then there exists  $a \in A$  with  $(a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \notin I$ . Suppose  $x \in I$ . Then  $x * 0 \in I$  and, on account of convexity of  $I$ , also  $(a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I$ , a contradiction. Hence  $x \notin I$ . We have shown  $A(I)^\perp = I$ , i.e.  $I \in \mathcal{P}(I)$ . Since  $B \subseteq C \subseteq A$  implies  $C(I)^\perp \subseteq B(I)^\perp$ ,  $I$  is clearly the least element of  $\mathcal{P}(I)$ . Of course,  $A$  is the greatest element of  $\mathcal{P}(I)$  because  $\{0\}(I)^\perp = A$ .

Let us prove that every  $I$ -polar is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ . To this end, let  $a \in A$  and  $x, y \in a(I)^\perp$ . Then  $(a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I$  and  $(a * 0) \wedge (y * 0) \in I$ . Applying the normality of  $\mathcal{A}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq ((x + y) * 0) \wedge (a * 0) \\ &\leq ((x * 0) + (y * 0)) \wedge (a * 0) \\ &\leq ((x * 0) \wedge (a * 0)) + ((y * 0) \wedge (a * 0)) \in I. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $I$  is convex, we obtain  $((x + y) * 0) \wedge (a * 0) \in I$ , whence  $x + y \in a(I)^\perp$ .

Suppose now  $x \in a(I)^\perp$ ,  $z \in A$ ,  $z * 0 \leq x * 0$ . Then  $0 \leq (a * 0) \wedge (z * 0) \leq (a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I$ , i.e. also  $(a * 0) \wedge (z * 0) \in I$ , which implies  $z \in a(I)^\perp$ .

Hence  $a(I)^\perp$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  and, moreover, for any non-void subset  $B$  of  $A$  we have  $B(I)^\perp = \bigcap \{a(I)^\perp; a \in B\}$ , thus also  $B(I)^\perp$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ . This yields the fact that infima in  $\mathcal{P}(I)$  coincide with intersections.  $\square$

**Corollary 7.** *Let  $I$  be an ideal of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $C \in \mathcal{P}(I)$ . Then there exists an ideal  $J$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $C = J(I)^\perp$ .*

*Proof.* Of course, if  $C = B(I)^\perp$  then  $C = J(I)^\perp$  for  $J = I(B)$ .  $\square$

An ideal  $I$  of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called a *prime ideal* if for each ideals  $J$  and  $K$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  the implication  $J \cap K = I \implies J = I$  or  $K = I$  holds. This concept was introduced by the second author in [6] where it was also shown that for  $\mathcal{A}$  semiregular,  $I$  is a prime ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if  $0 \leq a \wedge b \in I \implies a \in I$  or  $b \in I$  for every  $a, b$  in  $A$ . On account of Theorem 9 in [4], this equivalent condition holds in every NAI-algebra. Hence we have

**Corollary 8.** *If  $I$  is a prime ideal of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  then  $\mathcal{P}(I)$  is the two-element chain  $\{I, A\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be a prime ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$  and let  $a \notin I$ ,  $x \in A$ . If  $(a * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I$  then  $x * 0 \in I$  and also  $x \in I$ . Hence  $a(I)^\perp = I$ . If  $a \in I$  then  $a(I)^\perp = A$ . This yields that for  $\emptyset \neq B \subseteq A$  we have only two possibilities:

$$B \not\subseteq I \implies B(I)^\perp = I \quad \text{and}$$

$$B \subseteq I \implies B(I)^\perp = A.$$

$\square$

**Remark.** Applying Corollary 7, we can restrict ourselves to  $I$ -polars of ideals when investigating properties of arbitrary  $I$ -polars.

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an NAI-algebra and  $I$  an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Denote

$$\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I = \{J \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}); I \subseteq J\},$$

i.e.  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$  is the principal filter of the lattice  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  generated by  $I$ . This fact together with Theorem 6 in [9] (stating that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  is a complete and Brouwerian lattice, i.e.  $K \cap \bigvee_{\gamma \in \Gamma} J_\gamma = \bigvee_{\gamma \in \Gamma} (K \cap J_\gamma)$  for every  $K, J_\gamma \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ) immediately imply

**Corollary 9.** For every ideal  $I$  of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$  is a complete Brouwerian lattice.

Hence, we can ask about pseudocomplements in the lattice  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$ .

**Theorem 10.** Let  $I$  be an ideal of an NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $J \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$ . Then the pseudocomplement of  $J$  in the lattice  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$  is  $J(I)^\perp$ .

*Proof.* Since  $J(I)^\perp \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})$ , we have  $I \subseteq J(I)^\perp$ , i.e.  $J(I)^\perp \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$ . Suppose  $x \in J \cap J(I)^\perp$ . Then  $x \in J$  and  $x \in J(I)^\perp$ , thus  $x * 0 = (x * 0) \wedge (x * 0) \in I$  whence  $x \in I$ . We have  $J \cap J(I)^\perp = I$ .

Let  $K \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$  with  $J \cap K = I$ . Let  $x \in K$  and  $a \in J$ . Then  $0 \leq (x * 0) \wedge (a * 0) \leq x * 0$ . Since  $K$  is convex, this yields  $(x * 0) \wedge (a * 0) \in K$ . Analogously we obtain  $(x * 0) \wedge (a * 0) \in J$ , thus also  $(x * 0) \wedge (a * 0) \in K \cap J = I$ . However, this means  $x \in J(I)^\perp$ , i.e.  $K \subseteq J(I)^\perp$ . We have shown that  $J(I)^\perp$  is the pseudocomplement of  $J$  in  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$ .  $\square$

Applying Theorem 10 together with Glivenko's Theorem (see e.g. Theorem VIII. 4.3 in [1]), we immediately conclude

**Corollary 11.** For every NAI-algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $I \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ , the mapping  $J \mapsto J(I)^{\perp\perp}$  is a closure operator on  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})_I$ . The closed subsets are just all  $I$ -polars of  $\mathcal{A}$ . The set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A})_I$  of all  $I$ -polars of  $\mathcal{A}$  is a complete Boolean algebra with respect to set inclusion.

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