

## *On Relatively Semi-orthocomplemented Lattices*

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A complete lattice  $L$  is called a  $Z$ -lattice if its center  $Z$  is a complete (Boolean) sublattice of  $L$  and  $\bigvee(a_\alpha; \alpha \in I) \wedge b = \bigvee(a_\alpha \wedge b; \alpha \in I)$  holds when  $a_\alpha \in Z$  for every  $\alpha \in I$  or  $b \in Z$  (F. Maeda [4], Definition 1.1). If a complete lattice  $L$  has a binary relation " $\perp$ " which satisfies the six axioms  $(1, \alpha)$ — $(1, \zeta)$  introduced in my previous paper [5], then it is a  $Z$ -lattice (see Theorem 1.3 and Lemma 1.3 of [5]). In this paper, it will be proved that the axiom  $(1, \varepsilon)$  is unnecessary for the proof that  $L$  is a  $Z$ -lattice. A lattice with  $0, 1$  (not necessarily complete) which has a binary relation " $\perp$ " satisfying these five axioms except  $(1, \varepsilon)$  will be called to be relatively semi-orthocomplemented. Then, the above statement means that a relatively semi-orthocomplemented complete lattice is a  $Z$ -lattice. This is the main theorem of this paper.

We shall show that relatively orthocomplemented lattices and complemented modular lattices are relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattices with some special properties. Moreover, we shall show that, in a ring  $A$  with unity, if the set  $R_r(A)$  of all principal right ideals generated by idempotents of  $A$  forms a lattice by set-inclusion, then it is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice; especially that if  $A$  is a Baer ring, then  $R_r(A)$ , equal to the set of all right-annihilators, is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented complete lattice.

Our main theorem includes the following theorems as special cases: Theorem 2 of Loomis [3], on a relatively orthocomplemented complete lattice (see [4], Remark 4.3); Theorem 5 of Kaplansky [1], on a complemented modular complete lattice; Theorem 5.3 of F. Maeda [4], on a lattice of the annihilators of a Baer ring.

**1. Definitions and examples.** We assume that, in a lattice  $L$  with  $0$ , there is a binary relation " $\perp$ " which satisfies the following axioms:

- ( $\perp 1$ )  $a \perp a$  implies  $a = 0$  ;
- ( $\perp 2$ )  $a \perp b$  implies  $b \perp a$  ;
- ( $\perp 3$ )  $a \perp b, a_1 \leq a$  imply  $a_1 \perp b$  ;
- ( $\perp 4$ )  $a \perp b, a \cup b \perp c$  imply  $a \perp b \cup c$ .

These axioms coincide with  $(1, \alpha)$ ,  $(1, \beta)$ ,  $(1, \gamma)$  and  $(1, \delta)$  in [5, §1] respectively. It is obvious by ( $\perp 1$ ), ( $\perp 2$ ) and ( $\perp 3$ ) that  $a \perp b$  implies  $a \wedge b = 0$ . Two elements  $a, b \in L$  are called to be *semi-orthogonal* when  $a \perp b$ .  $L$  is called to be *semi-orthocomplemented* if it has  $1$  and every element  $a \in L$  has a complement  $a^\perp$  such that

$a \perp a^\perp$  ( $a^\perp$  is called a semi-orthocomplement of  $a$ ). A semi-orthocomplemented lattice  $L$  is called to be *relatively semi-orthocomplemented* if for every  $a, b \in L$  with  $b \leq a$  there exists  $c \in L$  such that  $b \cup c = a$  and  $b \perp c$  ( $c$  is called a relative semi-orthocomplement of  $b$  in  $a$ ). The last condition coincides with (1,  $\zeta$ ) in [5, § 1].

**Examples.** (i) In an orthocomplemented lattice  $L$ , let  $a \perp b$  be defined by  $a \leq b^\perp$ , where  $b^\perp$  is the orthocomplement of  $b$ . Then since  $(\perp 1)$ — $(\perp 4)$  hold clearly,  $L$  is semi-orthocomplemented. Any relatively orthocomplemented lattice ([4], Definition 4.1) is relatively semi-orthocomplemented.

(ii) In a lattice with 0, let  $a \perp b$  be defined by  $a \cap b = 0$ . Then  $(\perp 1)$ ,  $(\perp 2)$  and  $(\perp 3)$  hold clearly, and  $(\perp 4)$  holds if the lattice is modular. Hence, in a modular lattice with 0, semi-orthogonality can be defined by  $a \cap b = 0$ . Since any complemented modular lattice is relatively complemented, it is not only semi-orthocomplemented but relatively semi-orthocomplemented.

(iii) If every  $L_\alpha$  is a lattice with semi-orthogonality, then so is the product  $L = \prod (L_\alpha; \alpha \in I)$ , for,  $(a_\alpha)_{\alpha \in I} \perp (b_\alpha)_{\alpha \in I}$  can be defined by  $a_\alpha \perp b_\alpha$  in  $L_\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in I$ . If every  $L_\alpha$  is semi-orthocomplemented (resp. relatively semi-orthocomplemented), then so is  $L$ .

**2. Properties.** Let  $L$  be a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice.  $a \cup b$  will be denoted by  $a \cup b$  when  $a \perp b$ .  $(a, b)M$  means that  $(c \cup a) \cap b = c \cup (a \cap b)$  when  $c \leq b$ .

LEMMA 1. (i)  $(a, b)M$  holds if  $a \perp b$ .

(ii) If  $c$  is a relative semi-orthocomplement of  $b$  in  $a$  ( $b \leq a$ ), there exists a semi-orthocomplement  $b^\perp$  of  $b$  such that  $c = b^\perp \cap a$ .

(iii)  $L$  is relatively complemented.

PROOF. (i) Let  $c \leq b$ . Since  $(c \cup a) \cap b \geq c \cup (a \cap b) = c$ , there is  $d \in L$  with  $c \cup d = (c \cup a) \cap b$ . Since  $c \cup d \leq b \perp a$ , it follows from  $(\perp 3)$  and  $(\perp 4)$  that  $d \perp c \cup a \geq d$ , which implies  $d = 0$  by  $(\perp 1)$ . Therefore  $(a, b)M$  holds.

(ii) Let  $a^\perp$  be a semi-orthocomplement of  $a$  and  $b^\perp = c \cup a^\perp$ . Since  $b \cup c = a$ , we have  $b \perp b^\perp$  by  $(\perp 4)$  and have  $b \cup b^\perp = a \cup a^\perp = 1$ . It follows from (i) that  $b^\perp \cap a = (c \cup a^\perp) \cap a = c$ .

(iii) Let  $a \leq c \leq b$ . There is  $d \in L$  with  $c \cup d = b$ . Then  $(a \cup d) \cap c = a$  by (i) and  $(a \cup d) \cup c = b$ . Hence  $a \cup d$  is a relative complement of  $c$  in the interval  $[a, b]$ .

THEOREM 1. The following statements are equivalent.

( $\alpha$ )  $L$  is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice where every element has a unique semi-orthocomplement.

( $\beta$ )  $L$  is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice where the semi-

orthogonality satisfies the following axiom (stronger than  $(\perp 4)$ ):

$$a \perp b, a \perp c \text{ imply } a \perp b \cup c.$$

( $\gamma$ )  $L$  is a relatively orthocomplemented lattice.

PROOF. ( $\gamma$ ) $\Rightarrow$ ( $\beta$ ) is obvious (§1, Example (i)).

( $\beta$ ) $\Rightarrow$ ( $\alpha$ ). Let  $b$  and  $c$  be semi-orthocomplements of  $a$ , and  $b \cup d = b \cup c$ . Since  $a \perp b \cup c$  by ( $\beta$ ), we have  $d \perp a \cup b = 1$ , which implies  $d = 0$ . Hence  $b = b \cup c$  and similarly we have  $c = b \cup c$ .

( $\alpha$ ) $\Rightarrow$ ( $\gamma$ ). Let  $a^\perp$  be the unique semi-orthocomplement of  $a$ . It suffices to show that  $a \rightarrow a^\perp$  is a dual automorphism of  $L$  with  $a^{\perp\perp} = a$ ,  $a \wedge a^\perp = 0$  and  $(a, a^\perp)M$  ([4], Theorem 4.1). Since  $a^{\perp\perp}$  and  $a$  are semi-orthocomplements of  $a^\perp$ , we have  $a = a^{\perp\perp}$ . If  $a \leq b$ , then, putting  $a \cup c = b$ , we have  $a \perp b^\perp \cup c$ . Then, since  $b^\perp \cup c$  is a semi-orthocomplement of  $a$ , we have  $a^\perp = b^\perp \cup c \geq b^\perp$ . Therefore  $a \rightarrow a^\perp$  is a dual automorphism.  $a \wedge a^\perp = 0$  holds clearly, and  $(a, a^\perp)M$  holds by Lemma 1 (i).

THEOREM 2. The following statements are equivalent.

( $\alpha$ )  $L$  is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice where every complement of  $a \in L$  is a semi-orthocomplement of  $a$ .

( $\beta$ )  $L$  is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice where  $a \wedge b = 0$  ( $a, b \in L$ ) implies that  $a$  and  $b$  are semi-orthogonal.

( $\gamma$ )  $L$  is a complemented modular lattice.

PROOF. ( $\gamma$ ) $\Rightarrow$ ( $\alpha$ ) is obvious (§1, Example (ii)).

( $\alpha$ ) $\Rightarrow$ ( $\beta$ ). Let  $a \wedge b = 0$ , and  $c$  be a semi-orthocomplement of  $a \cup b$ . Since  $(c, a \cup b)M$  by Lemma 1 (i), we have  $(a \cup c) \wedge b = (a \cup c) \wedge (a \cup b) \wedge b = a \wedge b = 0$ . Hence  $a \cup c$  is a complement of  $b$ , and it follows from ( $\alpha$ ) that  $b \perp a \cup c \geq a$ .

( $\beta$ ) $\Rightarrow$ ( $\gamma$ ). It suffices to show that  $(c \cup a) \wedge b = c \cup (a \wedge b)$  when  $c \leq b$ . Let  $(c \cup a) \wedge b = \{c \cup (a \wedge b)\} \cup d$  and  $c \cup (a \wedge b) = (a \wedge b) \cup c_1$ . Since  $d \perp c_1 \cup (a \wedge b)$  we have  $d \cup c_1 \perp a \wedge b$ , and since  $d \cup c_1 \leq b$  we have  $(d \cup c_1) \wedge a = (d \cup c_1) \wedge a \wedge b = 0$ . Hence we have  $d \cup c_1 \perp a$  by ( $\beta$ ), and then  $d \perp a \cup c_1$ . But, since  $a \cup c_1 = a \cup (a \wedge b) \cup c_1 = a \cup c \cup (a \wedge b) = a \cup c \geq d$ , we have  $d = 0$ . This completes the proof.

REMARK. Let  $L$  be a lattice with semi-orthogonality. A finite subset  $F$  of  $L$  is called a *semi-orthogonal system* if  $(a; a \in F_1) \perp (a; a \in F_2)$  holds for every pair of disjoint subsets  $F_1, F_2$  of  $F$ . It is easy to prove the following properties.

(i) If  $F_i$  is a semi-orthogonal system for every  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $\{\bigcup(a; a \in F_i); 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  is also a semi-orthogonal system, then so is the union  $\bigcup(F_i; 1 \leq i \leq n)$ .

(ii) If  $a_1 \cup \dots \cup a_i \perp a_{i+1}$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , then  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is a semi-orthogonal system.

(iii) If  $L$  is relatively semi-orthocomplemented and  $F$  is a semi-orthogonal system in  $L$ , then  $\{\bigcup(a; a \in S); S \subset F\}$  form a sublattice of  $L$  isomorphic to the Boolean lattice of all subsets of  $F$ .

LEMMA 2. *Let  $L$  be a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice and  $Z$  be its center. An element of  $L$  is in  $Z$  if and only if it has a unique complement.*

PROOF. The “only if” part is trivial. To prove the converse, assuming that  $z$  has a unique complement  $z'$ , it suffices to show that the correspondence  $x \rightarrow [z \wedge x, z' \wedge x]$  is an isomorphism between  $L$  and the product of the sublattices  $L(0, z) = \{x \in L: x \leq z\}$  and  $L(0, z')$ . By the assumption,  $z'$  is necessarily a semi-orthocomplement of  $z$ . Then, it follows from Lemma 1 (i) that if  $a \leq z$ ,  $b \leq z'$  then  $(a \cup b) \wedge z = a$  and  $(a \cup b) \wedge z' = b$ . Hence this correspondence is onto. To show that it is one-to-one, it suffices to prove  $x = (z \wedge x) \cup (z' \wedge x)$  for every  $x \in L$ . We can show that  $z \wedge a = 0$  ( $a \in L$ ) implies  $a \leq z'$ : Putting  $(z \cup a) \cup b = 1$ , since  $(a \cup b) \wedge (z \cup a) = a$  by Lemma 1 (i), we have  $z \wedge (a \cup b) = z \wedge a = 0$ , and hence  $a \cup b$  is a complement of  $z$ , which implies  $z' = a \cup b \geq a$ . Now, putting  $x = (z \wedge x) \cup a$ , since  $z \wedge a = z \wedge x \wedge a = 0$ , we have  $a \leq z'$ , and hence  $x = (z \wedge x) \cup a \leq (z \wedge x) \cup (z' \wedge x) \leq x$ . Since the correspondence is clearly order-preserving, it is an isomorphism.

LEMMA 3. *In a semi-orthocomplemented complete lattice  $L$ , let  $a_\delta \uparrow a$  and  $a_\delta \perp b$  for every  $\delta$ . If  $a_\delta \in Z$  for every  $\delta$  or  $b \in Z$ , then  $a \perp b$ .*

PROOF. Let  $b^\perp$  be a semi-orthocomplement of  $b$ . Since  $a_\delta$  or  $b \in Z$ , we have  $a_\delta = (a_\delta \wedge b) \cup (a_\delta \wedge b^\perp) = a_\delta \wedge b^\perp \leq b^\perp$ . Hence  $a \leq b^\perp$ , which implies  $a \perp b$ .

THEOREM 3. *Let  $L$  be a relatively semi-orthocomplemented complete lattice.*

- (i) *The center  $Z$  of  $L$  is a complete Boolean sublattice of  $L$ .*
- (ii) *Let  $a_\delta \uparrow a$ . If  $a_\delta \in Z$  for every  $\delta$  or  $b \in Z$ , then  $a_\delta \wedge b \uparrow a \wedge b$ .*

*These two properties mean that  $L$  is a  $Z$ -lattice in the sense of F. Maeda [4].*

PROOF. (i) If  $z \in Z$ , then since  $z$  has a unique complement (which is a semi-orthocomplement), we denote it by  $1 - z$ , which is obviously in  $Z$ . Let  $z_\delta \uparrow a$ ,  $z_\delta \in Z$  for every  $\delta$  and  $a'$  be a complement of  $a$ . Since  $a' \wedge z_\delta = 0$  we have  $a' \leq 1 - z_\delta$  for every  $\delta$ , and we put  $a' \cup b = \bigwedge_\delta (1 - z_\delta)$ . Since  $\bigwedge_\delta (1 - z_\delta) \leq 1 - z_\delta$ , we have  $z_{\delta'} \perp \bigwedge_\delta (1 - z_\delta)$  for every  $\delta'$ , and hence  $a \perp \bigwedge_\delta (1 - z_\delta) = a' \cup b$  by Lemma 3. Hence we have  $b \perp a \cup a' = 1$ , and then  $b = 0$ . Therefore we have  $a' = \bigwedge_\delta (1 - z_\delta)$ , which means that  $a$  has a unique complement, and it follows from Lemma 2 that  $a \in Z$ .

If  $z_\delta \downarrow a$  and  $z_\delta \in Z$ , then  $\{1 - z_\delta\}$  is an ascending set and it follows from the above result that  $\bigcup_\delta (1 - z_\delta)$  has a unique complement  $\bigwedge_{\delta} z_\delta$  and is in  $Z$ . Hence  $a = \bigwedge_{\delta} z_\delta$  is also in  $Z$ . Therefore  $Z$  is a complete Boolean sublattice of  $L$ .

- (ii) Let  $b^\perp$  be a semi-orthocomplement of  $b$ . Then it follows from the

assumption that  $a_\delta = (a_\delta \wedge b) \vee (a_\delta \wedge b^\perp) \leq \bigvee_\delta (a_\delta \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge b^\perp) \leq a$ . Hence  $a = \bigvee_\delta (a_\delta \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge b^\perp)$ . Since  $a \wedge b^\perp \perp b$  it follows from Lemma 1 (i) that  $a \wedge b = \bigvee_\delta (a_\delta \wedge b)$ .

**3. Principal ideals generated by idempotents of a ring.** In a ring  $A$  with unity, the set of all idempotents of  $A$  is denoted by  $I(A)$ , the principal right (resp. left) ideal generated by  $e \in I(A)$  is denoted by  $(e)_r$  (resp.  $(e)_l$ ) and  $R_I(A) = \{(e)_r; e \in I(A)\}$ ,  $L_I(A) = \{(e)_l; e \in I(A)\}$ . Each  $R_I(A)$  and  $L_I(A)$  is a partially ordered set with 0,1 by set-inclusion and there exists a dual-isomorphism between them by  $(e)_r \leftrightarrow (1-e)_l$ . Because  $(e)_r \leq (f)_r \Leftrightarrow fe = e \Leftrightarrow (1-f)(1-e) = (1-f) \Leftrightarrow (1-e)_l \geq (1-f)_l$ .

**LEMMA 4.** (i) If  $(e)_r \leq (f)_r$  in  $R_I(A)$ , then there exists  $e_0 \in I(A)$  such that  $(e_0)_r = (e)_r$ ,  $e_0 = e_0 f = f e_0$  and exists  $f_0 \in I(A)$  such that  $(f_0)_r = (f)_r$ ,  $e = e f_0 = f_0 e$ .

(ii) If  $ef = fe$ ,  $e, f \in I(A)$ , then  $(e)_r \wedge (f)_r$  and  $(e)_r \vee (f)_r$  exist and are equal to  $(ef)_r$  and  $(e+f-ef)_r$ , respectively.

Similar properties on  $L_I(A)$  also hold.

**PROOF.** (i) Since  $e = fe$ , it is easy to prove that  $e_0 = ef$  and  $f_0 = e + f - ef$  have the desired properties.

(ii) It is easy to prove that  $ef$  and  $e + f - ef$  are idempotents and that  $(ef)_r \leq (e)_r$  (or  $(f)_r$ )  $\leq (e + f - ef)_r$ . If  $g \in I(A)$  and  $(g)_r \leq (e)_r, (f)_r$  then  $g = eg = fg$  and hence  $(g)_r \leq (ef)_r$ , and if  $(g)_r \geq (e)_r, (f)_r$  then  $e = ge, f = gf$  and hence  $(g)_r \geq (e + f - ef)_r$ . This completes the proof.

**LEMMA 5.** If for every  $e, f \in I(A)$  the right annihilator of  $\{e, f\}$  is of the form  $(h)_l, h \in I(A)$ , then  $R_I(A)$  and  $L_I(A)$  are lattices, where  $(e)_r \wedge (f)_r$  (resp.  $(e)_l \wedge (f)_l$ ) is the intersection of  $(e)_r$  and  $(f)_r$  (resp.  $(e)_l$  and  $(f)_l$ ).

**PROOF.** Since the right annihilator of  $\{e, f\}$  is equal to the intersection of  $(1-e)_r$  and  $(1-f)_r$ , it follows from the assumption that  $(g)_r = (1-e)_r \wedge (1-f)_r$  in  $R_I(A)$ . Hence  $(1-g)_l = (e)_l \vee (f)_l$  in  $L_I(A)$ . Similarly we have  $(h)_l = (1-e)_l \wedge (1-f)_l$  and  $(1-h)_r = (e)_r \vee (f)_r$ . This completes the proof.

**Examples.** (i) A ring  $A$  with unity is called a *Baer ring* if the right annihilator of every subset of  $A$  is of the form  $(e)_r, e \in I(A)$  (Kaplansky [2], Chap. I, Definition 1). Then the similar property of left annihilators also holds ([2], Chap. 1, Theorem 1).  $R_I(A)$  (resp.  $L_I(A)$ ) is equal to the set of the right (resp. left) annihilators and is a lattice by Lemma 5. Moreover, it is a complete lattice, because if the right annihilator of  $\{e_\alpha\}$  ( $e_\alpha \in I(A)$  for every  $\alpha$ ) is of the form  $(g)_r, g \in I(A)$ , then we have  $(g)_r = \bigcap_\alpha (1-e_\alpha)_r$  and  $(1-g)_l = \bigvee_\alpha (e_\alpha)_l$ .

(ii) A ring  $A$  with unity is called to be *regular* if for every  $a \in A$  there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $a = axa$ . Now, we assume that, in a ring  $A$  with unity, for every  $e, f \in I(A)$  there exists  $x \in A$  such that  $ef = efxf$ . Then, putting  $g =$

$f - fxe$ , it is easy to show that  $g \in I(A)$  and that the right annihilator of  $\{e, 1-f\}$  is equal to  $(g)_r$ . Similarly, putting  $h = e - efxe$ , we have  $h \in I(A)$  and the left annihilator of  $\{1-e, f\}$  is equal to  $(h)_l$ . Hence  $R_I(A)$  and  $L_I(A)$  are lattices by Lemma 5. Moreover, since  $(1-g)_l = (e)_l \cup (1-f)_l$  and  $1-g = 1-f - fxe(1-f) + fxe$  belongs to the left ideal generated by  $e$  and  $1-f$ ,  $(e)_l \cup (1-f)_l$  is the left ideal generated by  $(e)_l$  and  $(1-f)_l$ . Hence  $L_I(A)$  is a sublattice of the modular lattice formed by all left ideals of  $A$ , whence  $L_I(A)$  is also modular. Since  $(1-e)_l$  is a complement of  $(e)_l$ , it is a complemented modular lattice. Similar properties of  $R_I(A)$  also hold.

Now, we shall prove that if  $R_I(A)$  is a lattice then it is relatively semi-orthocomplemented. To this end, we define a binary relation " $\perp$ " in  $R_I(A)$  as follows:  $(e)_r \perp (f)_r$ , if there are  $e_0, f_0 \in I(A)$  with  $(e_0)_r = (e)_r$ ,  $(f_0)_r = (f)_r$  and  $e_0 f_0 = f_0 e_0 = 0$ . We note that  $ef = 0$  ( $e, f \in I(A)$ ) implies  $(e)_r \perp (f)_r$ ; because, putting  $f_0 = f(1-e)$ , it is easy to prove that  $ef = 0$  implies  $f_0 \in I(A)$ ,  $(f_0)_r = (f)_r$  and  $e f_0 = f_0 e = 0$ .

**THEOREM 4.** *If the set  $R_I(A)$  of the principal right ideals generated by idempotents of a ring  $A$  with unity forms a lattice by set-inclusion, then it is a relatively semi-orthocomplemented lattice.*

**PROOF.** Firstly, we shall show that the relation " $\perp$ " defined as above satisfies the four axioms of semi-orthogonality.  $(\perp 2)$  is clearly satisfied. If  $(e)_r \perp (e)_r$ , then there are  $e_1, e_2 \in I(A)$  with  $(e_1)_r = (e_2)_r = (e)_r$ ,  $e_1 e_2 = e_2 e_1 = 0$ . Hence  $e_1 = e_2 e_1 = 0$ ,  $(e_1)_r = 0$ , which means  $(\perp 1)$  is satisfied. If  $(e)_r \leq (f)_r$  and  $(f)_r \perp (g)_r$  ( $e, f, g \in I(A)$ ) then we may assume that  $fg = gf = 0$ . It follows from Lemma 4 (i) that there is  $e_0 \in I(A)$  with  $(e_0)_r = (e)_r$ ,  $e_0 = e_0 f = f e_0$ . Then we have  $e_0 g = g e_0 = 0$ , and hence  $(\perp 3)$  is satisfied. Let  $(e)_r \perp (f)_r$  and  $(e)_r \cup (f)_r \perp (g)_r$ . We may assume that  $ef = fe = 0$  and that there is  $h \in I(A)$  with  $(h)_r = (e)_r \cup (f)_r$ ,  $hg = gh = 0$ . Since  $he = e$  we have  $ge = ghe = 0$  and similarly have  $gf = 0$ . putting  $f_0 = f(1-g)$ , we have  $f_0 \in I(A)$ ,  $(f_0)_r = (f)_r$ , and  $f_0 g = g f_0 = 0$ . It follows from Lemma 4 (ii) that  $(f)_r \cup (g)_r = (f_0 + g)_r$ . But, since  $(f_0 + g)e = (f - fg + g)e = 0$ , we have  $(f_0 + g)_r \perp (e)_r$ . Hence  $(\perp 4)$  is satisfied.

Next, we shall show that  $R_I(A)$  is relatively semi-orthocomplemented. If  $(e)_r \leq (f)_r$ , then we may assume that  $e = ef = fe$  by Lemma 4 (i). Then we have  $f - e \in I(A)$ ,  $(e)_r \perp (f - e)_r$ , and it follows from Lemma 4 (ii) that  $(e)_r \cup (f - e)_r = (f)_r$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

$L_I(A)$  also has the same property.

**COROLLARY.** *The right (resp. left) annihilators of a Baer ring form a semi-orthocomplemented complete lattice and hence form a Z-lattice.*

**REMARK.** In the case of Example (ii),  $R_I(A)$  is a complemented modular lattice, and we shall show that  $(e)_r \wedge (f)_r = 0$  implies  $(e)_r \perp (f)_r$ . Let  $(e)_r \cup (f)_r =$

$(g)_r, g \in I(A)$ . Since  $(g)_r$  is a right ideal generated by  $(e)_r$  and  $(f)_r$ , there exist  $e_0 \in (e)_r$  and  $f_0 \in (f)_r$  with  $g = e_0 + f_0$ . If  $x \in (e)_r \leq (g)_r$ , then  $x = gx = e_0x + f_0x$ . Since  $x - e_0x = f_0x \in (e)_r \cap (f)_r = 0$ , we have  $e_0x = x, f_0x = 0$ . Especially we have  $e_0^2 = e_0, f_0e_0 = 0$  and  $e_0e = e$ . Similarly  $f_0^2 = f_0, e_0f_0 = 0$  and  $f_0f = f$ . Hence we have  $e_0, f_0 \in I(A), (e_0)_r = (e)_r, (f_0)_r = (f)_r$  and  $e_0f_0 = f_0e_0 = 0$ , which means that  $(e)_r \perp (f)_r$ .

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