

## 5. A Remark on the Meet Decomposition of Ideals in Noncommutative Rings<sup>\*)</sup>

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**Introduction.** In his paper [4] N. Radu has called that a commutative ring  $R$  is in the class  $\mathfrak{D}$  if every ideal of  $R$  is represented as an intersection of primary ideals of  $R$ , and has shown that if  $R$  is in the class  $\mathfrak{D}$ , then  $CB + A = C + A$  holds for ideals  $A, B$  and  $C$  of  $R$  such that  $C \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha)$ , where  $\{B_\alpha | \alpha \in I_B\}$  is the set of all ideals which have the same nilradical with that of  $B$ .

The aim of this note is to generalize the above fact to noncommutative rings. Throughout this note,  $R$  is a noncommutative ring. The existence of unity is not assumed. The term *ideals* mean *two-sided ideals*, and  $(x)$  means the principal ideal generated by an element  $x$ . An ideal  $Q$  of  $R$  is called a (*right*)  $M$ -*primary* [ $n$ -primary] ideal if  $AB \subseteq Q$  and  $A \not\subseteq Q$ , for ideals  $A$  and  $B$ , imply that  $B$  is contained in the McCoy's [nilpotent] radical of  $Q$ . The *right residual* of an ideal  $A$  by an ideal  $B$  is denoted by  $A : B$ , that is,  $A : B = \{x \in R | xB \subseteq A\}$ . A ring  $R$  will be called that it is in *the class  $\mathfrak{D}$  with respect to the McCoy's [nilpotent] radical* if every ideal of  $R$  is represented as an intersection of  $M$ -primary [ $n$ -primary] ideals of  $R$ .

**§ 1.** Throughout this note,  $\bar{A}$  will denote *the McCoy's radical* of an ideal  $A$  of  $R$ , that is,  $\bar{A}$  is the intersection of all minimal prime ideals containing  $A$ . For an ideal  $B$ ,  $I_B$  will mean the set of the indices of the ideals  $B_\alpha$  with  $\bar{B}_\alpha = \bar{B}$ .

**Lemma 1.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $R$  is in the class  $\mathfrak{D}$  with respect to the McCoy's [nilpotent] radical.
- (2) Every strongly meet irreducible ideal is  $M$ -primary [ $n$ -primary].

**Proof.** This is immediate from the fact that every ideal is represented as an intersection of strongly meet irreducible ideals.

**Theorem 1.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $R$  is in the class  $\mathfrak{D}$  with respect to the McCoy's radical.
- (2) If  $A, B$  and  $C$  are ideals such that  $C \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha)$  then  $CB + A = C + A$ .

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<sup>\*)</sup> Dedicated to Professor K. Asano on his sixtieth birthday.

(3)  $A = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha) \cap (A : B)$  for any ideals  $A$  and  $B$  of  $R$ .

(4)  $A = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B) \cap (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I_B} (A : B))$  for any ideals  $A$  and  $B$  of  $R$ .

**Proof.** By using (2) in Lemma 1, we can prove the theorem by the following implications: (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) $\Rightarrow$ (3) $\Rightarrow$ (4) $\Rightarrow$ (1).

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Evidently we have  $CB + A \subseteq C + A$ . Conversely, we shall show that if any  $M$ -primary ideal  $Q$  contains  $CB + A$ , then  $Q$  contains  $C + A$ . Now suppose that  $Q \supseteq CB + A$ , then we have  $Q \supseteq CB$  and  $Q \supseteq A$ . Moreover if  $\bar{Q} \not\supseteq B$ , then  $Q \supseteq C$ . If  $\bar{Q} \supseteq B$ , then there exists  $\alpha_0 \in I_B$  such that  $Q \supseteq B_{\alpha_0}$ . For, set  $B \cap Q = B_{\alpha_0}$ , then  $\bar{B}_{\alpha_0} = \bar{B} \cap \bar{Q} = \bar{B}$ . Hence we have that  $C \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha) \subseteq A + B_{\alpha_0} \subseteq Q$ . Therefore in both cases we have  $Q \supseteq C + A$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3): If there exist two ideals  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $A \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha) \cap (A : B)$ , then we can find an element  $x$  in  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha) \cap (A : B)$  but not in  $A$ . Then  $x$  is in  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha)$ . Hence we have  $(x) + A = (x)B + A$ . On the other hand, we obtain  $(x)B \subseteq A$  for  $x \in A : B$ . Hence we have  $(x) + A = A$ . This implies that  $x \in A$ , which is a contradiction.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4): For every  $B_\beta \in \{B_\alpha \mid \alpha \in I_B\}$ , we have  $A = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha) \cap (A : B_\beta)$ . Hence we have  $A = \bigcup_{\beta \in I_B} (\bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B_\alpha) \cap (A : B_\beta)) = (\bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (A + B)) \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in I_B} (A : B_\beta))$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1): If there exists a strongly meet irreducible ideal  $Q$  which is not  $M$ -primary, then we have two ideals  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $AB \subseteq Q$ ,  $A \not\subseteq Q$  and  $B \not\subseteq \bar{Q}$ . Hence we have  $Q : B \supseteq Q$ . Now we shall prove that no  $B_\alpha \in \{B_\alpha \mid \alpha \in I_B\}$  is contained in  $Q$ . If there exists  $B_\alpha$  such that  $B_\alpha \subseteq Q$ , then  $\bar{B}_\alpha \subseteq \bar{Q}$ . Since  $\bar{B}_\alpha = \bar{B}$ , we have  $\bar{B} \subseteq \bar{Q}$ . This implies  $B \subseteq \bar{Q}$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore we obtain  $Q + B_\alpha \supseteq Q$  for every  $\alpha \in I_B$ . Hence we have  $Q \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (Q + B_\alpha) \cap (Q : B) \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_B} (Q + B_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I_B} (Q : B_\alpha))$ .

**§ 2.** We let  $\tilde{A}$  be the nilpotent radical of an ideal  $A$  of  $R$ , that is,  $\tilde{A} = \{x \in R \mid (x)^k \subseteq Q \text{ for some positive integer } k\}$ .

**Theorem 2.** The following conditions are equivalent:

(1)  $R$  is in the class  $\mathfrak{D}$  with respect to the nilpotent radical.

(2) If  $A$ ,  $N$  and  $C$  are ideals such that  $C \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n)$  and  $N$  is a finitely generated ideal, then  $CN + A = C + A$ .

(3) If  $A$ ,  $(b)$  and  $C$  are ideals such that  $C \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + (b)^n)$ , then  $C(b) + A = C + A$ .

(4)  $A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n) \cap (A : N)$  for any ideal  $A$  and any finitely generated ideal  $N$ .

(5)  $A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + (b)^n) \cap (A : (b))$  for any ideal  $A$  and any element  $b$ .

**Proof.** By using Lemma 1, we can prove the theorem by the following implications: (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) $\Rightarrow$ (3) $\Rightarrow$ (5) $\Rightarrow$ (1) and (2) $\Rightarrow$ (4) $\Rightarrow$ (5).

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Evidently we have  $CN + A \subseteq C + A$ . Conversely, we shall show that if any  $n$ -primary ideal  $Q$  contains  $CN + A$ , then  $Q$  contains  $C + A$ . Now suppose that  $Q \supseteq CN + A$ , then we have  $Q \supseteq CN$  and  $Q \supseteq A$ . Moreover if  $\tilde{Q} \not\supseteq N$ , then  $Q \supseteq C$ . If  $\tilde{Q} \supseteq N$ , then there exists a positive integer  $k$  such that  $N^k \subseteq Q$ . Hence we have  $C \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n) \subseteq A + N^k \subseteq Q$ . Therefore in both cases we have  $Q \supseteq C + A$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3) and (4) $\Rightarrow$ (5): These are immediate.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (5) and (2) $\Rightarrow$ (4): These are similar to the proof of Theorem 1.

(5) $\Rightarrow$ (1): If there exists a strongly meet irreducible ideal  $Q$  which is not  $n$ -primary, then we can find two elements  $u$  and  $v$  such that  $(u)(v) \subseteq Q$ ,  $u \notin Q$  and  $v \notin \tilde{Q}$ . Hence we have  $Q \subseteq Q : (v)$  and  $Q \subseteq Q + (v)^n$  for every positive integer  $n$ , a contradiction.

§ 3. Now we shall investigate the previous conditions in the case that the McCoy's radical of every ideal coincides with the nilpotent radical.

**Lemma 2.** For an ideal  $A$  of  $R$ ,  $\tilde{A} = \tilde{\tilde{A}}$  if and only if  $\tilde{A}$  is a semi-prime ideal.

**Proof.** If  $\tilde{A} = \tilde{\tilde{A}}$  and  $\tilde{A}$  is not semi-prime, there exists, by 4.12 Theorem in [1], an element  $b$  such that  $b \notin \tilde{A}$  and  $(b)^2 \subseteq \tilde{A}$ . Hence we have  $b \in \tilde{\tilde{A}} = \tilde{A}$ , a contradiction. Conversely, if  $\tilde{A}$  is semi-prime and  $b \in \tilde{\tilde{A}}$ , then there exists a positive integer  $k$  such that  $(b)^k \subseteq \tilde{A}$ . Hence we have  $b \in \tilde{A}$  by 4.12 Theorem in [1].

**Proposition 1.** For every ideal  $A$  of  $R$ ,  $\tilde{A} = \tilde{\tilde{A}}$  if and only if  $\tilde{A} = \bar{A}$ .

**Proof.** "If part" is immediate. As to "only if part", since  $\tilde{A}$  is semi-prime by Lemma 2,  $\tilde{A}$  is an intersection of prime ideals. On the other hand,  $\tilde{A} \subseteq \bar{A} = \bigcap_i \{P_i \mid P_i : \text{a prime ideal containing } A\}$ . Therefore we obtain easily  $\tilde{A} = \bar{A}$ .

**Remark.** For instance [3], if  $(a)(b)$  is finitely generated for any elements  $a$  and  $b$  of  $R$ , we obtain easily  $\tilde{A} = \bar{A}$ . Hence, as is well known, in commutative rings or in rings with the maximum condition for ideals, we have  $\tilde{A} = \bar{A}$ .

In the following, for an ideal  $B$ ,  $J_B$  will mean the set of the indices of the ideals  $B_\alpha$  with  $\tilde{B}_\alpha = \tilde{B}$ .

**Lemma 3.** If  $N$  is a finitely generated ideal, then  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in J_N} (A + N_\alpha) = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n)$ .

**Proof.** It is immediate that  $\tilde{N}^n = \tilde{N}$  for any positive integer  $n$ .

Hence we have  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in J_N} (A + N_\alpha) \subseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n)$ . Conversely, from  $\tilde{N}_\alpha = \tilde{N}$  we have  $\tilde{N}_\alpha \supseteq N$ . Since  $N$  is finitely generated,  $N^{k(\alpha)} \subseteq N_\alpha$  for some positive integer  $k(\alpha)$ . Hence we obtain  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in J_N} (A + N_\alpha) \supseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n)$ .

**Theorem 3.** *If  $\tilde{A} = \tilde{\tilde{A}}$  for every ideal  $A$  of  $R$ , then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(1)  *$R$  is in the class  $\mathfrak{D}$  with respect to the McCoy's (nilpotent) radical.*

(2) *(2) in Theorem 1.*

(3) *(3) in Theorem 1.*

(4) *(4) in Theorem 1.*

(5) *(2) in Theorem 2.*

(6) *(3) in Theorem 2.*

(7) *(4) in Theorem 2.*

(8) *(5) in Theorem 2.*

(9)  *$A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n) \cap (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (A : N^n))$  for any ideal  $A$  and any finitely generated ideal  $N$ .*

(10)  *$A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + (b)^n) \cap (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (A : (b)^n))$  for any ideal  $A$  and any element  $b$ .*

**Proof.** By Theorems 1 and 2, it is immediate that conditions (1),  $\dots$ , (8) are equivalent. Now we shall prove the theorem by the following implications: (4) $\Rightarrow$ (9) $\Rightarrow$ (10) $\Rightarrow$ (8).

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (9): By (4) we have  $A = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I_N} (A + N_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\alpha \in I_N} (A : N_\alpha)) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in J_N} (A + N_\alpha) \cap (\bigcup_{\alpha \in J_N} (A : N_\alpha))$ . By Lemma 3 we have  $A \supseteq \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n) \cap (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (A : N^n)) \supseteq A$ . Hence we obtain  $A = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (A + N^n) \cap (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (A : N^n))$ .

(9) $\Rightarrow$ (10) and (10) $\Rightarrow$ (8): These are immediate.

## References

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