

## 97. An Observation on the Brown-McCoy Radical

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We wish to characterize in this note the Brown-McCoy radical  $G(A)$  of an associative ring  $A$ , as a radical  $(1, 1, 1, 1)(A)$ ,  $(1, 1, 1, 0)(A)$ ,  $(1, 1, 0, 1)(A)$  and  $(1, 2, 1, 1)(A)$ , respectively, where  $(k, l, m, n)(A)$  is a well-defined special  $F$ -radical of the ring  $A$  in the sense of Brown-McCoy [3] for arbitrary nonnegative integers  $k, l, m$  and  $n$ . The concept of a  $(k, l, m, n)$ -radicalring  $A$  can be illustrated by the following elementary remarks. If the elements of  $A$  form on the operation  $a \circ b = a + b - ab$  ( $a, b \in A$ ) a Neumann-regular semigroup (for instance in the case of a Jacobson-radicalring  $A$ , when  $(A, 0)$  is a group), then  $A$  is a  $(k, 0, 1, 1)$ -radicalring and a  $(0, l, 1, 1)$ -radicalring at the same time for any integers  $k, l \geq 0$ . Furthermore any  $(k, l, m, n)$ -semisimple ring  $A$  with minimum condition on *twosided* principal ideals is, as an  $(A, A)$ -doublemodule, completely reducible in a weak meaning, which generalizes the classical Wedderburn-Artin structure theorem also. (For the details of radicals, see [1], [2], [3].)

In this note the knowing of the results of Brown-McCoy [3] will be assumed for the reader. We denote the sum of all *twosided* principal ideals  $(a^{(m)} \circ x \circ a^{(n)} - k \cdot a^{(l)})$  by  $(k, l, m, n)(a)$ , where  $a$  is a fixed element,  $X$  a varying element of  $A$ ,  $a \circ b = a + b - ab$ ,  $a^{(0)} = 0$ ,  $a^{(1)} = a$ ,  $a^{(k+1)} = a^{(k)} \circ a$  and  $k, l, m, n$  are nonnegative integers. An element  $a \in A$  is called  $(k, l, m, n)$ -regular, if  $a \in (k, l, m, n)(a)$ . We call an element  $a \in A$  *strictly*  $(k, l, m, n)$ -regular, if any element  $b$  of the *twosided* principal ideal  $(a)$  generated by  $a$  is  $(k, l, m, n)$ -regular. The set  $(k, l, m, n)(A)$  of all strictly  $(k, l, m, n)$ -regular-elements of  $A$  is called the  $(k, l, m, n)$ -radical of  $A$ . *This is evidently a special  $F$ -radical of  $A$*  [3]. The rings with  $(k, l, m, n)$ -radical  $(0)$  are called  $(k, l, m, n)$ -semisimple. We call a subdirectly irreducible  $(k, l, m, n)$ -semisimple ring  $A$  shortly:  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive. An element  $a \neq 0$  with the condition  $(k, l, m, n)(a) = 0$  is called here a  $(k, l, m, n)$ -distinguished element of  $A$ . By [3] the  $(k, l, m, n)$ -radical of  $A$  is the intersection of such ideals  $\mathfrak{A}_\gamma$  ( $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ) of  $A$ , that the factorrings  $A/\mathfrak{A}_\gamma$  are  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive.  $A/(k, l, m, n)(A)$  is  $(k, l, m, n)$ -semisimple, and a subdirect sum of  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive rings. By [3] a subdirectly irreducible ring  $A$  is  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive if and only if the minimal ideal  $\mathfrak{D} \neq 0$  of  $A$  contains a  $(k, l, m, n)$ -distinguished element  $d \neq 0$  playing the role of unity element in the case of radical

$(1, 1, 1, 1)(A) = G(A)$  of  $A$ .

Then holds the following

*Theorem.* An arbitrary  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive ring  $P$  has no proper twosided ideals, and we have  $(1 - d^{(m)})P(1 - d^{(n)}) = 0$ ,  $d = kd \cdot d^{(l)}$ ,  $kd^{(l)} = d^{(m+n)}$  for a  $(k, l, m, n)$ -distinguished element  $d (\neq 0)$  of  $P$ . Furthermore  $G(A) = (1, 1, 1, 1)(A) = (1, 1, 1, 0)(A) = (1, 1, 0, 1)(A) = (1, 2, 1, 1)(A)$  are valid for the Brown-McCoy radical  $G(A)$  of an arbitrary (associative) ring  $A$ .

*Proof.* If  $P$  is  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive, then there exists [3] a  $(k, l, m, n)$ -distinguished element  $d \neq 0$  in the minimal ideal  $\mathfrak{D} \neq 0$  of  $P$ . We have from  $(k, l, m, n)(d) = 0$  evidently  $d^{(m)} \circ x \circ d^{(n)} = k \cdot d^{(l)}$  for any  $x \in P$ . In the special case  $X = 0$  follows  $d^{(m+n)} = kd^{(l)}$  and thus in the case of arbitrary  $x \in P$  is  $X = d^{(m)} \cdot x + xd^{(n)} - d^{(m)}xd^{(n)} \in \mathfrak{D}$  valid. Therefore one has  $P = \mathfrak{D}$  for the  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive rings  $P$ , and thus  $P$  cannot have proper twosided ideals. Obviously follows also  $(1 - d^{(m)})P(1 - d^{(n)}) = 0$ ,  $d = d \cdot d^{(m+n)}$  and  $d = kd \cdot d^{(l)}$  respectively. Let  $A$  be now an arbitrary associative ring. Then  $(1, 1, 1, 1)(A) = G(A)$  will be proved by showing, that any  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring  $P$  is a simple ring with unity element, and a similar fact holds for other special  $k, l, m, n$  mentioned in the above theorem. In the four cases  $k, l, m, n$  mentioned above,  $k = 1$ , hence  $d = d \cdot d^{(l)}$  and  $d^{(l)} = d^{(m+n)}$ . If  $l = m = n = 1$ , then one has  $d^2 = d$  for the  $(k, l, m, n)$ -distinguished element  $d \neq 0$  of the  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive ring  $P$ . By  $(1 - d)P(1 - d) = 0$  follows  $C = (1 - d)P + P(1 - d)P = 0$ , since  $P$  is by  $d^2 = d \neq 0$  semi-simple in the sense of Jacobson, and the ideal  $C$  is nilpotent. Thus  $(1 - d)P = 0$ ,  $P = dP$  ( $d^2 = d$ ) and similarly  $P = Pd$  too. Therefore one has  $(1, 1, 1, 1)(A) = G(A)$ . If  $k = l = m = 1$  and  $n = 0$ , immediately follows

$$(1, 1, 1, 0)(a) = \sum_{x \in A} (a \circ x \circ a^{(0)} - a) = \sum_{x \in A} (X - ax) = (1 - a)A + A(1 - a)A,$$

and thus  $(1, 1, 1, 0)(A) = G(A)$  by the definition of the Brown-McCoy radical  $G(A)$  of  $A$  [3]. The case  $k = l = n = 1$  and  $m = 0$  is totally similar to the previous case. If  $k = m = n = 1$  and  $l = 2$ , then one has  $d = d \cdot d^{(2)}$  and thus  $d - 2d^2 + d^3 = 0$ . Then by  $d = 2d^2 - d^3 \neq 0$  is surely  $P^2 \neq 0$ , i.e.  $P$  is semisimple in the sense of Jacobson by the want of proper ideals. By  $(1 - d)P(1 - d) = 0$  and  $P^2 \neq 0$  follows  $C = (1 - d)P + P(1 - d)P = 0$ , since  $C$  is a nilpotent twosided ideal of  $P$ . This means  $(1 - d)P = 0$  and  $P = dP$ . From  $(d - d^2)P = (1 - d)dP = 0$  follows by  $P^2 \neq 0$  evidently  $d^2 = d$ , for a Jacobson-semisimple ring we have no annihilator  $\neq 0$ . Therefore  $d$  is a left unity element of  $P (= dP)$ , and similarly one has  $P = Pd$  also, which proves the theorem.

*Remarks.* 1) Any  $(k, l, m, n)$ -semisimple ring with minimum condition on twosided principal ideals is the discrete direct sum of  $(k, l, m, n)$ -primitive rings (see for these rings the above theorem), and conversely.

2) If the elements of  $A$  form with the operation  $a \circ b = a + b - ab$  a Neumann-regular semigroup, then  $A$  is a  $(k, 0, 1, 1)$ -radicalring and a  $(0, l, 1, 1)$ -radicalring too.

3) It can be proved  $A = (0, 0, 0, 0)(A) = (k, 0, 0, 1)(A) = (0, l, 0, 1)(A) = (k, 0, 1, 0)(A) = (0, l, 1, 0)(A) = (2, 1, 1, 0)(A) = (2, 1, 0, 1)(A) = (2, 1, 1, 1)(A)$ .

For instance, if  $P$  is a  $(2, 1, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring, then holds  $d^{(2)} = 2d^{(1)}$  and  $(1-d)P(1-d) = 0$ , consequently  $2d - d^2 = 2d$ ,  $d^2 = 0$  and  $0 \neq d = d - 2d^2 + d^3 = (1-d)d(1-d) \in (1-d)P(1-d) = 0$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $P = 0$  and  $(2, 1, 1, 1)(A) = A$ .

4) Any  $(k, 0, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring  $P$  and any  $(0, l, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring  $P$  are simple rings with unity element and with the condition  $2P = P \neq 0$ .

5) Any  $(3, 1, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring, any  $(3, 1, 1, 0)$ -primitive ring and any  $(3, 1, 0, 1)$ -primitive ring  $P$  are simple rings with unity element and with the condition  $2P = 0$ . Therefore for example a  $(3, 1, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring  $P \neq 0$  cannot be for instance a  $(0, l, 1, 1)$ -primitive ring.

6) We have seen  $(1, 2, 1, 1)(A) = G(A)$ . Then holds  $(1, 2, 1, 1)(a) = ((1-a)A(1-a)) = (1-a)A(1-a) + A(1-a)A(1-a) + (1-a)A(1-a)A + A(1-a)A(1-a)A \supseteq W(a) = A(1-a)A(1-a)A$ . The following  $W$ -regularity:  $b \in W(b)$  determines a special  $F$ -radical  $W(A)$  of  $A$ . If  $P$  is a  $W$ -primitive ring *i.e.* a  $W$ -semisimple and subdirectly irreducible ring, and if  $P^3 \neq 0$ , then  $P$  is a simple ring with unity element. If  $P$  is a  $W$ -primitive ring and if  $P^2 = 0$ , then the additive group  $P^+$  is isomorphic to a group  $C(p^k)$ , where  $1 \leq k \leq \infty$ . If finally  $P^2 \neq 0$  but  $P^3 = 0$ , and  $P$  is a  $W$ -primitive ring, then we have  $P\mathfrak{D} = \mathfrak{D}P = 0$  for the minimal ideal  $\mathfrak{D}$  of  $P$  and  $(P^2)^+ \cong C(p^k)$  holds ( $1 \leq k \leq \infty$ ). For example  $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots; b_1, b_2, \dots\}$  with  $a_i^2 - b_i = pa_1 = b_i - pb_{i+1} = a_i a_j = a_i^3 = 0$  is a  $W$ -primitive ring with  $A^3 = 0$  and  $A^2 \neq 0$ ,  $(A^2)^+ \cong C(p^\infty)$  ( $i \neq j$ ).

7) Let  $A$  be an associative ring,  $M$  a right  $A$ -module and  $\mathfrak{M}$  an arbitrary cardinal number. An  $A$ -submodule  $K$  of  $M$  is called  $\mathfrak{M}$ -homoperfect, if the following conditions are satisfied:

- I)  $MA + K = M$ ;
- II)  $M/K$  is a completely reducible  $A$ -module of dimension  $< \mathfrak{M}$ ;
- III)  $M/K$  has no proper  $A$ -submodule, which is invariant for all  $A$ -endomorphism of  $M/K$ ;
- IV) if  $\varphi$  is an  $A$ -homomorphism of  $M/L$  onto  $M/K$  for an  $A$ -submodule  $L$  with the conditions I), II) and III), then  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism.

Let  $\mathfrak{R}_m(M)$  be now itself  $M$ , if  $M$  has no proper  $\mathfrak{M}$ -homoperfect submodules. If there exist in  $M$  proper  $\mathfrak{M}$ -homoperfect submodules  $K_r (\gamma \in \Gamma)$ , then we define  $\mathfrak{R}_m(M) = \bigcap_r K_r$ . In the case of  $1 \in A$ , a unitary

$A$ -module  $M$  and  $\mathfrak{M}=2$ ;  $\mathfrak{R}_m(M)$  is the Bourbaki-radical of  $M$  [2], and in the case  $\mathfrak{M}=2$  and arbitrary  $A$  we obtain the Kertész-radical of  $M$  [5]. We have proved solving in [6] a problem of Dr. A. Kertész [5] that the Jacobson-radical  $\mathfrak{J}(A)$  of  $A$  must not coincide with the radical  $\mathfrak{R}_2(A)$  of the right  $A$ -module  $A$ , if the power  $|A|$  of  $A$  is no quadratfree finite cardinal number. We have generally only  $\mathfrak{R}_2(A) \subseteq \mathfrak{J}(A)$ . If in the ring  $A$  with left unity element holds the minimum condition on principal right ideals [7] and  $\mathfrak{M}=\aleph_0$ , then one has evidently  $\mathfrak{R}_{\aleph_0}(A) \subseteq G(A)$  for the above radical  $\mathfrak{R}_m(A)$  of the right  $A$ -module  $A$  and the Brown-McCoy radical  $G(A)$  of  $A$ .\* Now we arise the following

*Problem.* What is a necessary and sufficient condition concerning  $A$  for the validity of  $\mathfrak{R}_{\aleph_0}(A)=G(A)$ ? (Solve a similar problem of A. Kertész on  $\mathfrak{R}_2(A)$  and  $\mathfrak{J}(A)$  too!)

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\*<sup>o</sup> It may be remarked that the theory of  $F$ -radicals can be formulated for  $A$ -modules too, where  $F$  is a well-defined mapping of any  $A$ -module  $M$  onto a set of submodules  $F(m)$  of  $M$  ( $m \in M$ ,  $F(m) \subseteq M$ ) with the condition  $F(m)\varphi = F(m\varphi)$  for any  $A$ -homomorphism  $\varphi$  of  $M$ . Then  $m \in M$  is  $F$ -regular in the case  $m \in F(m)$ . Then the  $F$ -radical of  $M$  is the set  $[m; m \in M, n \in F(n), n \in \{m\}]$ .