

## MOORE-PENROSE RINGS AS ELEMENTAL ANNIHILATOR RINGS

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**Abstract:** This paper investigates the elemental annihilator ring (e.a.r) structure of Moore-Penrose One (MP1) rings and Moore-Penrose Two (MP2) rings. For clarity,  $R$  is MP1 (or Von Neumann regular) if, whenever  $a \in R$ ,  $a \neq 0$ , then there exists  $x \in R$ ,  $x \neq 0$  such that  $axa = a$ . Likewise,  $R$  is MP2 if, whenever  $a \in R$ ,  $a \neq 0$ , then there exists  $x \in R$ ,  $x \neq 0$  such that  $xax = x$ .

**Key Words:** annihilator, semisimple, completely primary ideal, Wedderburn, Jacobson radical

### 1. Definitions

1. Let  $R$  be a ring. If  $S \subset R$ , the annihilator of  $S$ , denoted  $\text{ann}_R(S)$ , is given by  $\text{ann}_R(S) = \{r \in R \mid rs = 0 \forall s \in S\}$ .

Sometimes it is best to distinguish between left and right.

2. For a ring  $R$  and  $S \subset R$ , the left annihilator of  $S$ , denoted  $\text{ann}_\ell(S)$ , is given by  $\text{ann}_\ell(S) = \{r \in R \mid rs = 0 \forall s \in S\}$ .
3. For a ring  $R$  and  $S \subset R$ , the right annihilator of  $S$ , denoted  $\text{ann}_r(S)$ , is given by  $\text{ann}_r(S) = \{r \in R \mid sr = 0 \forall s \in S\}$ .
4.  $R$  is a left elemental annihilator ring (l.e.a.r) if, whenever  $L$  is a left ideal of  $R$ , then there exists  $a \in R$  such that  $L = \text{ann}_\ell(a)$ . A right elemental ring (r.e.a.r) is defined analogously.

## 2. Deductions and Historical Conceptions

Assuming  $R$  is a ring with unity and  $S$  is a subset of  $R$ , then  $\text{ann}_\ell(S) = \text{ann}_\ell(\text{ann}_r(S))$  and  $\text{ann}_r(S) = \text{ann}_r(\text{ann}_\ell(S))$ . It is well known that if  $R$  is semisimple Artinian, then  $R$  is a direct sum of matrix ring over division rings (Wedderburn Theorem) [2]. In such a ring, if  $L$  is a left ideal of  $R$ , then  $L = Re$  where  $e$  is an idempotent. Hence,  $L = \text{ann}_\ell(1-e)$ . The algebraist Cleon R. Yohe has proven the following pertinent historical algebraic assertion:

“Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unit element. Then  $R$  is an elemental annihilator ring if and only if  $R$  is a direct sum of completely primary principal ideal rings.”, see [3].

## 3. Examples of Annihilator Rings

1.  $Z_4$  is a completely primary principal ideal ring.  $Z_4$  has maximal (prime) ideal  $P = (2)$  with  $P^2 = O$ .  $Z_4$  is an e.a.r. whose only ideals are  $O$  and  $P = (2)$ . Both ideals are the annihilators of  $\bar{2}$ .
2. Consider the matrix ring  $R = \begin{bmatrix} Z_4 & 0 \\ 0 & Z_9 \end{bmatrix}$ . Note that  $Z$  has maximal ideal  $(\bar{3})$ . The only ideals of  $R$  are  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} Z_4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & Z_9 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} (\bar{2}) & 0 \\ 0 & Z_9 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} Z_4 & 0 \\ 0 & (\bar{3}) \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} (\bar{2}) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (\bar{3}) \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} (\bar{2}) & 0 \\ 0 & (\bar{3}) \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\begin{bmatrix} Z_4 & 0 \\ 0 & Z_9 \end{bmatrix}$  which annihilate the elements  $\begin{bmatrix} \bar{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{3} \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} \bar{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{3} \end{bmatrix}$ .

$R$  is indeed another elemental annihilator ring.

## 4. Some Moore-Penrose Annihilator Structure Theorems

**Theorem.** *Let  $R$  be a commutative MP2 ring with identity. Then  $R$  is an elemental annihilator ring if and only if  $R$  is a direct sum of fields.*

*Proof.* (Necessity) Let  $R$  be an elemental annihilator ring. Then by C. R. Yohe's Theorem,  $R$  is a direct sum of completely primary principal ideal rings, that is,  $R \cong \sum_{P \text{ prime}} R_P$  where  $R_P$  is a completely primary principal ideal ring with maximal (prime) ideal  $P$ . Note that  $P = J(R)$ , the Jacobson radical of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is MP2, there exists a nonzero idempotent  $e \in J(R)$ . Then  $1-e$  is invertible. This is a contradiction since  $1-e$  is a zero-divisor and hence cannot be a unit. Thus,  $J(R) = P = O$ , the zero ideal. Since  $O$  is maximal this implies that  $R_P$  is theoretically a division ring  $\Delta_P$ . Thereby,  $R \cong \sum_{P \text{ prime}} \Delta_P$  a direct sum of division rings. But  $R$  is commutative which means that each  $\Delta_P$  is really a field say  $F_P$ . In succinct notation then  $R \cong \sum_{P \text{ prime}} F_P$ . Therefore  $R$  is a direct sum of fields. For sufficiency, assuming  $R$  is a direct sum of the fields then the ideal  $L$  represented as  $(F_{P_1}, F_{P_2}, \dots, F_{P_{t-1}}, 0, \dots, 0)$

$= \text{ann}_P(a)$  for  $a = (0, \dots, 0, f_t, f_{t+1}, \dots, f_k) \in R$  where the integer  $k < \infty$ . Hence,  $R$  is an elemental annihilator ring.  $\square$

Note: Since  $R \cong \sum_{P \text{ prime}} F_P$ , a direct sum of fields, then  $R$  is obviously MP2. This viewpoint renders the following:

**Corollary.** *A commutative elemental annihilator MP2 ring is noetherian.*

**Theorem.** *Let  $R$  be a commutative MP1 ring with identity. Then  $R$  is an elemental annihilator ring if and only if  $R$  is a direct sum of fields.*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is MP1, then  $R$  is also MP2. Hence the results follows from the theorem above.  $\square$

The obvious conceptual observation is:

**Corollary.** *A commutative elemental annihilator MP1 ring with identity is noetherian.*

**Theorem.** *A direct sum of commutative elemental annihilator rings with identity is an elemental annihilator ring.*

*Proof.* Let  $S$  and  $T$  be commutative elemental annihilator rings with identity. Consider the direct sum  $R = S \oplus T$ . Let  $L$  be an ideal of  $R$ , that is  $L \triangleleft R$ . Then  $L = J \oplus K$  where  $J \triangleleft S$  and  $K \triangleleft T$ . Since  $S$  is an elemental annihilator ring,  $\exists a \in S$  such that  $J = \text{ann}_S(a)$ ; similarly, since  $T$  is also an elemental annihilator ring,  $\exists b \in T$  such that  $K = \text{ann}_T(b)$ ; it follows that  $L = \text{ann}_R(a \oplus b)$ ; hence  $R$  is an elemental annihilator ring and a direct sum of commutative elemental annihilator rings with identity is an elemental annihilator ring.  $\square$

**Theorem.** *The following are equivalent for a commutative MP2 ring with identity:*

- (a)  $R$  is noetherian.
- (b)  $R$  is a direct sum of fields, i.e.  $R \cong \sum_{\alpha} F_{\alpha}$ .
- (c)  $R$  is an elemental annihilator ring.
- (d)  $R$  is a direct sum of completely primary principal ideal rings.

*Proof.* (a)  $\rightarrow$  (b) result due to previous paper by G. Battle [1]; (b)  $\rightarrow$  (c) A direct sum of fields is a degenerate direct sum of completely primary principal ideal rings (hence result follows from paper by C. R. Yohe [3]); (c)  $\rightarrow$  (d) also follows from [3]; (d)  $\rightarrow$  (a) Under the assumption that  $R$  is commutative MP2 each completely primary principal ideal ring is a field. Hence  $R$  is noetherian.  $\square$

### References

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