

## *A Note on Perfect Rings and Semi-perfect Rings*

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In his paper [1], H. Bass gave characterizations of perfect rings and semi-perfect rings. In this paper, we shall give another characterizations of perfect rings and some properties of extension rings over perfect and semi-perfect rings.

Throughout our study, we use the following conventions: Let  $R$  be a ring with 1 and  $J$  the radical<sup>1)</sup> of  $R$ . An  $R$ -module means (unital) left  $R$ -module. For a set  $A(\neq\emptyset)$ , by  $(R)_A$  and  $R^{(A)}$ , we denote the ring of all row finite matrices  $(x_{ij})$  ( $i, j \in A$ ) over  $R$  and the direct sum of  $\#A$ <sup>2)</sup>-copies of left  $R$ -module  $R$ , thus  $(R)_A$  can be regarded as the ring of all linear transformations in  $R^{(A)}$ .

1. We shall first prove the following

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

- (1)  $J$  is left  $T$ -nilpotent.
- (2) For every  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $JM$  is small in  $M$ .
- (2') For every free  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $JM$  is small in  $M$ .
- (3) For every set  $A$ , the radical of  $(R)_A$  is  $(J)_A$ .
- (3') For the set  $Z_+$  of natural numbers, the radical of  $(R)_{Z_+}$  is  $(J)_{Z_+}$ .

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) is due to Bass [1, pp. 473-474.]. Therefore, it suffices that we prove (2') $\Rightarrow$ (3) and (3') $\Rightarrow$ (1).

(2') $\Rightarrow$ (3): Let  $X$  be an element of  $(J)_A$ . Then  $R^{(A)} = R^{(A)}(I - X) + J^{(A)} = R^{(A)}(I - X) + JR^{(A)}$ .<sup>3)</sup> Hence  $R^{(A)} = R^{(A)}(I - X)$  and for every  $\lambda \in A$ , there exist vectors  $(a_{\lambda\nu})$  of  $R^{(A)}$  such that  $E_\lambda = (a_{\lambda\nu})(I - X)$ , where  $E_\lambda$  represents the vector with element 1 in the  $\lambda$ -position and 0's elsewhere. Therefore,  $I = Y(I - X)$  where  $Y$  is an element of  $(R)_A$  such that the  $\lambda$ -row of  $Y$  coincides with the vector  $(a_{\lambda\nu})$ . Hence  $X$  is left quasi-regular. Accordingly,  $(J)_A$  is contained in the radical of  $(R)_A$ . By [6, Th. 1] or [8, Th. 1], the assertion is clear.

(3') $\Rightarrow$ (1) (Cf. [6, Th. 5]): Let  $\{a_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots}$  be any sequence of elements in  $J$ .

1) Throughout the present paper, the radical means the Jacobson radical.

2)  $\#A$  means the cardinal number of a set  $A$ .

3)  $I$  is the identity of  $(R)_A$ .

By the assumption, the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -a_1 & 0 \\ & 1 & -a_2 \\ & & \ddots \\ 0 & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is regular in  $(R)_A$ .

Since its inverse element is a row-finite matrix, there exists a natural number  $s$  such that  $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_s = 0$ . Hence,  $J$  is left  $T$ -nilpotent.

By virtue of Th. 1, we have an following characterizations of perfect rings.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $R$  be a semi-primary ring.<sup>4)</sup> Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is left perfect.
- (2) For every  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $JM$  is small in  $M$ .
- (3) For every set  $A$ , the radical of  $(R)_A$  is  $(J)_A$ .

By Th. 1, we give an alternative proof of [7, Th. 1]. In the following Cor. 2, we do not assume that  $R$  has the identity.

**Corollary 2.**  *$(R)_A$  has the radical  $(J)_A$  if and only if  $J$  is left  $T$ -nilpotent.*

**Proof.** Let  $Z$  be the ring of integers. Then we can construct a ring  $R' = R + Z$  such that  $R \cap Z = 0$  and the identity of  $Z$  is the identity of  $R'$ . If we note that  $J$  is the radical of  $R'$ , [8, Th. 1] implies that the radical of  $(R)_A$  is that of  $(R')_A$ . the rest is clear.

2. In this section, we shall restrict our attention to the case that  $J$  is left  $T$ -nilpotent.

**Theorem 2.**<sup>5)</sup> *Let  $S$  be an extension ring of  $R$  with the same identity such that  $JS$  is an ideal of  $S$ . Then  $JS$  is contained in the radical of  $S$ . In particular, if  $R$  is left perfect and  $S$  is finitely generated as an  $R$ -module, then  $S$  is left perfect.*

**Proof.** Let  $x$  be an element of  $JS$ . Then  $S = S(1 - x) + JS$ . By Th. 1,  $S = S(1 - x)$  and hence  $x$  is left quasi-regular. In the second statement, since  $S/JS$  is left Artinian, there exists a natural number  $k$  such that  $\mathfrak{R}(S)^k \subseteq JS$ .<sup>6)</sup> Let  $M$  be an  $S$ -module and  $N$  a submodule of  $M$  such that  $M = N + \mathfrak{R}(S)M$ . Then  $M = N + \mathfrak{R}(S)^k M = N + JS M = N + JM$ . Since  $R$  is left perfect,  $M = N$ . Hence, by Cor. 1,  $S$  is left perfect.

Combining [3, Th. 1.7.4] with Th. 2, we can see the first part of the following

**Corollary 3.** (1) *The radical of the polynomial ring  $R[x]$  is  $J[x]$ .*

(2) *Let  $R$  be a left perfect ring and  $G$  a finite group. Then the group ring  $RG$  is a left perfect ring.*

3. Concerning Cor. 3 (2), we establish sufficient conditions for semi-perfectness of a group ring  $RG$ . In the first part of the following theorem, we assume that

4) Cf. [3, pp. 56].

5) Cf. [5, Th. 46.2] and [9, Prop. 3.3 (b)].

6)  $\mathfrak{R}(S)$  means the radical of a ring  $S$ .

$R$  is semi-primary,  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} J^n = 0$  and  $R^*$  is the completion of  $R$  with respect to the metric  $d$ , where  $d(x, y) = \inf_{x-y \in J^n} 2^{-n}$  ( $x, y \in R$ ).

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group. Then we can obtain the following statements.*

(1)  $R^*G$  is semi-perfect.

(2)  $RG$  is semi-perfect if  $G$  is a  $p$ -group,  $R$  is a semi-perfect ring and the characteristic of  $R/J$  is  $p$ .

**Proof.** (1) By the same method of [2, Lemma 77.4], idempotents of  $R^*G$  modulo  $\mathfrak{Z}(R^*G)$  can be lifted. Then since  $R$  is semi-primary,  $R^*G$  is semi-primary. Hence the assertion is clear.

(2) Let  $e = \sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g g$  ( $\alpha_g \in R$ ) be an idempotent element of  $RG$  modulo  $\mathfrak{Z}(RG)$ .

By [4, Cor. 1],  $\sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g$  is an idempotent element of  $R$  modulo  $J$ . Hence, there exists an idempotent element  $f$  of  $R$  such that  $f - \sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g \in J$ . Then, by [4, Cor. 1],  $f - e$  is contained in  $\mathfrak{Z}(RG)$ . Since  $RG$  is semi-primary, the assertion follows.

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