

# On the Structure Space of a Certain Class of Rings

Jae Myung Chung

**1. Introduction.** Let  $A$  be a ring and let  $S(A)$  denote the collection of primitive ideals of  $A$ . Jacobson [1] defined the closure of a subset  $T$  of  $S(A)$  as the set of primitive ideals of  $A$  containing  $D_T = \bigcap \{P: P \in T\}$ . The set  $S(A)$  topologized by this closure operator is called the structure space of  $A$ . It is well known that if  $A$  has an identity element, then  $S(A)$  is compact. Now we define  $U_a = \{P: P \not\subseteq (a), P \in S(A)\}$ . Then  $U_a$  is an open basis for  $S(A)$ . A ring  $A$  is called a  $W$ -ring if every  $D_{U_a}$  is modular. W. Lee [2] shows that the structure space of a  $W$ -ring is compact if and only if the radical of  $A$  is modular. This paper devoted to investigate properties of  $W$ -ring and their structure spaces.

**2. Basic Properties.** We can easily see following Theorems in [1].

**Theorem I.** The radical of a ring is the intersection of its primitive ideals.

**Theorem II.** An ideal  $P$  of a ring  $A$  is primitive if and only if  $P = (M: A)$  where  $M$  is a modular maximal right ideal.

**Theorem III.** If  $B$  is modular ideal of a ring  $A$  and  $e$  is a left (right) identity modulo  $B$ , then  $e$  is a two-sided identity modulo  $B$ .

**Theorem IV.** If  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are modular ideals of a ring  $A$ , then the intersection of  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  is modular.

**Theorem V.** Let  $B$  be an ideal in a ring  $A$  and  $Q(B)$  the set of primitive ideals of  $A$  containing  $B$ . Then the correspondence  $P \rightarrow P/B$  is a homeomorphism of  $Q(B)$  onto  $S(A/B)$ .

Now we define the closure of  $T$ ,  $clT = Q(D_T)$ .

**3.  $W$ -Rings.**

**Definition 1.** A ring  $A$  is called  $W$ -ring if and only if every  $D_{U_a}$  is modular.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $B$  be an ideal in a  $W$ -ring  $A$ . Then  $A/B$  is a  $W$ -ring.

**Proof.** Let  $Q(B)$  be the set of primitive ideals containing  $B$  and  $V_a$  be the image of  $U_a \cap Q(B)$  in  $S(A/B)$  by the mapping  $P \rightarrow P/B$ . Then

$$D_{V_a} = \cap \{P/B : P \in U_a \cap Q(B)\} = (\cap \{P : P \in U_a \cap Q(B)\})/B \\ \supseteq (\cap \{P : P \in U_a\})/B = D_{U_a}/B.$$

Since  $D_{U_a}$  is modular, there is an element  $e$  in  $A$  as an identity modulo  $D_{U_a}$ . Then, for every  $\bar{a} \in A/B$ , we have  $\bar{a} - \bar{e}\bar{a} = (a - ea + B) \in D_{U_a}/B \subseteq D_{V_a}$  where  $\bar{a} = a + B$ ,  $\bar{e} = e + B$  and  $a, e \in A$ . Similarly  $\bar{a} - \bar{a}\bar{e} \in D_{V_a}$ . This implies that  $e + B$  is an identity modulo  $D_{V_a}$  and thus  $D_{V_a}$  is modular in  $A/B$ . Therefore  $A/B$  is a  $W$ -ring.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $R$  be the radical of  $A$ . Then  $A$  is a  $W$ -ring if and only if  $A/R$  is a  $W$ -ring.

**Proof.** Since  $R$  is an ideal in a  $W$ -ring  $A$ ,  $A/R$  is a  $W$ -ring by Lemma 1. Now suppose  $A/R$  is a  $W$ -ring. Since any primitive ideal in  $A$  contains the radical  $R$  of  $A$ ,  $S(A)$  is homeomorphic to  $S(A/R)$  by Theorem V. Let  $V_a$  be the set of  $P/R$  where  $P \in U_a$ . Then  $D_{V_a} = \cap \{P/R : P \in U_a\} = (\cap \{P : P \in U_a\})/R = D_{U_a}/R$ . Since  $D_{V_a}$  is modular, there is an identity  $\bar{e}$  in  $A/R$  modulo  $D_{V_a}$  such that  $\bar{a} - \bar{e}\bar{a}$  and  $\bar{a} - \bar{a}\bar{e}$  belong to  $D_{U_a}/R$  for all  $\bar{a}$  in  $A/R$ , where  $\bar{a} = a + R$ ,  $\bar{e} = e + R$  and  $a, e$  in  $A$ . Thus  $a - ea$  and  $a - ae$  belong to  $D_{U_a}$  for every  $a$  in  $A$ . Therefore  $D_{U_a}$  is modular in  $A$  and this proves that  $A$  is a  $W$ -ring.

#### 4. The Structure Space of a $W$ -Ring.

**Lemma 2.** If  $B$  is a modular ideal of a ring  $A$ , then  $S(A/B)$  is compact.

**Proof.** Since  $B$  is modular, there is an element  $e$  in  $A$  such that  $a - ae$  and  $a - ea$  belong to  $B$  for all  $a$  in  $A$ . It follows that  $A/B$  is a ring with an identity  $e + B$  and thus  $S(A/B)$  is compact.

**Corollary.** If  $P$  is any primitive ideal in a  $W$ -ring, then  $S(A/P)$  is compact.

**Theorem 2.** If  $A$  is a  $W$ -ring, then  $S(A)$  is locally compact. [2]

PROOF. Let  $P$  be a point of  $S(A)$  and let  $U_a$  be the open neighbourhood of  $P$ . Since  $clU_a = Q(D_{U_a})$  and  $D_{U_a}$  is modular.  $S(A/D_{U_a})$  is compact by Lemma 2. Therefore its homeomorphic image  $clU_a$  is compact and thus  $S(A)$  is locally compact.

**Theorem 3.** Let  $A$  be a  $W$ -ring and  $F$  any closed subset of  $S(A)$ . Then  $F$  is compact if and only if  $D_F$  is modular.

Proof. Since  $F$  is closed set.  $F = clF = Q(D_F)$ . Hence assume that  $D_F$  is modular. Then  $F$  is compact by lemma 2. Now suppose that  $F$  is compact. Since  $\{U_a\}_{a \in A}$  is an open cover of  $F$ , there is a finite subcover  $\{U_{a_n}\} (n = 1, 2, \dots, m)$ . Then  $D \cup \bigcap_{n=1}^m U_{a_n} \subseteq D_F$  since  $\bigcup_{n=1}^m U_{a_n} \supseteq F$ . On the other hand,  $D \cup \bigcap_{n=1}^m U_{a_n} = D_{U_{a_1}} \cap D_{U_{a_2}} \cap \dots \cap D_{U_{a_m}}$ . Therefore  $D \cup \bigcap_{n=1}^m U_{a_n}$  is modular by theorem IV and thus  $D_F$  is modular.

### References

1. N. Jacobson, *Structure of Rings*. Vol. 37, Amer. Math. Soc. Providenc, 1956
2. W. Lee, *On the compactness of structure space of a ring*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. (to appear)

Seoul National University