

LOWER RADICALS OF Γ -RINGS

By H.J. Le Roux

Abstract: In this note we introduce the concept of a lower radical for Γ -rings. As an application we also characterise the prime radical introduced by Barnes [1] as a lower radical. Furthermore it is shown that the prime radical can also be determined by the class of all semiprime Γ -rings.

1. Preliminaries

In this note we consider only the Γ -rings in the sense of Barnes [1]. A class R of Γ -rings (fixed Γ) is called a radical class if R satisfies:

(A) R is homomorphically closed.

(B) If every nonzero homomorphic image of a Γ -ring has at least one nonzero R -ideal, then the Γ -ring itself belongs to R .

The unique maximal R -ideal of a Γ -ring M , denoted by $R(M)$, is called the R -radical of M and $R(M/R(M))=0$. A Γ -ring M is called R -semisimple if $R(M)=0$. SR will denote the class of all R -semisimple Γ -rings.

Furthermore we say that a class A of Γ -rings is hereditary if $M \in A$ and I an ideal of M (denoted by $I \triangleleft M$), implies that $I \in A$. If A is a hereditary class of Γ -rings, then

$$UA = \{\Gamma\text{-rings } M \mid M/I \in A \text{ for every } M \neq I \triangleleft M\}$$

is a radical class, called the upper radical class determined by A .

Let M be a Γ -ring. $Q \triangleleft M$ is called a prime ideal of M if for $A, B \triangleleft M$ and $A\Gamma B \subseteq Q$, implies $A \subseteq Q$ or $B \subseteq Q$. Q is called a semiprime ideal of M if for $U \triangleleft M$ and $U\Gamma U \subseteq Q$, implies $U \subseteq Q$. M is called a prime (semiprime) Γ -ring if 0 is a prime (semiprime) ideal of M .

An element a of a Γ -ring M is nil if $a(\Gamma a)^n = 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. M is nil if every element of M is nil. $S \subseteq M$ is called nilpotent if $S(\Gamma S)^n = 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. S is called zero if $S\Gamma S = 0$.

A Γ -ring M is called a simple zero ring if $M\Gamma M = 0$ and M and 0 are the only two ideals of M . M is called a simple prime ring if $M\Gamma M = M$ and M and 0 are the only two ideals of M .

A class \mathcal{A} of Γ -rings is called a special (weakly special) class if \mathcal{A} satisfies

(a) \mathcal{A} consists of prime (semiprime) Γ -rings.

(b) \mathcal{A} is hereditary.

(c) \mathcal{A} is essentially closed i.e. for a Γ -ring M, I an essential ideal in M and $I \in \mathcal{A}$, implies that $M \in \mathcal{A}$.

If $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{U}\mathcal{A}$ where \mathcal{A} is a special (weakly special) class, then \mathcal{R} is called a special (weakly special) radical. A radical class is called supernilpotent if it is hereditary and contains all the nilpotent Γ -rings.

2. The lower radical class for Γ -rings

DEFINITION 2.1. Let \mathcal{B} be a nonempty class of Γ -rings such that \mathcal{B} is homomorphically closed. Define $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_1$. Assuming that \mathcal{B}_t has been defined for every ordinal $1 \leq t < \nu$, we define \mathcal{B}_ν to be the class of all Γ -rings M such that every nonzero homomorphic image of M contains a nonzero ideal $I \in \mathcal{B}_t$ for some $t < \nu$.

The proofs of the following two lemmas are minor modifications of the proofs of the corresponding theorems in ordinary ring theory, and will be omitted.

LEMMA 2.2. *If $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{B} = \bigcup_t \mathcal{B}_t$, then $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{B}$ is a radical class, and it is the smallest radical class containing \mathcal{B} .*

LEMMA 2.3. *If \mathcal{B} is a hereditary, homomorphically closed class of rings, then $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{B}$ is hereditary.*

$\mathcal{L}\mathcal{B}$ is called the lower radical class determined by \mathcal{B} . Let $Q \triangleleft I \triangleleft M$ where M is a Γ -ring. In [2] it was shown that $\overline{Q}I\overline{Q}I\overline{Q} \subseteq Q$ where $\overline{Q} = Q + Q\Gamma M + M\Gamma Q + M\Gamma Q\Gamma M$, is the ideal of M generated by Q . This result can be considered as Andrunakievic's lemma for Γ -rings. Before we give a concrete application, we need the following two lemmas.

LEMMA 2.4. *Let \mathcal{A} be a hereditary, homomorphically closed class of Γ -rings which contains all the zero rings. Then $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_2$.*

PROOF. Let $M \in \mathcal{A}_3$. Every nonzero homomorphic image M' of M has a nonzero ideal $I \in \mathcal{A}_2$. Since $I \in \mathcal{A}_2$, every nonzero homomorphic image of I (hence

I itself) has a nonzero ideal $B \in A_1 = A$. Let \bar{B} be the ideal of M' generated by B .

Furthermore $B \triangleleft \bar{B} \triangleleft M'$. From Andrunakievic's lemma we have $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} \subseteq B \in A$. Since A is hereditary, we have $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} \in A$. If $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} = 0$, then $\bar{B} \in A$ since A contains all the zero rings. If $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} \neq 0$, but $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} = 0$, then $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} = 0$, so that $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}$ is a nonzero zero ring and hence $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} \in A$. If $\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B}\Gamma\bar{B} \neq 0$, then M' contains a nonzero ideal in A . So, in any case, M' contains a nonzero ideal in A . Therefore $M \in A_2$ and hence $A_3 = A_2$. So $LA = A_2$.

If K is the class of all nilpotent Γ -rings, it is easy to verify that K satisfies the conditions of the previous lemma. Therefore, we have.

LEMMA 2.5. *Let K be the class of all the nilpotent Γ -rings. Then $LK = K_2$.*

3. Application to the prime radical of Γ -rings

In order to give an application of the lower radical construction of Γ -rings, we will show that $L = \{\text{All nilpotent } \Gamma\text{-rings}\} = UP = UC$, where $P = \{\text{All prime } \Gamma\text{-rings}\}$ and $C = \{\text{All semiprime } \Gamma\text{-rings}\}$.

First, however, we need the following two lemmas.

LEMMA 3.1. *Let S be a semiprime ideal of the Γ -ring M .*

(i) $A\Gamma B \subseteq S$ if and only if $B\Gamma A \subseteq S$, for any ideals A and B of M .

(ii) $A(\Gamma B)^n \subseteq S$ if and only if $A\Gamma B \subseteq S$, for any ideals A and B of M and $n \in IN$.

PROOF. (i) $A\Gamma B \subseteq S$ implies $B\Gamma A\Gamma B\Gamma A \subseteq B\Gamma S\Gamma A \subseteq S\Gamma A \subseteq S$. Since S is a semiprime ideal, we have $B\Gamma A \subseteq S$.

The converse can be proved in a similar way.

(ii) If $A\Gamma B \subseteq S$, it follows that $A(\Gamma B)^n \subseteq S$ for any $n \in IN$.

Conversely, let $A(\Gamma B)^n \subseteq S$. If $n=1$, then $A\Gamma B \subseteq S$. So, suppose $n > 1$, then

$$\Rightarrow \{[B\Gamma]^{n-1}A\Gamma B\} \Gamma \{[B\Gamma]^{n-1}A\Gamma B\} \subseteq S$$

$$\Rightarrow [B\Gamma]^{n-1}A\Gamma B \subseteq S \text{ since } S \text{ is semiprime}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{[B\Gamma]^{n-1}A\} \Gamma \{[B\Gamma]^{n-1}A\} \subseteq S$$

$$\Rightarrow [B\Gamma]^{n-1}A \subseteq S; S \text{ is semiprime}$$

$$\text{i.e. } B\Gamma B\Gamma \dots B\Gamma A \subseteq S$$

$$\text{i.e. } (B\Gamma B\Gamma \dots B)\Gamma A \subseteq S$$

From (i) we have $A\Gamma(B\Gamma B\Gamma \dots B) \subseteq S$

$$\Rightarrow A(\Gamma B)^{n-1} \subseteq S$$

The proof is completed by induction.

LEMMA 3.2. *A Γ -ring M is semiprime if and only if M has no nonzero nilpotent ideals.*

PROOF. Let M be semiprime. Suppose $0 \neq I \triangleleft M$ such that $I(\Gamma I)^n = 0$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since (0) is a semiprime ideal of M , we have from (ii) of the previous lemma that $I\Gamma I = 0$ and again, since (0) is a semiprime ideal of M , we have $I = 0$; a contradiction. Therefore M has no nonzero nilpotent ideals.

Conversely, suppose M has no nonzero nilpotent ideals. If $A\Gamma A = 0$ for some $A \triangleleft M$, then $A = 0$. This implies that M is semiprime.

Now if $\mathbf{K} = \{\text{All the nilpotent } \Gamma\text{-rings}\}$, we have from lemma 2.5 that $\beta = \mathbf{LK} = \mathbf{K}_2 = \{M \text{ a } \Gamma\text{-ring} \mid \text{Every } 0 \neq M/I \text{ has a nonzero nilpotent ideal}\}$.

Let M be any Γ -ring and denote by $\beta(M)$ the sum of all the β -ideals of M .

THEOREM 3.3 *If C is the class of all the semiprime Γ -rings, then $S\beta = C$.*

PROOF. Let $M \in S\beta$. Then $\beta(M) = 0$. Therefore M has no nonzero β -ideals and hence no nonzero nilpotent ideals. From lemma 3.2 we have that $M \in C$.

Conversely, let $M \in C$. Suppose $M \notin S\beta$, then $\beta(M) \neq 0$ and hence $\beta(M)$ has a nonzero nilpotent ideal N . Let \bar{N} be the ideal of M generated by N . From Andrunakievic's lemma for Γ -rings, we have $\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N} \subseteq N$. If $0 = \bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N} = \bar{N}(\Gamma\bar{N})^2$, then \bar{N} is a nonzero nilpotent ideal of M ; a contradiction with $M \in C$. If $\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N} \neq 0$ then $\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N}$ is a nonzero nilpotent ideal of M since $\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N}\Gamma\bar{N} \subseteq N$, and N is nilpotent. Again this is a contradiction since $M \in C$. Therefore $M \in S\beta$ and the theorem proved.

As in the case of ordinary rings, we also have in the case of Γ -rings that every radical class \mathbf{R} is the upper radical class determined by the semisimple class \mathbf{SR} , i.e. $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{USR}$.

From theorem 3.3 we now have

THEOREM 3.4. $\beta = \mathbf{UC}$, where C is the class of all semiprime Γ -rings.

The following lemma is easy to verify.

LEMMA 3.5. *M/I is a prime (semiprime) Γ -ring if and only if I is a prime (semiprime) ideal in the Γ -ring M .*

we are now in a position to prove that β is also the upper radical class determined by all the prime Γ -rings M .

THEOREM 3.6. $\beta = UP$, where P is the class of all prime Γ -rings.

PROOF. Since $P \subseteq C$, we have that $UC = \beta \subseteq UP$. Suppose $\beta \neq UP$. Then there exists $0 \neq M \in UP$, $M \notin \beta$, i.e. $\beta(M) \neq M$. Therefore there exists $x \in M$, $x \notin \beta(M)$. Let X be the ideal of M generated by x . Suppose $X(\Gamma X)^n \not\subseteq \beta(M)$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $U = \{J \triangleleft M \mid X(\Gamma X)^k \not\subseteq J \supseteq \beta(M), \text{ for all } k=1,2,\dots\}$. There exists, according to Zorn's lemma, an ideal W of M , maximal to the property $X(\Gamma X)^k \not\subseteq W$. We want to show that W is a prime ideal of M . Let L_1 and L_2 be two ideals of M such that $L_1 \Gamma L_2 \subseteq W$. If $W \subset L_1 + W$ and $W \subset L_2 + W$, then there exist $r, t \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $X(\Gamma X)^r \subseteq L_1 + W$ and $X(\Gamma X)^t \subseteq L_2 + W$. Hence $[X(\Gamma X)^r] \Gamma [X(\Gamma X)^t] \subseteq (L_1 + W) \Gamma (L_2 + W)$ i.e. $X(\Gamma X)^{r+t} \subseteq L_1 \Gamma L_2 + L_1 \Gamma W + W \Gamma L_2 + W \Gamma W \subseteq W$; a contradiction. Hence $L_1 + W = W$ or $L_2 + W = W$. This implies that $L_1 \subseteq W$ or $L_2 \subseteq W$, i.e. W is a prime Γ -ideal of M . From lemma 3.5 we have that $M/W \in P$; a contradiction with $M \in UP$. Hence, there exists $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $X(\Gamma X)^k \subseteq \beta(M)$. Now we have that $0 \neq [\beta(M) + X] / \beta(M) \triangleleft M / \beta(M) \in S\beta$. But $\{[\beta(M) + X] / \beta(M)\} \{ \Gamma [\beta(M) + X] / \beta(M) \}^k = 0$. Therefore $M / \beta(M)$ has a nonzero nilpotent ideal; a contradiction with $M / \beta(M) \in S\beta$. So, $M \in \beta$ and $\beta = UP$.

In [2], theorem 2.2, it was proved that P is a special class and hence that $\beta = UP$ is a special radical. It is easy to check that if K is the class of all nilpotent Γ -rings, then K is hereditary and homomorphically closed. From lemma 2.3 it follows that $LK = \beta$ is also hereditary. Therefore $\beta = UP = UC$ is a supernilpotent radical class.

REFERENCES

- [1] Barnes, W.E., *On the Γ -rings of Nobusawa*, Pacific J. of Math., **18** (1966), 411—422.
 [2] Groenewald, N.J., *Radicals of Γ -rings*, Quaestiones Mathematicae, **7** (1984), 337—344.

Vista University
 Private Bag X380
 Bloemfontein 9300
 Republic of South Africa