

## $\pi$ -Morphic Rings

QINGHE HUANG

*Department of Mathematics, Southeast University, Nanjing 210096, P. R. China*

*e-mail: qinghuang@yahoo.com.cn*

JIANLONG CHEN

*Department of Mathematics, Southeast University, Nanjing 210096, P. R. China*

*e-mail: jlchen@seu.edu.cn*

ABSTRACT. An element  $a$  in a ring  $R$  is called left morphic if  $R/Ra \cong \mathbf{1}(a)$ . A ring  $R$  is called left morphic if every element is left morphic. In this paper, an element  $a$  in a ring  $R$  is called left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) if there exists a positive number  $n$  such that  $a^n$  (resp.  $a^n \neq 0$ ) is left morphic. A ring  $R$  is called left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) if every element is left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic). The Morita invariance of left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) rings is discussed. Several relevant properties are proved. In particular, it is shown that a left Noetherian ring  $R$  with  $M_4(R)$  left G-morphic or  $M_2(R)$  left morphic is QF. Some known results of left morphic rings are extended to left G-morphic rings and left  $\pi$ -morphic rings.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout the paper, all rings are associative with identity and all modules are unitary. Let  $R$  be a ring. The right (resp. left) annihilator of a subset  $X$  of  $R$  is denoted by  $\mathbf{r}(X)$  (resp.  $\mathbf{l}(X)$ ). The Jacobson radical, left singular ideal, right singular ideal, left socle and the right socle of  $R$  are denoted by  $J(R)$ ,  $Z({}_R R)$ ,  $Z(R_R)$ ,  $Soc({}_R R)$  and  $Soc(R_R)$ , respectively. Using  $I \subseteq^{ess} {}_R R$  to show that  $I$  is an essential left ideal of  $R$ . And we write  $U(R)$  for the group of all units of  $R$ .

By the well known theorem of Erlich [5], a map  $\alpha$  in the endomorphism ring of a module  $M$  is unit regular if and only if it is regular and  $M/\text{Im}(\alpha) \cong \text{Ker}(\alpha)$ . In [11], Nicholson and Sánchez Campós introduced and studied left morphic rings (which were further studied in [3, 9, 10]). An element  $a$  in a ring  $R$  is said to be left morphic if  $R/Ra \cong \mathbf{1}(a)$ , equivalently, there exists  $b \in R$  such that  $\mathbf{1}(a) = Rb$  and  $\mathbf{1}(b) = Ra$ . A ring  $R$  is called left morphic if every element is left morphic. Right morphic rings are defined analogously.

In this paper, the notion of left morphic rings is extended to left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp.

---

Received April 10, 2006, and, in revised form, November 30, 2006.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: 16E50, 16U99, 16S70.

Key words and phrases: morphic ring,  $\pi$ -morphic ring, G-morphic ring, QF ring.

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.10571026) and the Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province (No.BK2005207).

left G-morphic) rings. An element  $a$  in a ring  $R$  is called left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) if there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $a^n$  (resp.  $a^n \neq 0$ ) is left morphic. The ring itself is called left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) if every element is left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic). Right  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. right G-morphic) rings are defined analogously. A ring  $R$  is called morphic if it is left and right morphic. The  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. G-morphic) rings are defined similarly. Some examples show that left  $\pi$ -morphic rings need not be left morphic. Some known results of left morphic rings are extended to left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) rings. The Morita invariance of these notions is discussed. Several relevant properties are proved. In particular, it is shown that a left Noetherian ring  $R$  with  $M_4(R)$  left G-morphic or  $M_2(R)$  left morphic is QF. Left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) rings are directly finite. If  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic, then the same is true of the corner ring  $eRe$  for any idempotent  $e \in R$ . Furthermore, it is shown that if  $R$  is a local and left G-morphic ring, then the following conditions are equivalent: (1)  $J(R)$  is nilpotent; (2)  $J(R)$  is nil and  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \neq 0$ ; (3)  $R$  has ACC on principal left ideals and  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \neq 0$ . In this case,  $R$  is left morphic.

## 2. Examples

We start this section with the following.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $R$  be a ring. An element  $a$  in  $R$  is called left  $\pi$ -morphic if there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $R/Ra^n \cong \mathbf{1}(a^n)$ . The ring itself is said to be left  $\pi$ -morphic if every element is left  $\pi$ -morphic.

**Lemma 2.2.** Let  $R$  be a ring. An element  $a$  in  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic if and only if there exist  $n > 0$  and  $b \in R$  such that  $\mathbf{1}(a^n) = Rb$  and  $\mathbf{1}(b) = Ra^n$ .

*Proof.* By Definition 2.1 and [11, Lemma 1]. □

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $R$  be a ring, and let  $a$  in  $R$  be left  $\pi$ -morphic. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathbf{1}(a) = 0$ .
- (2)  $Ra = R$ .
- (3)  $a \in U(R)$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.2, there exist  $n > 0$  and  $b \in R$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{1}(b)$ ,  $Rb = \mathbf{1}(a^n)$ .

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) If  $\mathbf{1}(a) = 0$ , then it is easy to see that  $\mathbf{1}(a^n) = 0$ . Hence  $b = 0$ ,  $Ra^n = \mathbf{1}(0) = R$ , and so  $Ra = R$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) If  $Ra = R$ , there exists  $r \in R$  such that  $ra = 1$ , so  $r^n a^n = 1$  and hence  $Ra^n = R$ . Thus  $b = 0$ , and  $\mathbf{1}(a) \subseteq \mathbf{1}(a^n) = 0$ . And  $ar - 1 \in \mathbf{1}(a)$ ,  $ar = 1$ . We are done.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) is clear. □

A ring  $R$  is called directly finite if  $ab = 1$  implies  $ba = 1$  for any  $a, b \in R$ .  $R$  is said to be stably finite if  $M_n(R)$  is directly finite for all  $n > 0$ .

**Corollary 2.4.** *Let  $R$  be a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring. Then it is directly finite.*

Recall that a ring  $R$  is called unit  $\pi$ -regular [1], if for any  $a \in R$ , there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $a^n$  is unit regular.

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $R$  be a regular ring. Then it is left  $\pi$ -morphic if and only if it is unit  $\pi$ -regular.*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is a regular ring,  $a^n$  is unit regular if and only if  $a^n$  is left morphic for any  $a \in R$  and  $n > 0$  (by [11, Example 4] and [11, Proposition 5]). The result follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $R$  be a unit  $\pi$ -regular ring. Then  $S = R/I$  is a unit  $\pi$ -regular ring for any ideal  $I$  of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $a \in R$ , there exist  $n > 0$  and  $u \in U(R)$  such that  $a^n = a^n u a^n$ . So  $(a + I)^n = a^n + I = a^n u a^n + I = (a^n + I)(u + I)(a^n + I)$ . This means that  $S = R/I$  is a unit  $\pi$ -regular ring.  $\square$

Now, an example is given to show that the converse of Corollary 2.3 is false, even if  $R$  is regular and stably finite.

**Example 2.7** [7]. Choose a field  $F$ , let  $T = F[[t]]$  be the ring of formal power series over  $F$  in an indeterminate  $t$ , and let  $K$  denote the quotient field of  $T$ . Let  $S = \{x \in \text{End}_F(T) \mid (x - a)(t^n T) = 0, \text{ for some } a \in K \text{ and } n > 0\}$ . By [7, Example 4.26], for each  $x \in S$  there is a unique element  $\varphi x \in K$  such that  $(x - \varphi x)(t^n T) = 0$  for some  $n > 0$ . Since  $K$  is commutative, the map  $\varphi : S \rightarrow K$  also defines a ring map  $\varphi : S^{op} \rightarrow K$ , where  $S^{op}$  denotes the opposite ring of  $S$ . Consequently, the set  $R = \{(x, y) \in S \times S^{op} \mid \varphi x = \varphi y\}$  is a subring of  $S \times S^{op}$ . Inasmuch  $R$  is a subdirect product of  $S$  and  $S^{op}$ , then  $R$  is regular, stably finite but not left  $\pi$ -morphic.

*Proof.* From [7, Example 5.10], we know that  $R$  is a regular and stably finite ring. Assume that  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic, by Lemma 2.5,  $R$  is unit  $\pi$ -regular. In fact, as an element of  $\text{End}_F(T)$ ,  $t^n$  is injective but not surjective. If there exists  $u \in S$  such that  $t^n u t^n = t^n$ , then  $u t^n = 1$ , and so  $t^n = u^{-1}$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $S$  is not unit  $\pi$ -regular. By Lemma 2.6, we conclude that  $R$  is not left  $\pi$ -morphic.  $\square$

Recall that  $R$  is called right  $\pi$ -P-injective if there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{r}(a^n)$ , which is also called right GP-injective in [15]. But in this paper, we call  $R$  a right GP-injective ring [2], if for any  $0 \neq a \in R$ , there exists  $n > 0$  with  $a^n \neq 0$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{r}(a^n)$ . An element  $a$  in  $R$  is said to be left G-morphic if there exists  $n > 0$  with  $a^n \neq 0$  such that  $a^n$  is left morphic, equivalently, there exist  $n > 0$  with  $a^n \neq 0$  and  $b \in R$  such that  $\mathbf{l}(a^n) = Rb$  and  $\mathbf{l}(b) = Ra^n$ . The ring itself is called left G-morphic if every element is left G-morphic.

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $R$  be a left  $\pi$ -morphic (resp. left G-morphic) ring. Then it is right  $\pi$ -P-injective (resp. right GP-injective).*

*Proof.* If  $R$  is a left G-morphic ring, then for any  $a$  in  $R$ , there exist a positive number  $n$  with  $a^n \neq 0$  and  $b \in R$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{l}(b)$  and  $\mathbf{l}(a^n) = Rb$ . So

$\mathbf{lr}(a^n) = \mathbf{lr}(Ra^n) = \mathbf{lr}(b) = \mathbf{l}(b) = Ra^n$ , equivalently,  $R$  is right GP-injective. Similarly, if  $R$  is a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring, then it is right  $\pi$ -P-injective.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let  $R$  be a local and left G-morphic ring. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $J(R)$  is nilpotent.
- (2)  $J(R)$  is nil and  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \neq 0$ .
- (3)  $R$  has ACC on principal left ideal and  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \neq 0$ .

*In this case,  $R$  is left morphic.*

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) and (3). If  $J(R)$  is nilpotent, then it is clear that  $J(R)$  is nil and  $R$  is left perfect. Hence  $R$  has ACC on principal left ideals (by Jonah’s Theorem [8]), and  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \subseteq^{ess} R_R$ . Moreover, by Lemma 2.8,  $R$  is right GP-injective. So  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \subseteq \text{Soc}({}_R R)$  by [2, Lemma 2.2], and hence  $\text{Soc}({}_R R) \neq 0$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). By hypothesis, there exists a nonzero minimal left ideal  $Ra$  of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is left G-morphic, there exist  $n > 0$  with  $a^n \neq 0$  and  $c \in R$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{l}(c)$  and  $Rc = \mathbf{l}(a^n)$ . Hence  $R/Rc = R/\mathbf{l}(a^n) \cong Ra^n = Ra$ ,  $Rc$  is a maximal left ideal of  $R$  and so  $J(R) = Rc$ .

Assume that  $J(R)^k = Rc^k$  for some positive number  $k \geq 1$ .  $J(R)^{k+1} = J(R) \cdot Rc^k = J(R) \cdot c^k = Rc \cdot c^k = Rc^{k+1}$ . By induction,  $J(R)^k = Rc^k$  for every  $k \geq 1$ . Since  $J(R)$  is nil, there exists  $k > 0$  such that  $c^k = 0$  and so  $J(R)^k = Rc^k = 0$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). By the proof of (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1),  $J(R) = Rc$ . If  $c$  is nilpotent, then  $J(R)$  is nilpotent. If  $c$  is not nilpotent, there exist positive numbers  $n_0 > 0$  and  $n_1 > 0$  such that  $0 \neq c^{n_0}$  and  $0 \neq c^{2^{n_0}n_1}$  are left morphic. By induction, there exists  $\{c^{2^i n_0 n_1 \cdots n_i}\}_{i=0}^\infty$  such that  $0 \neq c^{2^i n_0 n_1 \cdots n_i}$  is left morphic for any  $i \geq 0$ , and denotes  $2^i n_0 n_1 \cdots n_i$  by  $t_i$ . Then  $\mathbf{l}(c^{t_i}) \subseteq \mathbf{l}(c^{t_{i+1}})$  dues to  $t_i < t_{i+1}$ . Because  $R$  has ACC on principal left ideals, there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $\mathbf{l}(c^{t_0}) \subseteq \mathbf{l}(c^{t_1}) \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \mathbf{l}(c^{t_n}) = \mathbf{l}(c^{t_{n+1}})$ . We can choose  $a, b \in R$  such that  $Ra = \mathbf{l}(c^{t_n})$ ,  $\mathbf{l}(a) = Rc^{t_n} = J(R)^{t_n}$  and  $Rb = \mathbf{l}(c^{t_{n+1}})$ ,  $\mathbf{l}(b) = Rc^{t_{n+1}} = J(R)^{t_{n+1}}$ . Then  $Ra = Rb$ , there exist  $u, v \in R$  such that  $a = ub$  and  $b = va$ . Thus  $a = uva$ ,  $(1 - uv)a = 0$ .  $uv \notin J(R)$  because  $a \neq 0$ . This implies  $uv \in U(R)$  (as  $R$  is a local ring) and so  $u \in U(R)$  by Proposition 2.3. But  $0 = c^{t_n}a = c^{t_n}ub$ ,  $c^{t_n}u \in \mathbf{l}(b) = Rc^{t_{n+1}} = J(R)^{t_{n+1}}$ , it follows that  $c^{t_n} \in J(R)^{t_{n+1}} = Rc^{t_{n+1}}$ . Let  $c^{t_n} = rc^{t_{n+1}}$ ,  $r \in R$ , it implies that  $(1 - rc^{t_{n+1}-t_n})c^{t_n} = 0$ . Thus  $rc^{t_{n+1}-t_n} \notin J(R)$  because  $c^{t_n} \neq 0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $c$  is nilpotent and so  $J(R)$  is nilpotent.

Now, we show the last part. Suppose that  $J(R)^n = 0$  for some  $n > 0$ . If  $n = 1$ , then  $R$  is division and so it is left morphic. If  $n > 1$ , we can assume that  $J(R)^{n-1} \neq 0$ . Let  $0 \neq b \in J(R)^{n-1}$ , there exists  $m \geq 1$  such that  $b^m \neq 0$  is left morphic. Moreover, for any  $0 \neq a \in J(R)^{n-1}$ ,  $a^2 = 0$ , so  $m = 1$ . Thus  $b$  is left morphic, there exists  $c \in R$  such that  $\mathbf{l}(b) = Rc$  and  $J(R) \subseteq \mathbf{l}(b) = Rc \neq R$ . Hence  $J(R) = Rc$  and  $c^n = 0$ . Therefore, by [11, Theorem 9],  $R$  is a left morphic ring.  $\square$

The following example shows that left  $\pi$ -morphic rings need not be left G-morphic, and hence the notion of left  $\pi$ -morphic rings is a proper generalization of left morphic.

**Example 2.10.** Let  $R = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{Z}_2 & \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $R$  is left and right  $\pi$ -morphic but neither left nor right G-morphic.

*Proof.* Clearly, every element of  $R$  is either nilpotent or idempotent or invertible, so  $R$  is left and right  $\pi$ -morphic. But  $\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is neither left nor right G-morphic in  $R$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.11.** Let  $R$  be a local ring with  $J(R)$  nil. Then  $R$  is left and right  $\pi$ -morphic.

*Proof.* By hypothesis, every element of  $R$  is either nilpotent or invertible. So  $R$  is left and right  $\pi$ -morphic.  $\square$

Next example shows that the left G-morphic condition can not be replaced by left  $\pi$ -morphic in Theorem 2.9.

**Example 2.12.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}_4C_2$ . Then  $R$  is a commutative,  $\pi$ -morphic ring but not G-morphic.

*Proof.* By [11, Example 36], we know that  $R$  is a commutative, local and QF ring but not morphic. This implies that  $J(R)$  is nilpotent, so  $R$  is  $\pi$ -morphic by Lemma 2.11. But from Theorem 2.9, we know that  $R$  is not G-morphic.  $\square$

**Remark.** Unfortunately, we can not find a ring  $R$  which is left G-morphic but not left morphic. But we have an example which shows that left G-morphic elements need not be left morphic.

**Example 2.13.** Let  $R = F[x, \sigma]/(x^2) = \{a + xb \mid a, b \in F\}$ , where  $F$  is a field with an isomorphism  $\sigma$  from  $F$  to a subfield  $\overline{F} \neq F$  and  $c\sigma = x\sigma(c)$  for all  $c \in F$ .  $S = R \oplus R$ , then  $\lambda = (1, xb) \in S$  (where  $b \in F$  but  $b \notin \overline{F}$ ) is left G-morphic but not left morphic.

*Proof.* By symmetry and [11, Example 8],  $xb$  is not left morphic in  $R$ , but  $\lambda^2 = (1, 0)$  is left morphic in  $S$ . It is trivial to see that  $\lambda$  is left G-morphic but not left morphic in  $S$ .  $\square$

Now we give an example to show that “left G-morphic” is not a Morita invariant property.

**Example 2.14.** Let  $R$  be the ring in Example 2.13 and  $S = M_2(R)$ . Then  $R$  is a right morphic, left  $\pi$ -morphic ring and  $S$  is a right  $\pi$ -morphic ring, but  $R$  is not a left G-morphic ring and  $S$  is not a right G-morphic ring.

*Proof.* By [11, Example 11] and Example 2.13, we know that  $R$  is a local, right morphic ring but not left morphic, and  $J(R)$  is nilpotent. Hence  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic by Lemma 2.11.  $xb$  ( $b \in F$  but  $b \notin \overline{F}$ ) is not left G-morphic because  $(xb)^2 = 0$  and  $xb$  is not left morphic.

For any  $\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} + xb_{11} & a_{12} + xb_{12} \\ a_{21} + xb_{21} & a_{22} + xb_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $a_{ij}, b_{ij} \in F$  for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $j =$

1, 2. If  $a_{11} = a_{12} = a_{21} = a_{22} = 0$  then  $\lambda^2 = 0$ , whence  $\lambda$  is right  $\pi$ -morphic. If there exists  $a_{ij} \neq 0$ , then there exist  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in U(S)$  such that  $\mu_1\lambda\mu_2 = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 & 0 \\ 0 & r_2 \end{bmatrix} \in S$ ,  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ . Following from [11, Lemma 3] and the fact that  $\begin{bmatrix} r_1 & 0 \\ 0 & r_2 \end{bmatrix}$  is right morphic,  $\lambda$  is right morphic. Therefore,  $S$  is a right  $\pi$ -morphic ring.

By [4, Example 6],  $S$  is not left GP-injective. From Lemma 2.8,  $S$  is not right G-morphic. □

### 3. Corner Rings and Kasch Condition

We are going to prove that if  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic, then the same is true for the corner ring  $eRe$ , in which  $e^2 = e \in R$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring. Then so is  $eRe$  for any idempotent  $e$  of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* We need only to show that for any  $a \in eRe$ , it is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $eRe$ . Set  $f = 1 - e$ , then  $(a + x)^n = a^n + x^n$  for any  $a \in eRe, x \in fRf$  and  $n \geq 1$ . Since  $a + f$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $R$ , there exist  $c \in R$  and  $n > 0$  such that  $\mathbf{l}_R((a + f)^n) = Rc$  and  $\mathbf{l}_R(c) = R(a + f)^n$ , so  $\mathbf{l}_R(a^n + f) = Rc$  and  $\mathbf{l}_R(c) = R(a^n + f)$ . Hence  $0 = (a^n + f)c = a^n c + fc, 0 = fa^n c + fc = fc$  and  $ec = c$ . Similarly  $ce = c, c \in eRe$ . Let  $b \in \mathbf{l}_{eRe}(a^n)$ . Then  $b \in eRe \cap Rc = (eRe)c$ . Conversely, let  $b \in (eRe)c$ . Clearly,  $b \in \mathbf{l}_R(a^n + f)$ , and hence  $b \in \mathbf{l}_{eRe}(a^n)$ . This implies that  $\mathbf{l}_{eRe}(a^n) = (eRe)c$ . Thus  $(eRe)a^n \subseteq \mathbf{l}_{eRe}(c)$  because  $(eRe)a^n \subseteq R(a^n + f) = \mathbf{l}_R(c)$ . If  $b \in \mathbf{l}_{eRe}(c)$ , then  $b \in \mathbf{l}_R(c) = R(a^n + f)$ , and so  $b = ebe \in (eRe)a^n$ . It follows that  $\mathbf{l}_{eRe}(c) = (eRe)a^n$ , hence  $a$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $eRe$ . This completes the proof. □

Recall that in [14],  $R$  is called a left GC2-ring if for any left ideal  $I$  with  $I \cong R$ ,  $I$  is a summand of  ${}_R R$ . Equivalently, for any element  $a$  in  $R$ , if  $\mathbf{l}(a) = 0$  then  $Ra$  is a summand of  ${}_R R$  by [14, Proposition 2.2].

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $R$  be a left Noetherian ring with  $M_4(R)$  left G-morphic. Then  $R$  is QF.*

*Proof.* Since  $M_4(R)$  is left G-morphic,  $M_4(R)$  is right GP-injective by Lemma 2.8. Hence  $M_2(R)$  is right P-injective by [4, Lemma 3], and so  $R$  is right 2-injective. Following from Lemma 3.1,  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic. Therefore, by Proposition 2.3,  $\mathbf{l}(a) = 0$  for any  $a \in R$  if and only if  $Ra = R$ . This implies that  $R$  is left GC2, and so that  $R$  is semilocal by [14, Corollary 2.5]. From [6, Theorem 2.7], we have  $J(R)$  nilpotent. Hence  $R$  is semiprimary, it follows that  $R$  is left Artinian. So  $R$  is QF by [13, Corollary 3]. □

Similar to the proof of above theorem, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $R$  be a left Noetherian ring with  $M_2(R)$  left morphic. Then  $R$  is QF.*

**Remark.** The assumption that  $M_2(R)$  can not be replaced by  $R$  in Theorem 3.3. In fact, the ring  $R$  in [11, Example 8] is left Artinian and left morphic but not QF.

Recall that, a Morita context is a four-tuple  $(R, V, W, S)$  in which  $V = {}_R V_S$  and  $W = {}_S W_R$  are bimodules and there exist multiplications  $V \times W \rightarrow R$  and  $W \times V \rightarrow S$  such that  $C = \begin{bmatrix} R & V \\ W & S \end{bmatrix}$  is an associated ring with the usual matrix operations (called the context ring).

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $C = \begin{bmatrix} R & V \\ W & S \end{bmatrix}$  be a left G-morphic context ring. If either  $VW \subseteq J(R)$  or  $WV \subseteq J(S)$ , then  $V = 0$  and  $W = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $C$  is a left  $\pi$  morphic ring,  $0 \neq \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in C$  and  $S \cong \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R & V \\ W & S \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic by Lemma 3.1. So  $S$  is directly finite by Corollary 2.4. Assume that  $WV \in J(S)$ , the argument is similar if  $VW \in J(R)$ . Let  $v \in V$ , and write  $\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in C$ . Then  $\lambda^2 = 0$ , it follows that  $\lambda$  is left morphic because  $C$  is left G-morphic. Therefore, following from the proof of [11, Proposition 18], we have  $V = 0$  and  $W = 0$ .  $\square$

**Remark.** The G-morphic condition can not be replaced by  $\pi$ -morphic condition in Proposition 3.4. In Example 2.10,  $R = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{Z}_2 & \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ 0 & \mathbb{Z}_2 \end{bmatrix}$  is a left  $\pi$ -morphic context ring but  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \neq 0$ .

A ring  $R$  is said to be left Kasch if every simple left  $R$ -module embeds in  ${}_R R$ , equivalently, if  $\mathbf{r}(I) \neq 0$  for every proper (maximal) left ideal  $I$  of  $R$ .

**Proposition 3.5.** *The following conditions are equivalent for a left G-morphic ring  $R$ :*

- (1)  $R$  is left Kasch.
- (2) Every maximal left ideal of  $R$  is an annihilator.
- (3) Every maximal left ideal of  $R$  is principal.

*Proof.* (2) can be deduced by (1) without the left G-morphic condition.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $I$  be a maximal left ideal of  $R$ . Then there exists a nonzero right ideal  $A$  such that  $I = \mathbf{l}(A)$ . Since  $R$  is left G-morphic, for any  $0 \neq a \in A$ , there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $a^n \neq 0$  is left morphic. Hence  $\mathbf{l}(a^n) \neq R$ , and so  $I \subseteq \mathbf{l}(a^n) \neq R$ . Therefore,  $I = \mathbf{l}(a^n)$ . It follows that  $I$  is principal.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $I = Ra$  be a maximal left ideal of  $R$ . As  $R$  is left G-morphic, there exist  $n > 0$ ,  $b \in R$  with  $a^n \neq 0$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{l}(b)$ . Since  $Ra^n \subseteq Ra = I \neq R$ ,  $b \neq 0$ . But  $a^n b = 0$ ,  $a(a^{n-1}b) = 0$ . If  $a^{n-1}b \neq 0$ , then  $0 \neq a^{n-1}b \in \mathbf{r}(Ra) = \mathbf{r}(I)$ , otherwise, by induction, we have  $\mathbf{r}(I) \neq 0$  because  $b \neq 0$ . So  $R$  is left Kasch.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.6.** *Let  $R$  be a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring and every maximal right ideal be*

*principal. Then  $R$  is right Kasch.*

*Proof.* Given any maximal right ideal  $I$  of  $R$ , there exists  $a \in R$  such that  $I = aR$ . Since  $R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic,  $a \notin U(R)$  and so  $Ra \neq R$  by Proposition 2.3. Hence, we can choose  $0 \neq b \in R$ ,  $n > 0$  such that  $R \neq Ra^n = \mathbf{l}(b)$  and  $\mathbf{l}(a^n) = Rb$ , so  $\mathbf{l}(a^n) = Rb \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{l}(I) = \mathbf{l}(a) \neq 0$ , this implies that  $R$  is right Kasch.  $\square$

#### 4. Singular ideals and trivial extensions

In this section, we study some properties about singular ideals and trivial extensions of rings under left  $\pi$ -morphic or left G-morphic condition.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $R$  be a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring. Then the following conditions hold.*

- (1) *If  $\mathbf{r}(a) = 0$  then  $a \in U(R)$ .*
- (2)  *$Z({}_R R) \subseteq J(R)$  and  $Z(R_R) \subseteq J(R)$ .*
- (3) *If  ${}_R R$  is uniform then  $R$  is local and  $J(R) = Z({}_R R) = \{a \in R \mid a \notin U(R)\}$ .*
- (4) *If  $R_R$  is uniform then  $R$  is local and  $J(R) = Z(R_R) = \{a \in R \mid a \notin U(R)\}$ .*

But the converses of (3) and (4) are false.

*Proof.* (1) Since  $\mathbf{r}(a) = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(a^n) = 0$  for any  $n \geq 1$ . By Lemma 2.7,  $R$  is right  $\pi$ -P-injective. Thus there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $Ra^n = \mathbf{r}(a^n) = \mathbf{l}(0) = R$ , which implies that  $Ra = R$ . Therefore,  $a \in U(R)$  by Proposition 2.2.

(2) For any  $a \in Z({}_R R)$  and  $r \in R$ ,  $ar \in Z({}_R R)$ . Thus  $\mathbf{l}(ar) \subseteq {}^{ess}{}_R R$ ,  $\mathbf{l}(ar) \cap \mathbf{l}(1 - ar) = 0$ , and so that  $\mathbf{l}(1 - ar) = 0$ . Again by Proposition 2.3,  $1 - ar \in U(R)$ , so  $a \in J(R)$ . Therefore,  $Z({}_R R) \subseteq J(R)$ . Similarly, for any  $a \in Z(R_R)$  and  $r \in R$ ,  $\mathbf{r}(1 - ra) = 0$ . Hence  $1 - ra \in U(R)$  and so  $a \in J(R)$ . Therefore,  $Z(R_R) \subseteq J(R)$ .

(3) Assume that  ${}_R R$  is uniform. Let  $a \notin U(R)$ .  $\mathbf{l}(a) \neq 0$  by Proposition 2.3, it follows that  $\mathbf{l}(a) \subseteq {}^{ess}{}_R R$ , and so  $a \in Z({}_R R)$ . Conversely, if  $a \in Z({}_R R)$ ,  $\mathbf{l}(a) \subseteq {}^{ess}{}_R R$ , then  $a \notin U(R)$ . This shows that  $Z({}_R R) = \{a \in R \mid a \notin U(R)\}$ . Given  $a \in J(R)$ , then  $a \notin U(R)$ , and so  $a \in Z({}_R R)$ . Hence  $J(R) \subseteq Z({}_R R)$ . Therefore, by (2),  $R$  is a local ring with  $J(R) = Z({}_R R) = \{a \in R \mid a \notin U(R)\}$ .

(4) Assume that  $R_R$  is uniform. If there exists a proper left ideal  $I$  such that  $Z(R_R) \subset I$ , then for any element  $a$  which is in  $I$  but not in  $Z(R_R)$ , we have  $\mathbf{r}(a) = 0$ , it follows that  $a \in U(R)$  by (1). It is impossible. Therefore,  $Z(R_R)$  is the unique maximal left ideal, whence  $R$  is a local ring and  $Z(R_R) = J(R) = \{a \in R \mid a \notin U(R)\}$ .

In Example 2.13,  $R$  is a left and right  $\pi$ -morphic, local ring with  $Z(R_R) = J(R) = Z({}_R R) = \{a \in R \mid a \notin U(R)\}$  but  $R_R$  is not uniform. By symmetry, the last part holds.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $R$  be a ring with  ${}_R R$  (or  $R_R$ ) uniform and  $R/\text{Soc}({}_R R)$  (or  $R/\text{Soc}(R_R)$ ) having ACC on left (or right) annihilators. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$R$  is a local ring with  $J(R)$  nilpotent.*
- (2)  *$R$  is a local ring with  $J(R)$  nil.*
- (3)  *$R$  is a unit  $\pi$ -regular ring.*



- (4)  $R$  is a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring.  
 (5)  $R$  is a right  $\pi$ -morphic ring.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) and (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (5) are obvious.

(4) or (5)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Given  $R$  is left (or right)  $\pi$ -morphic and  ${}_R R$  (or  $R_R$ ) is uniform. Then  $J(R) = Z({}_R R)$  (or  $J(R) = Z(R_R)$ ) and  $R$  is local by Proposition 4.1. Since  $R/\text{Soc}({}_R R)$  (or  $R/\text{Soc}(R_R)$ ) has ACC on left (or right) annihilators,  $Z({}_R R)$  (or  $Z(R_R)$ ) is nilpotent by [12, Lemma 4.20]. Therefore,  $J(R)$  is nilpotent.  $\square$

For a ring  $R$ , the trivial extension  $R \times R = \{(a, b) | a, b \in R\}$  is a ring with addition defined componentwise and multiplication defined by  $(a, b)(c, d) = (ac, ad + bc)$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** *Let  $S = R \times R$  and  $a \in R$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a \in R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $R$ .  
 (2)  $(a, 0) \in R \times R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $S$ .  
 (3)  $(a, a) \in R \times R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $S$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Since  $a \in R$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $R$ , there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $a^n$  is left morphic, so  $(a^n, 0) = (a, 0)^n \in S$  is left morphic by [3, Theorem 19]. Hence  $(a, 0)$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $S$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Assume that  $(a, 0)$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic. There exists  $n > 0$  such that  $(a, 0)^n = (a^n, 0) \in S$  is left morphic, so  $a^n$  is left morphic in  $R$  again by [3, Theorem 19]. Therefore,  $a$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic in  $R$ .

(2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3) For any  $n > 0$ ,  $(a, a)^n = (a^n, na^n)$  and  $(a^n, na^n)(1, -n) = (a^n, 0)$ .  $(a, 0)$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic if and only if there exists  $n > 0$  such that  $(a^n, 0)$  is left morphic if and only if  $(a^n, na^n) = (a, a)^n$  is left morphic (by [11, Lemma 3]) if and only if  $(a, a)$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic. We have done.  $\square$

Note that if replace left  $\pi$ -morphic condition by left G-morphic, Proposition 4.3 is also right.

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $S = R \times R$ . Then the following conditions hold.*

- (1) If  $S$  is a left  $\pi$ -morphic ring, then so is  $R$ .  
 (2) If  $S$  is a left G-morphic ring, then  $R$  is left morphic.

*Proof.* (1) By Proposition 4.3.

(2) For any  $a \in R$ ,  $(0, a) \in S$  is left morphic in  $S$  because that  $(0, a)^2 = 0$ . Therefore,  $a$  is left morphic in  $R$  by [3, Proposition 20]. Thus the result follows.  $\square$

During we consider the question when  $R \times R$  is left  $\pi$  (resp. G)-morphic, we have the following example.

**Example 4.5.** Let  $p$  be any prime number and  $k$  be any positive integer. Then  $S = \mathbb{Z}_{p^k} \times \mathbb{Z}_{p^k}$  is a  $\pi$ -morphic ring. And it is G-morphic if and only if  $k = 1$ .

*Proof.* It is trivial to see that  $S$  is a commutative, local and Artinian ring. So it is  $\pi$ -morphic by Lemma 2.11, and if it is G-morphic, then it is morphic by Theorem

2.9. From [3, Theorem 8],  $S$  is morphic if and only if  $k = 1$ .  $\square$

**Acknowledgment.** The authors are grateful to the referee for his helpful comments and suggestions.

## References

- [1] H. Y. Chen, *Power-substitution, exchange rings and unit  $\pi$ -regularity*, Comm. Algebra, **28**(11)(2000), 5223-5233.
- [2] J. L. Chen and N. Q. Ding, *On general principally injective rings*, Comm. Algebra, **27**(5)(1999), 2097-2116.
- [3] J. L. Chen and Y. Zhou, *Morphic rings as trivial extentions*, Glasgow Math. J., **47**(2005), 139-148.
- [4] J. L. Chen, Y. Zhou and Z. M. Zhu, *GP-injective rings need not be P-injective*, Comm. Algebra, **33**(7)(2005), 2395-2402.
- [5] G. Erlich, *Unit and one-sided units in regular rings*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., **216**(1976), 81-90.
- [6] J. L. Gomez Pardo and P. A. Guil Asensio, *Torsionless modules and rings with finite essential socle*, Lecture Notes in Pure and Appl. Math., **201**(1998), 261-278.
- [7] K. R. Goodearl, "Von Neumann Regular Rings", Second Edition. Krieger, Malabar, Florida, 1991.
- [8] D. Jonah, *Rings with the minimum condition for principal right ideals have the maximal condition for principal left ideal*, Math. Z., **113**(1970), 106-112.
- [9] W. K. Nicholson and E. Sánchez Campós, *Morphic modules*, Comm. Algebra, **33**(8)(2005), 2629-2647.
- [10] W. K. Nicholson and E. Sánchez Campós, *Principal rings with the dual of the isomorphism theorem*, Glasgow Math. J., **46**(2004), 181-191.
- [11] W. K. Nicholson and E. Sánchez Campós, *Rings with the dual of the isomorphism theorem*, J. Algebra, **271**(2004), 391-406.
- [12] W. K. Nicholson and M. F. Yousif, "Quasi-Frobenius Ring", Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- [13] E. A. Rutter, *Rings with the principal extension property*, Comm. Algebra, **3**(2)(1975), 203-212.
- [14] M. F. Yousif and Y. Zhou, *Rings for which certain elements have the principal extensions property*, Algebra Colloq., **10**(4)(2003), 501-512.
- [15] C. M. Yue, *On annihilator ideals IV*, Riv. Mat. Univ. Parma., **13**(4)(1987), 19-27.