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# Some remarks on normal classes of semiprime rings

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### SOME REMARKS ON NORMAL CLASSES OF SEMIPRIME RINGS

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The purpose of this note is to extend the results of [4] and [5], which are obtained for normal classes of prime rings, to those of semiprime rings. As for notations and terminologies used in this paper we follow the previous paper [3].

We begin with the following

**Proposition 1** (cf. [4, Proposition 3]). Let (R,V,W,S) be a Morita context with  $R \neq 0$ . and write  $C = \begin{pmatrix} R & V \\ W & S \end{pmatrix}$ . Then C is a semiprime ring if and only if the following hold:

- 1) R is a semiprime ring.
- 2)  $Vw=0 \ (w \in W) \ implies \ w=0.$
- 3)  $vW=0 \ (v \in V) \ implies \ v=0.$
- 4) S=0 or S is a semiprime ring.

*Proof.* Observe that the lack of symmetry in 2) and 3) is only apparent. For example, wV=0 implies  $(Vw)^2=0$ , so w=0 by 1) and 2). Similarly, Wv=0 implies v=0. To see that C is a semiprime ring, suppose cCc=0, where  $c=\begin{pmatrix} r&v\\w&s \end{pmatrix} \in C$ . Since  $0=\begin{pmatrix} r&v\\w&s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R&0\\0&0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r&v\\w&s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} rRr&rRv\\wRr&wRv \end{pmatrix}$  and R is semiprime, we have v=0, and then  $0=\begin{pmatrix} 0&v\\w&s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\w&s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0&v\\w&s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0&vWv\\0&sWv \end{pmatrix}$ , whence it follows vWvW=0. Now, by the semiprimeness of R, we have vW=0 and v=0. Similarly, we can obtain w=0. Hence,  $0=\begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\0&s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\0&S \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\0&S \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\0&sSs \end{pmatrix}$ , and so s=0 by 4). The converse is easily checked.

Let (R, V, W, S) be a Morita context, and A an ideal of R. We set  $V_A = \{v \in V \mid vW \subseteq A\}$ ,  $W_A = \{w \in W \mid Vw \subseteq A\}$  and  $S_A = \{s \in S \mid V_SW \subseteq A\}$ . Then it is known that  $(R/A, V/V_A, W/W_A, S/S_A)$  is a Morita context, the products being defined in the natural manner. If X is a subset of a ring R, we denote by  $\operatorname{Ann}_R(X) = l_R(X) \cap r_R(X)$  the annihilator of X in R. In case L is a left, right or two-sided ideal of R, we write  $L \triangleleft_I R$ ,  $L \triangleleft_T R$  or  $L \triangleleft R$ , respectively.

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Now, we shall extend [4, Theorem 1] to the classes of semiprime rings.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a class of semiprime rings. Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a normal class if and only if  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) If  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $L \triangleleft_{l} T \triangleleft_{r} R$  and L is a semiprime ring, then  $L \in \mathcal{P}$ .
- (ii) If R is a semiprime ring,  $L \triangleleft_l T \triangleleft_r R$ ,  $\operatorname{Ann}_T(L) = \operatorname{Ann}_R(T) = 0$  and  $L \in \mathcal{P}$ , then  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies (i) and (ii). Let (R, V, W, S) be an S-faithful Morita context with  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then we have a Morita context  $(R, V/V_{(0)}, W/W_{(0)}, S)$ , which satisfies the conditions 1)-3 in Proposition 1. Suppose that sSs=0 ( $s \in S$ ). Then sWVs=0 implies  $(VsW)^2=0$ , and so VsW=0. This means s=0, that is, S is a semiprime ring, proving 4) in Proposition 1. Hence the ring  $C=\begin{pmatrix} R & V/V_{(0)} \\ W/W_{(0)} & S \end{pmatrix}$  is semiprime by Proposition 1. If we set  $R'=\begin{pmatrix} R&0\\0&0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $T=\begin{pmatrix} R&V/V_{(0)}\\0&0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $R\cong R' \triangleleft_t T \triangleleft_r C$ . As is easily seen,  $Ann_T(R')=0$  and  $Ann_C(T)=0$ , and so  $C\in \mathcal{P}$  by (ii). Again,  $S\cong\begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\0&S \end{pmatrix} \triangleleft_t \begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\W/W_{(0)}&S \end{pmatrix} \triangleleft_r C$  and S is a semiprime ring, and so (i) implies  $S\in \mathcal{P}$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a normal class. If  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $L \triangleleft_{\iota} T \triangleleft_{r} R$  and L is a semiprime ring, then the context (R,RL,T,L) is L-faithful, and so  $L \in \mathcal{P}$ . If R is a semiprime ring,  $L \triangleleft_{\iota} T \triangleleft_{r} R$ ,  $\operatorname{Ann}_{\tau}(L) = \operatorname{Ann}_{R}(T) = 0$  and  $L \in \mathcal{P}$ , then the context (L,T,RL,R) is R-faithful, and so  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ .

Corollary 1 ([3, Theorem 3.2]). Every normal class  $\mathcal{P}$  of semiprime rings is a weakly special class.

Now, combining Proposition 1 and the proof of Theorem 1, we readily obtain

Corollary 2 (cf. [4, Corollary 2 to Theorem 1]). Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a normal class of semiprime rings. Let (R,V,W,S) be a Morita context with  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ , and  $C = \binom{R}{W} \binom{V}{S}$ . If C is a semiprime ring, then C is in  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Now, we expose the relationship between the normal classes of semiprime rings and the weakly special classes.

**Theorem 2** (cf. [5, Theorem 7.5]). Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a class of semiprime rings. Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is a normal class if and only if  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) P is a weakly special class.
- (ii) If  $R \in \mathcal{P}$  then  $eRe \in \mathcal{P}$  for every non-zero idempotent e of R.
- (iii) If e is a non-zero idempotent of a semiprime ring R and  $eRe \in \mathcal{P}$ , then  $R/\operatorname{Ann}_R(ReR) \in \mathcal{P}$ .

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a normal class, then (i), (ii) and (iii) are satisfied (Corollary 1 and [3, Proposition 3.2]).

Conversely, suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a weakly special class with the properties (ii) and (iii). Let (R,V,W,S) be an S-faithful Morita context with  $R \in \mathcal{P}$ . If  $R^1$  is the Dorroh extension of R obtained by adjoining identity in the usual way, then the context  $(R^1, V, W, S)$  is S-faithful. Let  $A = l_{R^1}(R)$ . Then A is an ideal of  $R^1$  and, in the notations introduced just before Theorem 1, we have  $V_A = V_{(0)}$ ,  $W_A = W_{(0)}$  and  $S_A = S_{(0)} = 0$ . If we set  $R^{\circ} = R/A$ ,  $\overline{V} = R/A$  $V/V_A$  and  $\overline{W}=W/W_A$ , then  $R^\circ$  is a ring with an identity and is contained in  $\mathcal{P}$  by [2, Theorems 1 and 5]. And  $(R^{\circ}, \overline{V}, \overline{W}, S)$  is an S-faithful Morita context. Now, we set  $C = \begin{pmatrix} R^{\circ} & \overline{V} \\ \overline{W} & S \end{pmatrix}$  and  $e_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $e_{11}Ce_{11} \simeq R^{\circ} \in \mathcal{P}$ , and hence  $C/Ann_c(Ce_{11}C) \in \mathcal{P}$  by (iii). But, we can easily see that  $\operatorname{Ann}_{\mathcal{C}}(\operatorname{Ce}_{11}\mathcal{C})=0$ , and so  $\mathcal{C}\in\mathcal{P}$ . Next, we consider the Dorroh extension  $S^1$ of S and  $C^1 = \begin{pmatrix} R^{\circ} \overline{V} \\ \overline{W} S^1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $C^1$  is a ring and  $l_{C^1}(C) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & l_{S^1}(S) \end{pmatrix}$ . Setting  $S^{\circ} = S^{1}/l_{S^{1}}(S)$  and  $C^{\circ} = C^{1}/l_{C^{1}}(C)$ , we see that  $C^{\circ} = \begin{pmatrix} R^{\circ} & \overline{V} \\ \overline{W} & S^{\circ} \end{pmatrix}$  is a ring with an identity containing C as an ideal. Now, by checking the conditions (2)-4) in Proposition 1, we shall prove that  $C^{\circ}$  is a semiprime ring. First, if  $V\overline{w}=0$  ( $\overline{w}\in \overline{W}$ ), namely  $Vw\subseteq l_{R^1}(R)$ , then VwR=0, and so Vw=0, that is,  $w \in W_{(0)}$ . Similarly,  $\bar{v}\bar{W}=0$  ( $\bar{v}\in\bar{V}$ ) implies  $\bar{v}=0$ . Finally, if  $(s,n)S^{\circ}(s,n)=0$   $((s,n)\in S^{\circ})$ , then (s,n)S(s,n)S=0. Since C is semiprime, S is so. Hence (s,n)S=0, i.e.,  $\overline{(s,n)}=0$ , proving that  $S^{\circ}$  is a semiprime ring. Thus, we have shown that  $C^{\circ}$  is a semiprime ring. Since C is an ideal of  $C^{\circ}$  and C is in the weakly special class  $\mathcal{P}$ , we have  $C^{\circ}/\mathrm{Ann}_{C^{\circ}}(C) \in \mathcal{P}$ . As is easily verified,  $l_{C}(C)=0$ , and so  $C^{\circ} \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then  $S^{\circ} \simeq e_{22}C^{\circ}e_{22} \in \mathcal{P}$ by (ii), where  $e_{22} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in C^{\circ}$ . Since S is an ideal of  $S^{\circ}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  is a weakly special class, we obtain  $S \in \mathcal{P}$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a normal class.

Given subsets X and Y of a ring R, we set  $YX^{-1} = \{a \in R \mid aX \subseteq Y\}$  and  $X^{-1}Y = \{a \in R \mid Xa \subseteq Y\}$ .

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The next result extends [5, Theorem 7.6] to the classes of semiprime rings.

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a normal class of semiprime rings, and (R, V, W, S) an S-faithful Morita context. Then there is a one-to-one correspondence between  $\{A \triangleleft R \mid R/A \in \mathcal{P}, A(VW)^{-1}(=(VW)^{-1}A) \subseteq A \text{ and } A \not\supseteq VW\}$  and  $\{B \triangleleft S \mid S/B \in \mathcal{P}, B(WV)^{-1}(=(WV)^{-1}B) \subseteq B \text{ and } B \not\supseteq WV\}.$ 

*Proof.* Let *A* be an ideal of *R* such that  $R/A \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $A(VW)^{-1} \subseteq A$  and  $A \not\supseteq VW$ . Here we set  $\overline{R} = R/A$ ,  $\overline{V} = V/V_A$ ,  $\overline{W} = W/W_A$  and  $\overline{S} = S/S_A$ . Now, suppose that  $\overline{S} = 0$ , then  $VSW \subseteq A$  which implies  $VWVW \subseteq VSW \subseteq A$ , so  $VW \subseteq A$  by the semiprimeness of *A*, a contradiction. Hence  $(\overline{R}, \overline{V}, \overline{W}, \overline{S})$  is an  $\overline{S}$ -faithful Morita context, and so  $\overline{R} \in \mathcal{P}$  implies  $\overline{S} = S/S_A \in \mathcal{P}$ . Assume now that  $WV \subseteq S_A$ , then  $VWVW \subseteq A$ , and so  $VW \subseteq A$ , a contradiction. Hence we have  $WV \subseteq S_A$ . If *x* is any element in  $S_A(WV)^{-1}$ , then  $xWV \subseteq S_A$ , i.e.,  $VxWVW \subseteq A$ , and so  $(VxW)^2 \subseteq A$ . Hence we have  $VxW \subseteq A$ , and so  $x \in S_A$ , proving that  $S_A(WV)^{-1} \subseteq S_A$ . Now, let  $R_{S_A} = \{r \in R \mid WrV \subseteq S_A\}$ . Since  $V(WaV)W = (VW)a(VW) \subseteq A$  for any  $a \in A$ , we have  $R_{S_A} \supseteq A$ . If  $r \in R_{S_A}$ , then  $WrV \subseteq S_A$ , that is,  $VWrVW \subseteq A$ . Since *A* is semiprime, this means  $VW \subseteq A$ , i.e.,  $r \in A(VW)^{-1} \subseteq A$ . Hence we have  $R_{S_A} \subseteq A$ , and therefore  $R_{S_A} = A$ . By symmetry, we can get the inverse map out of *B*.

**Proposition 2** (cf. [5, Corollary 7.8]). Let R, S be semiprime rings with a common non-zero ideal A such that  $l_R(A) = l_S(A) = 0$ .

- (1) Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a normal class of semiprime rings. Then, R is in  $\mathcal{P}$  if and only if so is S.
  - (2) R is a semiprimitive ring if and only if so is S.
  - (3) R is a right Goldie ring if and only if so is S.
- *Proof.* (1) Consider the S-faithful Morita context (R,A,A,S) and the R-faithful Morita context (S,A,A,R).
- (2) Since the class of semiprimitive rings is normal by [1, Corollary 21], this is immediate by (1).
- (3) By assumption, A is an essential right ideal of R. If R is a right Goldie ring, then A contains a regular element a of R. Then, for any q in the classical right quotient ring Q(R) of R,  $a^{-1}qa=bc^{-1}$  with some b,  $c \in R$ , and therefore  $q=aba(aca)^{-1}$ . Hence, Q(A)=Q(R), and A is a semiprime right Goldie ring (by Goldie's theorem). Conversely, if A is a semiprime right Goldie ring, then  $A \hookrightarrow R \hookrightarrow \operatorname{End}(A_A) \hookrightarrow Q(A)$ , and so Q(A)=Q(R). Thus, R is a right Goldie ring. Similarly, we can show that S is a right

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Goldie ring if and only if so is A. This completes the proof.

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