

## Decomposition theorems for periodic near rings

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this paper is to obtain the structure of certain near rings satisfying the following conditions:

(i)  $xy = x^m y^n p(x)$ ; (ii)  $xy = y^m x^n p(x)$ ; (iii)  $xy = x^m p(y)x^n$ ;  
(iv)  $xy = y^m p(x)y^n$ ; where  $m = m(x, y) \geq 1$ ;  $n = n(x, y) \geq 1$ ;  
and  $p(x)$  denotes an element of a near ring which is the finite sum of powers of  $x^k$  for  $k \geq 2$  and additive inverses of such powers.

### 1. Introduction

The property  $x^n = x$  has been among the favorites of many ring theorists over the last few decades since Jacobson [11] first studied the commutativity of rings satisfying this condition in order to generalize the classical Wedderburn theorem [17]. Later this property has been weakened by Searcoid and MacHale who proved that a ring satisfying the property  $(xy)^{n(xy)} = xy$  must be commutative. Ligh and Luh [12] established that a ring  $R$  satisfying the above condition is a direct sum of a  $J$ -ring and a zero ring. Further, Bell and Ligh [8] studied the direct sum decomposition of rings satisfying the related properties like  $xy = (xy)^2 p(x, y)$  or  $xy = (yx)^2 p(x, y)$ , for  $p(X, Y) \in \mathbb{Z}(X, Y)$ , the ring of polynomials in two non-commuting indeterminates and remarked that in case of near rings the analogous hypotheses do not quite yield a direct sum decomposition. The authors have defined a weaker notion of orthogonal sum. We say that a near ring  $R$  is an orthogonal sum of subnear rings  $A$  and  $B$  denoted by  $R = A \uplus B$  if  $AB = BA = \{0\}$  and each element of  $R$  has a unique representation in the form  $a + b$  with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . In this paper we continue the study and obtain some decomposition theorems for a near ring  $R$  satisfying the following conditions :

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- (P<sub>1</sub>) For every pair of elements  $x, y$  in  $R$ , there exist positive integers  $m = m(x, y) \geq 1$  ;  $n = n(x, y) \geq 1$  , such that  $xy = y^m x^n p(x)$ ,
- (P<sub>2</sub>) For every pair of elements  $x, y$  in  $R$ , there exist positive integers  $m = m(x, y) \geq 1$  ;  $n = n(x, y) \geq 1$  , such that  $xy = x^m y^n p(x)$ ,
- (P<sub>3</sub>) For every pair of elements  $x, y$  in  $R$ , there exist positive integers  $m = m(x, y) \geq 1$  ;  $n = n(x, y) \geq 1$  , such that  $xy = y^m p(x) y^n$ ,
- (P<sub>4</sub>) For every pair of elements  $x, y$  in  $R$ , there exist positive integers  $m = m(x, y) \geq 1$  ;  $n = n(x, y) \geq 1$  , such that  $xy = x^m p(y) x^n$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout,  $R$  is a left near ring with multiplicative center  $Z(R)$ . We shall denote by  $N$  the set of nilpotent elements and by  $P$  the set of potent elements of  $R$  that is, the set  $\{x \in R \mid x^{n(x)} = x, \text{ for some positive integer } n(x) > 1\}$ . The set of commutators is denoted by  $C$ . An element  $x \in R$  is said to be distributive if  $(y+z)x = yx+zx$  for all  $y, z \in R$ . If every element of  $R$  is distributive, then  $R$  is said to be a distributive near ring. A near ring  $R$  is said to be distributively generated (d-g) if it contains a multiplicative subsemigroup of distributive elements which generates the additive group  $(R, +)$ . A near ring  $R$  is called zero-commutative if  $xy = 0$  implies  $yx = 0$  for all  $x, y \in R$  and if for all  $x \in R, 0x = 0$ ,  $R$  is called zero-symmetric (we may recall that left distributivity in  $R$  yields  $x0 = 0$ ). A near ring  $R$  is called periodic if for every  $x \in R$  there exist distinct positive integers  $m = m(x)$ ;  $n = n(x)$  such that  $x^m = x^n$ . A sufficient condition for a ring  $R$  to be periodic is Chacron's criterion: For each  $x \in R$  there exists an integer  $m = m(x) \geq 1$  and a polynomial  $f(X) \in Z(X)$  such that  $x^m = x^{m+1} f(x)$  ([9]).

An ideal of a near ring  $R$  is defined to be a normal subgroup  $I$  of  $(R, +)$  such that

- (i)  $RI \subseteq I$ .
- (ii)  $(x+i)y - xy \in I$  for all  $x, y \in R$  and  $i \in I$ .

A near ring  $R$  is called a  $D$ -near ring if every nonzero homomorphic image  $T$  of  $R$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $T$  has a nonzero right distributive element.
- (ii) The additive group  $(T, +)$  of  $T$  is Abelian implies that  $T$  is a ring.

It is evident by definition that all distributive near rings are examples of  $D$ -near rings. However example 2.5 # 6 of [10] illustrates that the class of  $D$ -near rings is larger than the class of  $d-g$  near rings.

For each element  $x$  of a near ring  $R$ , the subnear ring generated by  $x$  will be denoted by  $\langle x \rangle$ . Note that if  $x$  is a distributive element, then the element  $t(x) \in \langle x \rangle$  ( or of  $\langle 1, x \rangle$  if  $R$  has unity 1) may be assumed to be a finite sum of powers of  $x$ .

### 3. Decomposition theorems

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a  $D$ -near ring satisfying condition  $(P_1)$ . Then  $R = P \uplus N$ , where  $P$  is a subring and  $N$  is a subnear ring with trivial multiplication.*

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $R$  be a  $D$ -near ring satisfying condition  $(P_2)$ . If idempotent elements of  $R$  are central, then  $R = P \uplus N$ , where  $P$  is a subring and  $N$  is a subnear ring with trivial multiplication.*

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $R$  be a zero symmetric  $D$ -near ring satisfying condition  $(P_3)$ . If idempotent elements of  $R$  are central, then  $R = P \uplus N$ , where  $P$  is a subring and  $N$  is a subnear ring with trivial multiplication.*

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $R$  be a zero commutative  $D$ -near ring satisfying condition  $(P_4)$ . If idempotent elements of  $R$  are central, then  $R = P \uplus N$ , where  $P$  is a subring and  $N$  is a subnear ring with trivial multiplication.*

The results proved in [1], [8], [12], [13] and [14] become corollaries of the above Theorems.

The following Lemmas can essentially be found in [2], [5], [8] and [15], respectively.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a zero symmetric near ring satisfying the following properties:*

- (i) *For each  $x$  in  $R$ , there exists a positive integer  $n(x) > 1$ , such that  $x^{n(x)} = x$ .*
- (ii) *Every nontrivial homomorphic image of  $R$  contains a nonzero central idempotent.*

*Then  $(R, +)$  is commutative.*

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $R$  be a near ring with unity 1. Then for every  $x \in R$ ,  $\langle x \rangle = x \langle 1, x \rangle$ .*

**Lemma 3.3.** *If  $R$  is a zero commutative periodic near ring, then  $R = P + N$ .*

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $R$  be a near ring in which idempotents are multiplicatively central. If  $e$  and  $f$  are any idempotents, there exists an idempotent  $g$  such that  $ge = e$  and  $gf = f$ .*

**Lemma 3.5.** *If  $R$  is a zero commutative near ring, then  $N$  is an ideal of  $R$ .*

Now we prove the following:

**Lemma 3.6.** *Let  $R$  be a  $D$ -near ring satisfying  $x^n = x^n p(x)$  or  $x^n = x^n p(x)x^n$ , where  $n = n(x)$  a positive integer and  $p(x) \in \langle x \rangle$ . If  $N \subseteq Z(R)$ , then  $R/N$  is a periodic and commutative ring.*

**Proof.** Since  $N \subseteq Z(R)$ ,  $N$  is an ideal. Consider the near ring  $R/N$ . Since  $R/N$  can be written as a subdirect product of near rings without zero divisors, so we may assume  $R/N$  has no nonzero divisors. Let  $d$  be a nonzero distributive element of  $R/N$ . Note that  $d = dt(d)$  for some  $t(d) \in \langle d \rangle$  by property  $x^n = x^n p(x)$ . It follows that  $e = t(d)$  is a nonzero idempotent. Since  $e(er - r) = 0$  for every  $r \in R/N$ , hence  $e$  is the left identity in  $R/N$ . Considering arbitrary  $x, y \in R/N$  and using the fact that  $e$  commutes with  $d$  and  $d = de$ , we have  $0 = (x+y)de - (xde - yde) = [(x+y)e - (xe - ye)]d$ . Since  $R/N$  has no nonzero divisors,  $e$  is the distributive element of  $R/N$ . Hence  $e$  is multiplicative identity in  $R/N$ . If  $x$  is an arbitrary nonzero element of  $R/N$ , then  $x = x(t)$  where  $t(x) \in \langle x \rangle$ . Using Lemma 3.2, we can write  $t(x) = xt'(x)$  for some  $t'(x) \in \langle 1, x \rangle$ . Now  $x = x^2 t'(x)$ , yields that  $xt'(x) = 1$  i.e.  $R/N$  is a division near ring. Thus  $R/N$  is additively commutative and is a ring. Hence  $R/N$  is periodic by Chacron's criterion [9] and a commutative ring by [5, Theorem 2].

The proof of the Lemma runs on the same parallel lines if we replace the property  $x^n = x^n p(x)$  by  $x^n = x^n p(x)x^n$ .

**Lemma 3.7.** *Let  $R$  be a near ring satisfying either of the conditions  $(P_1)$  or  $(P_2)$ . Then  $RN = NR = \{0\}$ .*

**Proof.** Notice that  $R$  satisfying condition  $(P_1)$  is zero commutative. Indeed if  $xy = 0$ , then there exist positive integers  $m' = m'(y, x) \geq 1$  and  $n' = n'(y, x) \geq 1$ , such that  $yx = x^{m'} y^{n'} p(y) = 0$ . Replacing  $y$  by  $x$  in  $(P_1)$ , we find that

$$x^2 = x^{r+s} h(x); \text{ for } r + s \geq 2. \quad (3.1)$$

If  $u \in N$ , then by repeated use of (3.1), we get  $u^2 = 0$ . Now for any  $u \in N$  by condition  $(P_1)$ , we have  $ux = x^l u^t g(u) = 0$ , for  $l = l(u, x) \geq 1$ ,  $t = t(u, x) \geq 1$ . Zero commutativity in  $R$  yields that  $xu = 0$ , for  $u \in N$  and  $x \in R$ . Hence  $NR = RN = \{0\}$ .

The proof of the Lemma follows similarly if  $R$  satisfies condition  $(P_2)$ .

Proceeding on the same lines we can prove the following:

**Lemma 3.8.** *Let  $R$  be a zero symmetric near ring satisfying condition  $(P_3)$ . Then  $RN = NR = \{0\}$ .*

**Lemma 3.9.** *Let  $R$  be a zero commutative near ring satisfying condition  $(P_4)$ . Then  $RN = NR = \{0\}$ .*

**Lemma 3.10.** *Let  $R$  be a  $D$ -near ring satisfying condition  $(P_1)$ . Then idempotent elements of  $R$  are central.*

**Proof.** Let  $e$  be an idempotent and  $x \in R$ . Then by condition  $(P_1)$  there exist positive integers  $l' = l'(x, e) \geq 1$  and  $t' = t'(x, e) \geq 1$  such that  $xe = ex^{t'}p(x)$ . Multiplying by  $e$  on the left we get  $exe = xe$ . Application of Lemma 3.6 yields that  $C \subseteq N \subseteq Z(R)$  and we have  $e(xe - ex) = 0$ , for all  $x \in R$ . Hence  $ex = xe$ , for all  $x \in R$ .

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.** In view of Lemma 3.6 for each  $x \in R$ , there exist distinct positive integers  $m = m(x)$  and  $n = n(x)$  such that  $x^m - x^n \in N$ . Hence using Lemma 3.7, we have  $x^{m+1} = x^{n+1}$ , for each  $x \in R$  and  $R$  is periodic.

Now we show that  $P$  is a subring. Let  $a, b \in P$  and choose integers  $p = p(a) > 1$  and  $q = q(b) > 1$  such that  $a^p = a$  and  $b^q = b$ . Let  $r = (p-1)q - (p-2) = (q-1)p - (q-2)$ . Then it is clear that  $a^r = a$  and  $b^r = b$ . Note that  $e = a^{r-1}$  and  $f = b^{r-1}$  are idempotents with  $ea = a$  and  $fb = b$ . By Lemma 3.6 and Lemma 3.7  $C \subseteq N \subseteq Z(R)$  and  $a^2b = aba$ , for all,  $a, b \in P$ . Obviously  $(ab)^r = a^r b^r = (ab)^r$ , hence  $ab \in P$ , for all  $a, b \in P$ . Moreover since  $R/N$  has  $x^l = x$  property we have an integer  $j > 1$  such that

$$(a - b)^j = a - b + u; \quad u \in N. \quad (3.2)$$

Using Lemma 3.4 we can choose an idempotent  $g$  for which  $ge = e$  and  $gf = f$ . Therefore,  $ga = a$  and  $gb = b$ . Now multiplying (3.2) by  $g$  we have  $(a - b)^j = a - b$  i.e.  $a - b \in P$ . Also by Lemma 3.1  $(P, +)$  is abelian. Hence  $P$  is a subring.

Trivially  $P \cap N = \{0\}$ . Let  $a + u = b + v$ , where  $a, b \in P$  and  $u, v \in N$ . Then  $a - b = v - u \in P \cap N = \{0\}$ , which yields that  $a = b$  and  $v = u$ . Hence  $R = P + N$ .

The proof of Theorem 3.2, Theorem 3.3 and Theorem 3.4 runs on the same parallel lines.

The example 2.5#29 of [10] suggests that one cannot get a direct sum decomposition under the hypotheses of the above theorems.

**Example 3.1.** Consider the non-abelian additive group  $(R, +)$ , isomorphic to symmetric group  $S_3$  and define the multiplication in  $R$  as follows:

$\cdot$	0	$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$a_1$	0	$a_1$	$a_1$	$a_1$	0	0
$a_2$	0	$a_1$	$a_1$	$a_1$	0	0
$a_3$	0	$a_1$	$a_1$	$a_1$	0	0
$a_4$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$a_5$	0	0	0	0	0	0

Then  $(R, +, \cdot)$  is a commutative near ring satisfying  $(ba)^2 = a^2b^2 = ab$ , for all  $a, b \in R$ . However,  $M = \{0, a_1\}$  is not an ideal of  $R$ .

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## Teoremi dekompozicije za periodične skoro prstenove

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### Sadržaj

Svrha ovog rada je da se dobije struktura izvjesnih skoro prstenova koji zadovoljavaju slijedeće uvjete:

(i)  $xy = x^m y^n p(x)$ ; (ii)  $xy = y^m x^n p(x)$ ; (iii)  $xy = x^m p(y)x^n$ ; (iv)  $xy = y^m p(x)y^n$ ; gdje su  $m = m(x, y) \geq 1$ ;  $n = n(x, y) \geq 1$ ; a  $p(x)$  označava elemenat skoro prstena koji je konačna suma eksponenata od  $x^k$  za  $k \geq 2$  i aditivnih inverzera takvih eksponenata.