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## Medial and permutable near rings (\*\*)

### Introduction and preliminaries

This paper considers near-rings whose multiplicative semi-group satisfies one of the following identities:

1.  $abcd = acbd$  medial near-rings
2.  $abc = bac$  left permutable near-rings
3.  $abc = acb$  right permutable near-rings.

This terminology is used in semigroup and groupoid theory (see, for example [7]).

Near-rings with these identities have been studied by many Authors: medial near-rings in [10], left permutable near-rings in [5], [6], [8], [14], [15].

Recently in [2] Birkenmaier and Heatherly studied rings and near rings satisfying these identities and provided examples illustrating geometric applications of these structures. They answer a question submitted by Clay in [4]<sub>2</sub>, showing that the MP-near-rings of [10]<sub>1</sub> arise naturally.

This paper is divided in four sections. In 1 we show that the near-rings with a left permutable idempotent element are special  $\Phi$ -sums (see [1]<sub>2</sub> for the definition of  $\Phi$ -sum); then mixed medial near-rings and left permutable near-rings with an idempotent are characterized as  $\Phi$ -sums.

In 2 set  $\mathcal{Z} = \{x \in N/xK = \{0\}, \text{ for some essential } N\text{-subgroup } K\}$  is studied.

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In ring theory this set is defined via right ideals and it is called «singular ideal» [3].

In 3 the connection between  $\mathcal{Z}$  and  $Q$  (the set of nilpotent elements of  $N$ ) is shown as well as the links between the prime and the essential ideals for each near-ring class which satisfies the above mentioned identities. This enables us finally to classify the left permutable  $\theta$ -near-rings in 4 and characterize them as special  $\Phi$ -sums.

Throughout the paper,  $N$  stands for a left near-ring. In general we adhere to the notation and terminology used in [11]. In particular, a near-ring  $N = N_0 + N_e$  with  $N_0 \neq \{0\}$  and  $N_e \neq \{0\}$  is called mixed near-ring. The multiplicative semigroup of  $N$  is denoted by  $N^\bullet$ ; a subset  $S \subseteq N$  is called ideal of  $N^\bullet$  if  $SN \subseteq S$  and  $NS \subseteq S$ . The set  $r(x) = \{y \in N/xy = 0\}$  is the right annihilator of  $x$ , and  $r(S) = \bigcap_{x \in S} r(x)$ ;  $A_d(N) = \{x \in N/Nx = \{0\}\}$  ( $A_s(N) = \{x \in N/xN = \{0\}\}$ ) denotes the right (left) annihilator of  $N$  and  $A = A_d \cap A_s$ . The set of the left divisors will be  $D$  and  $Q$  the set of nilpotent elements. An  $N$ -subgroup  $I$  is essential if  $I \cap J \neq \{0\}$  for every  $N$ -subgroup  $J$ . An  $N$ -subgroup  $K$  including an essential  $N$ -subgroup  $H$  is called essential extension of  $N$ . An essential ideal is an ideal essential as  $N$ -subgroup. An  $N$ -subgroup  $K$  is called *left  $N$ -subgroup* if  $NK \subseteq K$ . A near-ring  $N$  is *strictly semiprime* if  $K^2 = \{0\}$  implies  $K = \{0\}$  for every  $N$ -subgroup  $K$ ,  $N$  is *weakly semiprime* if  $KH = \{0\}$  implies either  $K = \{0\}$  or  $H = \{0\}$  where  $K$  and  $H$  are principal  $N$ -subgroups. Finally we recall that if  $N$  is a medial near-ring and  $e$  is an idempotent of  $N$ ,  $r(e)$  is an ideal of  $N$  [10]<sub>3</sub>; if  $N$  is a left permutable near-ring,  $r(x)$  is an ideal of  $N$  for every  $x \in N$ .

### 1 - $\Phi$ -sums of mixed medial and left permutable near-rings

We observe that if  $N$  is a left or right permutable near-ring then  $N$  is a medial near-ring.

In fact if  $N$  is left permutable  $(xy)zt = z(xy)t = xzyt$ ; if  $N$  is right permutable  $xy(zt) = xzyt$ .

Therefore we will looking principally at medial near-rings. Left and right permutability are independent, and generally mediality doesn't imply either left or right permutability.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $N$  be a medial near-ring:*

- (i) *If  $N \neq D$  then  $N$  is a left permutable near-ring.*
- (ii) *The set  $Q$  is a left ideal of  $N^\bullet$  and an ideal of  $N_0^\bullet$ .*

(i) Let  $N \neq D$  and  $0 \neq x \in N \setminus D$ , then  $x(abc - bac) = 0$  for every  $a, b, c \in N$  because  $N$  is a medial near-ring, so  $abc = bac$  and  $N$  is a left permutable near-ring.

(ii) Let  $q \in Q$  with  $q^s = 0$ , then  $0 = n^s q^s = (nq)^s$  and this implies  $nq \in Q$  for every  $n \in N$ , so  $Q$  is a left ideal of  $N^\circ$ . Besides, if  $m \in N_0$ , then  $0 = q^s m^s = (qm)^s$ , thus  $Q$  is an ideal of  $N_0^\circ$ .

*We can note that a right permutable near-ring is always zero-symmetric: in fact  $0n = 0(0n) = 0(n0) = (0n)0 = 0$ .*

In [1]<sub>2</sub> we have shown that a class of near-rings can be constructed on every semidirect sum of additive groups  $A$  and  $B$ . We call the structure obtained in this way  $\Phi$ -sum of  $A$  and  $B$  in particular

**Theorem 1.** *A near-ring  $N$  has a left permutable idempotent iff it is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of a near-ring  $A$  and a near-ring  $B$  with left identity  $e$ , when  $f_{0,e} = 0_A$ .*

If  $N$  is a near-ring with a left permutable idempotent  $e$  then  $N = r(e) + eN$  ([11], p. 11) where  $r(e)$  is an ideal,  $eN$  is a left  $N$ -subgroup and  $r(e) \cap eN = \{0\}$ . Thus the hypotheses of Theorem 1 of [1]<sub>2</sub> are satisfied and  $N$  is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of  $r(e)$  and  $eN$ . Obviously  $e$  is a left identity of  $eN$  and  $f_{0,e} = 0_{r(e)}$ , because  $f_{0,e} = \gamma_{0+e/r(e)}$ .

Conversely, let  $N$  be isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of a near-ring  $A$  and a near-ring  $B$  with left identity  $e$  and  $f_{0,e} = 0_A$ . Then  $\langle 0, e \rangle \langle 0, e \rangle = \langle f_{0,e}(0), \bar{f}_{0,e}(e) \rangle = \langle 0, e \rangle$ , because  $\bar{f}_{0,e} = \gamma_e$  (see Proposition 3 [1]<sub>2</sub>). So,  $\langle 0, e \rangle$  is an idempotent of  $N$ . Moreover  $\langle 0, e \rangle \langle a, b \rangle \langle a', b' \rangle = \langle f_{0,e} \circ f_{a,b}(a'), \bar{f}_{0,e} \circ \bar{f}_{a,b}(b') \rangle = \langle 0, \gamma_e \circ \bar{f}_{a,b}(b') \rangle = \langle 0, \bar{f}_{a,b}(b') \rangle$  and  $\langle a, b \rangle \langle 0, e \rangle \langle a', b' \rangle = \langle f_{a,b} \circ f_{0,e}(a'), \bar{f}_{a,b} \circ \bar{f}_{0,e}(b') \rangle = \langle 0, \bar{f}_{a,b} \circ \gamma_e(b') \rangle = \langle 0, \bar{f}_{a,b}(b') \rangle$ . Thus  $\langle 0, e \rangle$  is a left permutable element.

**Corollary 1.** *A near-ring is a mixed medial near-ring iff it is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of a medial zero-symmetric near-ring  $A$  and a constant near-ring  $B$  where  $f(A \times B) \subseteq \text{End}(A^+)$  and  $\bar{f}(A \times B) \subseteq \text{End}(B^+)$  and both are right permutable subsets.*

Let  $N$  be a mixed medial near-ring, then  $0$  is a left permutable idempotent. In fact  $0nm = 00nm = 0n0m = 0m = n0m$ , and  $N$  is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum

of  $N_0$  and  $N_c$  where  $N_0$  is a medial near-ring. The remainder of the proof follows by Proposition 5 of [1]<sub>2</sub>.

**Corollary 2.** *A near-ring  $N$  is a left permutable near-ring with an idempotent element iff it is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of a left permutable near-ring  $A$  and a left-permutable near-ring  $B$  with left identity  $e$ , where  $f_{0,e} = 0_A$  and both  $f(A \times B) \subseteq \text{End}(A^+)$ , and  $\bar{f}(A \times B) \subseteq \text{End}(B^+)$  are commutative subsets.*

Let  $N$  be a left permutable near-ring with idempotent element  $e$ . By Theorem 1  $N$  is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of  $r(e)$  and  $eN$  which are both left permutable near-rings. Moreover  $e$  is a left identity of  $eN$ . The remainder of the proof follows by Proposition 5 of [1]<sub>2</sub>.

## 2 - The singular set $\mathcal{Z}$

Let  $\mathcal{Z} = \{x \in N/xK = \{0\} \text{ for some } K \text{ that is an essential } N\text{-subgroup of } N\}$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $K$  be an  $N$  subgroup of  $N$  and let  $M$  be an essential extension of  $K$ , then there is an essential  $N$ -subgroup  $L$  such that  $aL \neq \{0\}$  and  $aL \subseteq K$  for every  $a \in N$ .*

Let  $a \in M$  and  $L = \{r \in N/ar \in K\}$ ; obviously  $L$  is an  $N$ -subgroup of  $N$  and  $aL \subseteq K$ . Furthermore  $aN \cap K \neq \{0\}$  because  $K$  is essential, so  $ar$  is a non zero element of  $K$  for some  $r \in N$ . Hence  $r \in L$  and  $aL \neq \{0\}$ . Now, our goal is to show that  $L$  is essential: let  $S \neq \{0\}$  be an  $N$ -subgroup of  $N$ . Obviously, if  $aS = \{0\}$ , then  $S \subseteq L$ , if  $aS \neq \{0\}$ , then  $aS \cap K \neq \{0\}$  because  $K$  is essential, so, there is an  $x \in S$  such that  $ax \in K$  and therefore  $S \cap L \neq \{0\}$ .

**Proposition 2.** *The set  $\mathcal{Z}$  is non empty iff  $N$  is a zero-symmetric near-ring.*

If  $N$  is a constant near-ring, then  $xy = y$  for every  $x, y \in N$ , so  $\mathcal{Z} = \phi$ . If  $N = N_0 + N_c$  and  $K$  is an  $N$ -subgroup, then  $K_c = N_c$ , so every  $N$ -subgroup is essential. Hence if  $x \in \mathcal{Z}$  there is a  $K$  such that  $xK = \{0\}$ , but  $N_c \subseteq xK$  and this is absurd. Finally, if  $N$  is a zero-symmetric near-ring then  $\mathcal{Z}$  is a non empty set because obviously  $0 \in \mathcal{Z}$ .

In the following we will consider zero-symmetric near-rings. In this case the right annihilators, which generally are right ideals, are  $N$ -subgroups.

**Proposition 3.** *An element  $x \in N$  belongs to  $\mathcal{Z}$  iff  $r(x)$  is an essential  $N$ -subgroup.*

If  $x \in \mathcal{Z}$ , there is an essential  $N$ -subgroup  $K \subseteq N$  such that  $xK = \{0\}$ , so  $r(x)$  is an essential extension of  $K$ . The converse is trivial.

**Proposition 4.** *The set  $\mathcal{Z}$  is an ideal of the semigroup  $N^\circ$ .*

If  $x \in \mathcal{Z}$  then  $nx \in \mathcal{Z} \forall n \in N$  because  $r(x) \subseteq r(nx)$ . Moreover  $r(x)$  is essential and by Lemma 1, there is an essential  $N$ -subgroup  $L$  such that  $nL \subseteq r(x) \forall n \in N$  ( $x = 0$  implies  $L = N$ ), thus  $xnL = \{0\}$  and  $xn \in \mathcal{Z}$ .

**Proposition 5.** *If  $\mathcal{Z} \neq \{0\}$ , then  $N$  has nilpotent elements.*

Let  $N$  have no nilpotent elements and let  $\mathcal{Z} \neq \{0\}$ . If  $0 \neq x \in \mathcal{Z}$ , then  $r(x) \cap xN \neq \{0\}$  because  $r(x)$  is essential and  $xN = \{0\}$  implies  $x^2 = 0$ , which is excluded. So  $x^2\bar{n} = 0$  for some  $\bar{n} \in N$ . Because  $N$  has no nilpotent elements I.F.P. holds (see [13]). Thus  $x\bar{n}x\bar{n} = 0$  and  $x\bar{n} \in \mathcal{Q}$ , which is absurd.

**Proposition 6.** *If  $\mathcal{Z} = \{0\}$  then  $A_s(N) = \{0\}$ .*

If  $x \in A_s(N)$  then  $xN = \{0\}$ , so  $x \in \mathcal{Z}$  and  $x = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.** *If  $N$  has right annihilator a.c.c. then  $\mathcal{Z}$  is nilpotent.*

Let  $N$  have right annihilator a.c.c. Because  $\mathcal{Z} \supseteq \mathcal{Z}^2 \supseteq \dots \supseteq \mathcal{Z}^n \supseteq \dots$  then  $r(\mathcal{Z}) \subseteq r(\mathcal{Z}^2) \subseteq \dots$ , so, there is a positive integer  $s$  such that  $r(\mathcal{Z}^s) = r(\mathcal{Z}^{s+1})$ . Now, our aim is to show that  $\mathcal{Z}^{s+1} = \{0\}$ . Assume  $a \in \mathcal{Z}$  such that  $\mathcal{Z}^s a \neq \{0\}$ . If  $b \in \mathcal{Z}$ , then  $r(b) \cap aN \neq \{0\}$ , hence there is an element  $\bar{n} \in N$  such that  $a\bar{n} \neq 0$  and  $ba\bar{n} = 0$ , so  $r(a) \subset r(ba)$ . Since  $ba \in \mathcal{Z}$  (by Proposition 3), if  $\mathcal{Z}^s ba \neq \{0\}$ , then  $r(ba) \subset r(cba) \forall c \in \mathcal{Z}$  and so on. Because right annihilator a.c.c. holds, there must be an element  $\bar{a} \in \mathcal{Z}$  such that  $\mathcal{Z}^s \bar{a} \neq \{0\}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}^s b\bar{a} = \{0\} \forall b \in \mathcal{Z}$ , hence  $\mathcal{Z}^{s+1} \bar{a} = \{0\}$ . But given that  $r(\mathcal{Z}^s) = r(\mathcal{Z}^{s+1})$ , then  $\mathcal{Z}^s \bar{a} = \{0\}$ , which is excluded.

### 3 - Links between $\mathcal{Z}$ and $Q$

Now we turn our attention to medial and left or right permutable near-rings with  $\mathcal{Z} \neq \emptyset$ .

**Proposition 7.** *Let  $N$  be a medial near-ring with  $\mathcal{Z} = \{0\}$ , then:*

(i) *I.F.P. holds.* (ii)  *$abc = 0$  implies  $bac = 0$ .* (iii)  *$N$  is weakly semiprime iff  $N$  is integral.*

(i) If  $ab = 0$  then  $anbN = abnN = \{0\}$ , so  $anb = 0 \forall n \in N$  by Proposition 6. (ii) If  $abc = 0$ , then  $abcN = bacN = \{0\}$ , so  $bac = 0$  by Proposition 6. (iii) Assume  $a \neq 0$ ,  $b \neq 0$  and  $ab = 0$ . Then  $aNbN = abN^2 = \{0\}$ . Hence either  $aN = \{0\}$  or  $bN = \{0\}$ . Thus  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$  by Proposition 6.

**Proposition 8.** *Let  $N$  be a left permutable near-ring with  $\mathcal{Z} = \{0\}$ , then  $ab = 0$  implies  $ba = 0$ .*

If  $ab = 0$ , then  $abN = baN = 0$ , so  $ba = 0$ .

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $N$  be a strictly semiprime medial near-ring, then:*

(i)  $QN = \{0\}$ . (ii)  $Q \subseteq \mathcal{Z}$ . (iii) *If right annihilator a.c.c. holds then  $Q = \mathcal{Z}$ .*

(i) Let  $q$  a nilpotent element of  $N$  and  $q^s = 0$ , then  $q^s N^s = (qN)^s$  by the medality of  $N$  and  $qN = \{0\} \forall q \in Q$  because  $N$  is strictly semiprime. (ii) This is obvious, by (i). (iii) This follows immediately, by Theorem 2 and (ii).

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $N$  be a left permutable near-ring without left annihilator  $N$ -subgroups, then:*

(i)  $Q \subseteq \mathcal{Z}$ . (ii) *If right annihilator a.c.c. holds, then  $Q = \mathcal{Z}$ .*

(i) Let  $q$  be a nilpotent element of  $N$  and  $q^s = 0$  and let  $K$  be a non trivial  $N$ -subgroup, then  $qKq^{s-1} = Kq^s = \{0\}$ . Assume  $Kq^{s-1} \neq \{0\}$ , then  $r(q) \cap K \neq \{0\}$  and  $q \in \mathcal{Z}$ . If  $Kq^{s-1} = \{0\}$ , then  $qKq^{s-2} = \{0\}$  and the previous condition arises again. Thus, after a finite number of steps we reach  $Kq = \{0\}$ , so  $KqN = qKN = \{0\}$ . Because  $KN = \{0\}$  is impossible, it follows that  $K \cap r(q) \supseteq KN \neq \{0\}$ , so  $q \in \mathcal{Z}$ . (ii) This follows immediately by Theorem 2 and (i).

Theorem 5. *Let  $N$  be a right permutable near-ring in which  $ab = 0$  implies  $ba = 0$  ( $\forall a, b \in N$ ) then:*

(i)  $Q \subseteq \mathcal{Z}$ . (ii) *If right annihilator a.c.c. holds, then  $Q = \mathcal{Z}$ .*

(i) The proof is similar to Theorem 4 (i). (ii) This part follows immediately by Theorem 2 and (i).

Examples. (a) Let's consider the near-ring  $[Z_6, +, \cdot]$  where  $[Z_6, +]$  is the cyclic group of order 6 and  $[Z_6, \cdot]$  is defined as follows

	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	3	0	3	0	3
2	0	4	2	0	4	2
3	0	3	0	3	0	3
4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	1	2	3	4	5

This near-ring satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3 and Theorem 4: in fact,  $Q = \mathcal{Z} = \{0, 4\}$ .

(b) Let's consider the near-ring  $[Z_8, +, \cdot]$  where  $[Z_8, +]$  is the cyclic group of order 8 and  $[Z_8, \cdot]$  is defined as follows

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
3	0	6	4	2	0	6	4	2
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	6	4	2	0	6	4	2

This is a left permutable near-ring (hence a medial near-ring) that is not strictly semiprime ( $\{0, 4\}$  is a nilpotent  $N$ -subgroup): therefore  $\mathcal{Z} = N$  and  $Q = \{1, 2, 4, 6\}$ .

In [13] type 0, 1, 2 prime ideals and their respective radicals  $P_0, P_1, P_2$  are defined. In the following a type 0 prime ideal will be called *prime* and a type 2 prime ideal will be called *completely prime*, as in [9] and [11]. In [2]<sub>2</sub> it has been shown that if  $N$  is a medial near-ring, then  $P$  is a type 1 prime ideal ( $xNy \subseteq P$  implies  $x \in P$  or  $y \in P$ ) if and only if  $P$  is completely prime ( $xy \in P$  implies  $x \in P$  or  $y \in P$ ).

Let us now take a look at a few links between prime ideals and essential ideals.

**Proposition 9.** *If  $N$  is a medial near-ring with  $\mathcal{Z} = D$ , then each type 1 prime ideal is an essential ideal.*

Let  $I$  be a type 1 ideal of  $N$ . If  $I$  is not essential, there is an  $N$ -subgroup  $K \neq \{0\}$  such that  $I \cap K = \{0\}$ , so  $K \subseteq D$  and  $I \subseteq r(K)$ . It is even true that  $I = r(K)$ . In fact if  $s \in r(K) \setminus I$ , then  $ks = 0 \in I$  and  $k \in I$ , because  $I$  is completely prime. Hence  $I$  is an essential ideal, since  $K \subseteq D = \mathcal{Z}$ .

**Proposition 10.** *If  $N$  is a medial near-ring then each type 1 prime ideal which doesn't include  $\mathcal{Z}$ , is an essential ideal.*

Let  $I$  be a type 1 ideal of  $N$  which doesn't include  $\mathcal{Z}$ , then there is a  $z \in \mathcal{Z} \setminus I$  where  $r(z)$  is essential. Now  $z\bar{z} = 0 \in I \forall \bar{z} \in r(z)$  and  $z \notin I$  so  $\bar{z} \in I$  because  $I$  is completely prime, thus  $r(\bar{z}) \subseteq I$  and  $I$  is essential.

However, there are medial near-rings with essential ideals which don't include  $\mathcal{Z}$ , but which are not prime ideals, as in the following example.

**Example.** (c) Let us consider the near-ring  $[Z_8, +, \cdot]$  where  $[Z_8, +]$  is the cyclic group of order 8 and  $[Z_8, \cdot]$  is defined as follows

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	2	4	6	0	2	4	6
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
6	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	4
7	0	2	4	6	0	2	4	6

This is a medial near-ring in which  $r(5) = \{0, 2, 4, 6\}$  is an essential ideal which doesn't include  $\mathcal{Z}$  (because  $\mathcal{Z} = N$ ), but which is not a type 1 prime ideal, in fact  $3N5 = \{0, 4\} \subseteq r(5)$ , but  $3 \notin r(5)$  and  $5 \notin r(5)$ .

#### 4 - $\theta$ -near-rings

Def. A. A  $\theta$ -near-ring is a near-ring  $N$  which satisfies the following conditions: (1) If  $r(n)$  is an ideal, it is a type 1 prime ideal. (2)  $N = D$ .

Theorem 6. A left permutable near-ring  $N$  is a  $\theta$ -near-ring iff  $Q$  is a type 1 prime ideal and  $Q = A$ .

By Proposition 5,  $N$  has nilpotent elements because  $N$  is a zero-symmetric near-ring. Let  $Q'$  be the set of nilpotent elements, whose nilpotence index is 2. Assume  $q \in Q'$ , then  $q^2 = 0 \in r(n)$ , which is a completely prime ideal, so  $q \in r(n) \forall n \in N$ . If  $Q' = N$ , then  $N$  is a zero-near-ring and the theorem is trivial, therefore there is an element  $x \notin Q'$ .

Let  $y \notin r(x)$  with  $y \neq x$  (such an element exists because if  $r(x) = N \setminus \{x\}$ , then  $x(x+n) = 0$ , so  $x^2 + xn = x^2 = 0$ , and this is excluded) and  $\bar{y} \in r(y)$ . Because  $N$  is left permutable, then  $yN\bar{y} \subseteq r(x)$ , where  $r(x)$  is a type 1 prime ideal, hence  $\bar{y} \in r(x) \forall \bar{y} \in r(y)$ , so  $r(y) \subseteq r(x)$ .

Since  $y \notin r(x)$  and  $r(y) \subseteq r(x)$ , then  $y \notin r(y)$ , therefore  $y \notin Q'$ . For the same reason  $x \notin r(y)$  and we can prove in the same way that  $r(x) \subseteq r(y)$ . So  $r(x) = r(y)$ .

Thus,  $\forall x \in Q'$   $r(x)$  will be denoted by  $R$ .

If  $x \in Q'$  then  $x^2 = 0 \in R$  and  $x \in R$  because  $R$  is completely prime, so  $Q' \subseteq R$ . Assume  $p \in R \setminus Q'$ , then  $r(p) = R$  and  $p^2 = 0$  but  $p \notin Q'$ , so  $Q' = R$ . Let  $z$  be a nilpotent element whose nilpotence index is greater than 2. But  $z^s = 0 \in R$  implies that either  $z^{s-1}$  or  $z$  belong to  $R$  and, after a finite number of steps,  $z \in Q'$  and  $Q' = Q$ .

Finally  $qNq = \{0\} \subseteq r(n)$  implies  $q \in r(n) \forall q \in Q, \forall n \in N$ , so  $NQ = \{0\}$ . Moreover  $nNn \subseteq r(q)$  implies  $n \in r(q) \forall n \in N, \forall q \in Q$ , so  $QN = \{0\}$ , that is  $Q = A$ . Conversely, let  $Q = A$  be a type 1 prime ideal of a left permutable near-ring  $N$ . Obviously condition (2) of Def. A holds. Assume now  $xNy \subseteq r(n)$ . If  $n \in Q$ , then  $r(n) = N$  and therefore it is a type 1 prime. If  $n \in N \setminus Q$ , then  $nx(ynx)y = 0$  and  $nxy \in Q$ , hence either  $x \in Q$  or  $y \in Q$  and, because  $Q \subseteq r(n) \forall n \in N$ ,  $r(n)$  is a type 1 prime ideal.

**Proposition 11.** *A left-permutable  $\theta$ -near-ring is a zero-near-ring iff  $\mathcal{Z} = N$ .*

If  $N$  is a zero-near-ring, it is obvious that  $\mathcal{Z} = N$ . Now let  $\mathcal{Z} = N$  and  $nN \neq \{0\}$ . Then  $r(n) \cap nN \ni i \neq 0$  hence  $i = nh$  for some  $h \notin r(n)$ , so  $n \in r(n)$  because  $r(n)$  is completely prime, and therefore  $n^2 = 0$ . It follows that  $nN = \{0\}$  and  $N$  is a zero-near-ring.

*In the following  $\mathcal{Z} = N$  is excluded.*

**Corollary 3.** *If  $N$  is a left permutable  $\theta$ -near-ring then  $\mathcal{Z} = Q = P_0 = P_1 = P_2$  and  $N/Q$  is an integral near-ring.*

Given that  $N$  is a left permutable (hence medial) near-ring,  $P_2 = P_1$  (see [7] for definition of  $P_0, P_1, P_2$  and [2]<sub>2</sub> Propositions 2.7). Now, as  $Q$  is a type 1 prime ideal,  $Q = P_1$ . Let  $I$  be a proper prime ideal, then  $Q \subseteq I$  because  $NQ = \{0\} \subseteq I$  and  $N \not\subseteq I$  and therefore  $Q \subseteq P_0$ . Given that  $P_0 \subseteq Q$  (see [13]),  $Q = P_0$ . Finally, as  $\mathcal{Z} \supseteq Q$ , if  $z \in \mathcal{Z} \setminus Q$ , then  $r(z) = Q$  and  $Q$  is an essential ideal, so  $\forall n \in N$ ,  $r(n)$  is an essential extension of  $Q$  and this implies  $\mathcal{Z} = N$  but this is excluded, so  $\mathcal{Z} = Q$ . Finally  $N/Q$  is integral because  $Q$  is completely prime.

**Theorem 7.** *A near-ring  $N$  is a left permutable  $\theta$ -near-ring with a non-zero idempotent element iff it is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of a zero-near-ring  $A$  and of an integral left permutable zero-symmetric near-ring  $B$  with a left identity  $e$ , when  $f_{a,b} = 0_A$  and  $\tilde{f}_{a,b} = \gamma_b \forall \langle a, b \rangle \in A \times B$ .*

Let  $N$  be a left permutable  $\theta$ -near-ring with a non-zero idempotent element  $e$ . Now  $r(e) = Q$  is an ideal and  $eN$  is a left  $N$ -subgroup. Moreover  $r(e) \cap eN = \{0\}$ . So  $N$  is isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of  $r(e)$  and  $eN$  where  $r(e) = Q$  is a zero-near-ring,  $eN$  is a left permutable zero-symmetric near-ring and  $e$  is a left identity of  $eN$ . Moreover  $eN$  is an integral near-ring because  $enem = 0$  implies  $enm = 0$ , that is  $nm \in r(e) = Q$ . But  $Q$  is completely prime, so either  $n \in Q$  or  $m \in Q$  and either  $en = 0$  or  $em = 0$ . Finally, now  $f_{a,b} = \gamma_{q+en/Q} = 0_Q$  and  $\tilde{f}_{a,b} = \gamma_{q+en/eN} = \gamma_{en/eN} \forall q \in Q \forall en \in eN$ .

Conversely, let  $N$  be isomorphic to the  $\Phi$ -sum of a zero-near-ring  $A$  and of an integral left permutable zero-symmetric near-ring  $B$  with a left identity  $e$ . Moreover,  $\forall \langle a, b \rangle \in A \times B$  let  $f_{a,b} = 0_A$  and  $\tilde{f}_{a,b} = \gamma_b$ . In these hypotheses  $N$  is a left permutable near-ring with an idempotent element (by Corollary 2) because  $f_{0,e} = 0_A$ ,  $f(A \times B) = \{0\}_A$  is a commutative subset of  $\text{End}(A^+)$  and

$\bar{f}(A \times B) = \{\gamma_b/b \in B\}$  is a commutative subset of  $\text{End}(B^+)$ . Furthermore, easy calculation shows that  $Q$  is a type 1 ideal of  $N$  and  $Q = A$ . Thus, the hypotheses of Theorem 6 hold and  $N$  is a left permutable  $\theta$ -near-ring.

In this way we have shown that the left permutable near-rings can be constructed by a semidirect sum of additive groups and a direct product of multiplicative semigroups of a zero-near-ring and of an integral zero-symmetric left permutable near-ring with a left identity.

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### Sommario

*Studiamo quasi-anelli soddisfacenti particolari identità polinomiali. Prendendo spunto dalla nota tecnica di J. R. Clay, caratterizziamo in termini di  $\Phi$ -somme, i quasi-anelli medial misti, i permutabili a sinistra con un elemento idempotente ed infine i  $\theta$ -quasi-anelli.*

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