## A SPECIAL REDUCEDNESS IN NEAR-RINGS

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ABSTRACT. A near-ring N is reduced if, for  $a \in N$ ,  $a^2 = 0$ implies a = 0, and N is left strongly regular if for all  $a \in N$ there exists  $x \in N$  such that  $a = xa^2$ . Mason introduced this notion and characterized left strongly regular zero-symmetric unital near-rings. Several authors ([2], [5], [7]) studied these properties in near-rings. Reddy and Murty extended some results in Mason to the non-zero symmetric case. In this paper, we will define a concept of strong reducedness and investigate a relation between strongly reduced near-rings and left strongly regular near-rings.

## 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper we work with right near-rings. So all our near-rings are right near-rings.

A near-ring N is reduced if, for  $a \in N$ ,  $a^2 = 0$  implies a = 0, and N is left strongly regular if for all  $a \in N$  there exists  $x \in N$ such that  $a = xa^2$ . Right strong regularity is defined in a symmetric way. Mason [4] introduced this notion and characterized left strongly regular zero-symmetric unital near-rings. Several authors ([2], [5], [7]) studied these properties in near-rings.

Reddy and Murty [7] extended some results in Mason [4] to the non-zero symmetric case. They observed that every left strongly

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regular near-ring has the following interesting property (\*). In this paper we will consider this property. Let N be a near-ring and let  $N_c$  denote the constant part of N. We will define a special reduced near-ring N, what is called strongly reduced.

We will show that every strongly reduced near-ring N is reduced, and that strong reducedness is a general concept of the following property (\*):

(i) for any  $a, b \in N$ , ab = 0 implies ba = b0.

(ii) for  $a \in N$ ,  $a^3 = a^2$  implies  $a^2 = a$  in Reddy and Murty [7].

Left or right strongly regular near-rings form one of the important class of strongly reduced near-rings. We investigate some properties of strongly reduced near-rings. Using strong reducedness, we characterize left strongly regular near-rings.

For notations and basic concepts, we shall refer to Pilz's book [6].

## 2. Results

For any near-ring N,  $N_c$  denotes the constant part of N, that is,  $N_c = \{a \in N \mid a = a0\}$ . A near-ring N is said to be *strongly reduced* if, for  $a \in N$ ,  $a^2 \in N_c$  implies  $a \in N_c$ . Obviously N is strongly reduced if and only if, for  $a \in N$  and any positive integer n,  $a^n \in N_c$ implies  $a \in N_c$ . We will show that a strongly reduced near-ring is reduced, that is, for  $a \in N$ ,  $a^2 = 0$  implies a = 0.

A subnear-ring H of a near-ring N is called *left invariant* if  $NH \subseteq H$ , *right invariant* if  $HN \subseteq H$  and *invariant* if it is both left and right invariant. For a subset S of N, < S|, |S > and < S > stand for the left invariant, right invariant and invariant subnear-rings of N generated by S respectively. For any element  $a \in N, < a|$ ,  $|a > \text{and} < a > \text{are called the principal left invariant, principal right invariant and principal invariant subnear-rings of <math>N$  generated by a, respectively.

There are slightly generalized new concepts of left strong regularity and right strong regularity. A near-ring N is called *quasi left* strongly regular if  $a \in \langle a^2 \rangle$  for each  $a \in N$ , quasi right strongly regular if  $a \in |a^2\rangle$  for each  $a \in N$ . There are lots of quasi left (right resp.) strongly regular near-rings which are not left (right resp.) strongly regular.

First we introduce an equationally defined classes of strongly reduced near-rings which are easily proved by the definition of strongly reduced near-rings as the following Lemma.

LEMMA 1. (1) The direct product of strongly reduced near-rings is strongly reduced, and vice versa.

(2) Every subring of a strongly reduced near-ring is strongly reduced.

(3) Every homorphic image of a strongly reduced contant nearring is strongly reduced.

Now we give some sufficient conditions for quasi left strongly regular near-rings or quasi right strongly regular near-rings to be strongly reduced.

**PROPOSITION 2.** (1) The direct sum or a subdirect product of strongly reduced near-rings is strongly reduced.

(2) All quasi left strongly regular near-rings and quasi right strongly regular near-rings are strongly reduced. In particular, all right or left strongly regular near-rings are strongly reduced.

(3) Every integral near-ring N is strongly reduced. Hence a subdirect product of integral near-rings is strongly reduced.

*Proof.* (1) Obvious from Lemma 1.

(2) Note that the constant part  $N_c$  is an invariant subnear-ring of N. Suppose  $a \in \langle a^2 \rangle$  for each  $a \in N$ . If  $a^2 \in N_c$  then  $a \in \langle a^2 \rangle \subseteq N_c$ .

(3) Let  $a \in N$  with  $a^2 \in N_c$ . Then  $(a - a^2)a = 0$ , and hence  $a = a^2 \in N_c$ .

We state some basic properties of a special reduced near-ring.

PROPOSITION 3. Let N be a strongly reduced near-ring and let  $a, b \in N$ . Then we have the following.

(1) N is reduced.

(2) If  $ab^n \in N_c$  for any positive integer n, then  $\{ab, ba\} \cup aNb \cup bNa \subseteq N_c$ . In particular,  $ab \in N_c$  implies  $ba \in N_c$ ,  $aNb \in N_c$  and  $bNa \in N_c$ .

(3) If  $ab^n = 0$  for any positive integer n, then ab = 0 and ba = b0. In particular, ab = 0 implies ba = b0 (Reddy and Murty's property (\*) (i), [7]).

*Proof.* (1) Assume that  $a^2 = 0$ . Then  $a^2 \in N_c$ , and hence  $a \in N_c$ . Then we see a = a0 = a0a = aa = 0.

(2) First suppose  $ab \in N_c$ . Then  $(ba)^2 = baba = bab0a = bab0 \in N_c$ . Since N is strongly reduced, we have  $ba \in N_c$ . Then we obtain  $xba \in N_c$  for each  $x \in N$ , whence  $(axb)^2 \in N_c$ . By the strong reducibility of N, we obtain  $axb \in N_c$  for each  $x \in N$ . Since  $ba \in N_c$ , we also obtain  $bNa \subseteq N_c$ . Now suppose  $ab^n \in N_c$ . Then  $(ab)^n \in N_c$  by the above argument. Since N is strongly reduced, this implies  $ab \in N_c$ . Hence by the first paragraph, the claim is proved.

(3) If  $ab^n = 0$  for some  $n \ge 1$ , then  $ab \in N_c$  by (2). Hence  $ab = abb^{n-1} = ab^n = 0$ . Then  $(ba)^2 = baba = b0 \in N_c$ . Hence  $ba \in N_c$ . Therefore  $(ba)^2 - ba \in N_c$ . Then  $(ba)^2 - ba = \{(ba)^2 - ba\}b = babab - bab = b0 - b0 = 0$ . Hence we obtain  $ba = (ba)^2 = b0$ .

In case N is a zero-symmetric near-ring, clearly N is strongly reduced if and only if N is reduced. A near-ring N is called a  $(P_0)$ near-ring if, for each  $a \in N$ , there exists an integer n > 1 such that  $a = a^n$  (see [6, 9.4, p.289]).

EXAMPLE 4. (1). Every left strongly regular near-ring or right strongly regular near-ring is strongly reduced.

(2). Every quasi left strongly regular near-rings or quasi right strongly regular near-rings is strongly reduced.

(3). Every integral near-ring or constant near-ring is strongly reduced. In particular, every Boolean near-ring or  $(P_0)$ -near-ring is strongly reduced.

The following examples show that a reduced near-ring is not necessarily strongly reduced. EXAMPLE 5. Let  $\mathbb{Z}_6 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  with addition modulo 6 and define multiplication as follows (Pilz [6] near-rings of low order;  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  No. 21):

•	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	3	3	1	3	1	1
2	0	0	<b>2</b>	0	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	0	0	4	0	<b>4</b>	4
5	3	3	5	3	5	5

Obviously this is a reduced near-ring. The constant part of  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  is  $\{0,3\}$ . Since  $1^2 = 3$  is a constant element but 1 is not, this near-ring is not strongly reduced. Also note that  $1^n \neq 1$  for any integer n > 1.

EXAMPLE 6. Let  $V = \{0, a, b, c, \}$  be a Klein's four group under addition.

(1) We define multiplication as follows (Pilz [6] near-rings of low order; V No. 20):

•	- 0	a	b	c
0	0	0	0	0
$a \mid$	a	a	a	a
b	0	a	b	c
$c \mid$	a	0	c	b

The constant part of this near-ring is  $\{0, a\}$ . Clearly, this near-ring is reduced and strongly reduced.

(2) We have multiplication table as follows (Pilz [6] near-rings of low order; V No. 19):

•	0	a	b	c
0	0	0	0	0
a	a	a	a	a
b	0	0	0	b
c	a	a	a	c

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The constant part of this near-ring is  $\{0, a\}$ . Obviously, this near-ring is not reduced, for  $b^2 = 0$  and also not strongly reduced.

Now we consider polynomial near-rings over commutative unital rings and polynomial near-rings on groups (Lausch and Nöbauer [3], 8.11, 9.11, Pilz [6], 7.61). Let R be a commutative ring with unity 1, G an additive group, x an indeterminate, R[x] the set of all polynomials over R and

$$G[x] = \{a_0 + n_1 x + a_1 + n_2 x + a_2 + \dots + a_{t-1} + n_t x + a_t | t \in \mathbb{N}_0, \\ a_i \in G, \ n_i \in \mathbb{Z}^* \text{ and } a_1 \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0, \dots, a_{t-1} \neq 0\}.$$

Then  $(R[x], +, \circ)$  and  $(G[x], +, \circ)$  are near-rings with unity x respectively, where  $\circ$  is substitution. In this case, we say that R[x] is a polynomial near-ring over R and G[x] is a polynomial near-ring on G. We see that  $(R[x])_c = R$  and  $(R[x])_0 = \{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x^i | n \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}$  such that  $R[x] = (R[x])_c + (R[x])_0$ .

Next, for any  $f(x) \in R[x]$ , a map  $f: R \longrightarrow R$  by  $a \rightsquigarrow f(x) \circ a = f(a)$  is called the *polynomial function induced by* f(x). We denote that  $P(R) = \{f | f(x) \in R[x]\}$  the set of all polynomial functions on R. Similarly, one can define f for  $f(x) \in G[x]$  and P(G) the set of all polynomial functions on G. It is well known that P(R) and P(G) are subnear-rings of M(R) (M(G), respectively), and are called *near-rings of polynomial functions* on R (on G, respectively)([6, 7.65, 7.66]).

EXAMPLE 7. (1). Consider a group  $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$  and a commutative ring  $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +, \cdot)$ . All 3-kinds of near-rings on a group  $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +)$  are strongly reduced. Thus every non-zero symmetric near-field is strongly reduced.

 $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$  and  $P(\mathbb{Z}_2) = \{0, 1, x, x+1\}$  are strongly reduced.

(2). All 12-kinds of near-rings on a group  $(\mathbb{Z}_4, +)$  are strongly reduced. However,  $\mathbb{Z}_4[x]$  and  $P(\mathbb{Z}_4) = \{0, 1, x, x+1\}$  are not strongly reduced.

We give equivalent conditions for a near-ring N to be strongly reduced.

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THEOREM 8. The following statements are equivalent for a nearring N:

(1) N is strongly reduced.

(2) For  $a \in N$ ,  $a^3 = a^2$  implies  $a^2 = a$ .

(Reddy and Murty's property (\*) (ii), [7]).

(3) If  $a^{n+1} = xa^{n+1}$  for  $a, x \in N$  and some nonnegative integer n, then a = xa = ax.

*Proof.* (1) ⇒ (2). Assume that  $a^3 = a^2$ . Then  $(a^2 - a)a = 0$ , whence  $a(a^2 - a) = a0 \in N_c$  by Proposition 3 (3). Then  $(a^2 - a)a^2 = (a^3 - a^2)a = 0a = 0$ . Again by Proposition 3 (3)  $a^2(a^2 - a) = a^20 \in N_c$ . Hence  $(a^2 - a)^2 = a^2(a^2 - a) - a(a^2 - a) = a^20 - a0 = (a^2 - a)0 \in N_c$ . This implies  $a^2 - a \in N_c$ . Hence  $a^2 - a = (a^2 - a)0 = (a^2 - a)a = 0$ .

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Assume  $a^2 \in N_c$ . Then  $a^3 = a^2 a = a^2$ . By condition (2), this implies  $a = a^2 \in N_c$ .

(1)  $\implies$  (3). Suppose  $a^{n+1} = xa^{n+1}$  for some  $n \ge 0$ . Then  $(a - xa)a^n = 0$ . Hence (a - xa)a = 0 by Proposition 3 (3), and so  $(a - xa)^2 \in N_c$  by Proposition 3 (2). Since N is strongly reduced, we have  $a - xa \in N_c$ . Then a - xa = (a - xa)a = 0, that is a = xa. Now  $(a - ax)a = a^2 - axa = a^2 - a^2 = 0 \in N_c$ . Hence  $(a - ax)^2 = a(a - ax) - ax(a - ax) \in N_c$  by Proposition 3 (2), and so  $a - ax \in N_c$ . Therefore a - ax = (a - ax)a = 0.

 $(3) \Longrightarrow (2)$ . This is obvious.

Left strongly regular near-rings are studied by several authors ([3]-[5], [7] etc.) Since all left strongly regular near-rings are strongly reduced, we can use it to study left strongly regular near-rings.

The following is a generalization of [7, Theorem 3].

LEMMA 9. Let N be a strongly reduced near-ring and let  $a, x \in N$ . If  $a^n = xa^{n+1}$  for some positive integer n, then  $a = xa^2 = axa$  and ax = xa.

*Proof.* Assume that  $a^n = xa^{n+1}$  for some  $n \ge 1$ . By Theorem 8 (3),  $a = xa^2 = axa$ . Then (ax - xa)a = 0. Hence, by Theorem 8 (2),

 $(ax - xa)^2 = ax(ax - xa) - xa(ax - xa) \in N_c$ . Since N is strongly reduced,  $ax - xa \in N_c$ . Hence ax - xa = (ax - xa)a = 0.

A near-ring N is said to be *left strongly*  $\pi$ -regular if, for each  $a \in N$ , there exists a positive integer n and an element  $x \in N$  such that  $a^n = xa^{n+1}$ , this equation is equivalent to  $a^n = xa^{2n}$ . Here we give some characterizations of left strongly regular near-rings.

THEOREM 10. Let N be a near-ring. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(1) N is left strongly regular.

(2) N is strongly reduced and left strongly  $\pi$ -regular.

(3) For each  $a \in N$ , there exists  $x, y \in N$  such that  $a = xa^2ya$ .

(4) For each  $a \in N$ ,  $a \in \langle a^2 \rangle \cap aNa$ .

*Proof.*  $(1) \Longrightarrow (2) - (4)$ . By Proposition 2 (1), left or right strongly regular near-ring is strongly reduced. Hence this follows from Lemma 9.

 $(2) \Longrightarrow (1)$ . This also follows from Lemma 9.

(3)  $\implies$  (1). By hypothesis, N is strongly reduced. If  $a = xa^2ya$ , then  $ya = yxa^2(ya)$ . By Theorem 8,  $ya = yayxa^2$ . Thus  $a = xa^2yayxa^2$ . This implies that N is left strongly regular.

(4)  $\implies$  (1). Since  $a \in \langle a^2 \rangle$  for each  $a \in N$ , N is strongly reduced by Proposition 2 (1). Hence N satisfies (4) in Theorem 8. Since  $a \in aNa$ , there exists  $x \in N$  such that a = axa. Hence  $a = (ax)a = a(ax) = a^2x$ . Then we have  $a = axa = (a^2x)xa = a^2x^2a$ . Then, by the same way as in

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