

On Commutativity Property Of $Q_{k,m,n}$, $P_{k,m,n}$, $P_{k,m,\infty}$ and $Q_{k,m,\infty}$ Rings

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ABSTRACT: We study commutativity in Rings R with the property that for fixed positive integers k, m, n , $x^k S^m = S^m x^k$ for all $x \in R$ and for all n -subsets S of R .

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I. Introduction

Recently G.Gopalakrishnamoorthy and S.Anitha have defined $Q_{k,n}$ -rings by the property that $x^k S = S x^k$ for all $x \in R$ and for all n -subsets S of R . They also have defined $Q_{k,\infty}$ -rings by the property that $x^k S = S x^k$ for all $x \in R$ and for all infinite subsets S of R , and defined $P_{k,n}$ -ring to be a ring R with the property that $XY = YX$ for all k -subsets X of R and n -subsets Y of R . Also they have defined $P_{k,\infty}$ -ring by the property that $XY = YX$ for all k -subsets X of R and all infinite subsets Y of R . Obviously every $Q_{k,n}$ -ring is a $P_{k,n}$ -ring and every $P_{k,n}$ -ring is a $P_{k,\infty}$ -ring. It is proved that any $Q_{k,n}$ -ring with identity such that $|R| > n$, is commutative. If $n \leq 4$, $Q_{k,n}$ -rings are commutative. If $n \leq 8$, every $Q_{k,n}$ -ring with 1 is commutative.

In this paper we define $Q_{k,m,n}$ -rings and $P_{k,m,n}$ -rings, thus generalizing the above concepts and discuss their commutativity.

II. Preliminaries

Let R be an arbitrary ring not necessarily with identity. Let D, N, Z and $C(R)$ denote the set of zero divisors, the set of nilpotents, the center and the commutator ideal of R respectively. Let $|R|$ denote the cardinality of R . For any subset Y of R , let $CR(Y)$, $A_l(Y)$, $A_r(Y)$ and $A(Y)$ denote the centralizer of Y , the left, right and two sided annihilators of Y respectively. For $x, y \in R$ the set $L_{x,y,k}$ is defined to be $\{w \in R \mid x^k y = w x^k\}$ where $k \geq 1$ is a fixed integer.

2.1 Definition

Let k, m, n be three fixed positive integers. A ring R is said to be $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring if $x^k S^m = S^m x^k$ for all $x \in R$ and for all n -subsets S of R .

where $|R| > n$ and $S^m = \{s^m \mid s \in S\}$

2.2 Definition

Let k, m, n be three fixed positive integers. A ring R is said to be $P_{k,m,n}$ ring

$X^m Y^m = Y^m X^m$ for all k -subsets X of R and n -subsets Y of R .

2.3 Definition

Let k, m be two fixed positive integers. A ring R is said to be $Q_{k,m,\infty}$ ring if $x^k S^m = S^m x^k$ for all $x \in R$ and for all infinite subsets S of R .

where $|R| > n$ and $S^m = \{s^m \mid s \in S\}$

2.4 Definition

Let k, m be two fixed positive integers. A ring R is said to be $P_{k,m,\infty}$ ring

$X^m Y^m = Y^m X^m$ for all k -subsets X of R and for all infinite subsets Y of R .

Taking $m=1$ we note that $XY = YX$ for all k -subsets X of R and for all infinite subsets Y of R .

We simply call $P_{k,1,\infty}$ ring as a $P_{k,\infty}$ ring.

2.5 Note

- i. Every $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring is a $Q_{k,m,\infty}$ ring
- ii. Every $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring is a $P_{k,m,n}$ ring
- iii. Every $P_{k,m,n}$ ring is a $P_{k,m,\infty}$ ring
- iv. Every $Q_{k,m,\infty}$ ring is a $P_{k,m,\infty}$ ring
- v. Every $Q_{k,\infty}$ ring is a $P_{k,\infty}$ ring

2.6 Definition

Let R be a ring and I be a subset of R. Let (k, m) be fixed positive integers. I is said to be a left (k,m)- ideal of R if

- i. $x^m, y^m \in I \Rightarrow x^m - y^m \in I$ and
- ii. $x^m \in I, r \in R \Rightarrow r^k x^m \in I$

Similarly the right (k,m)-Ideal and two sided (k,m) ideal can be defined.

2.7 Lemma

Let R be a $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with $|R| > n$. Then

- i. for all $x \in R, x^k R^m = R^m x^k$
- ii. If x^k is idempotent then x^k commutes with the m^{th} power of every $a \in R$
- iii. N is a (k,m) ideal of R.
- iv. $|A_r(x^k)^m| = |A_l(x^k)^m|$
- v. If R is not commutative and $(x^k)^m \notin Z$ then $R \setminus A_l(x^k)^m \cup C_R(x^k)^m$ and $R \setminus A_r(x^k)^m \cup C_R(x^k)^m$ are non-empty.

Proof:

Let R be a $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with $|R| > n$

- i. $z \in R^m x^k$ iff $z = r^m x^k$ for some $r \in R$
 iff $z \in S^m x^k$ for some n-subsets $S \subset R$
 iff $z \in x^k S^m$ for some n-subsets $S \subset R$
 iff $z = x^k (s^m)$ for some $s \in S \subset R$
 iff $z \in x^k R^m$
 i.e, $R^m x^k = x^k R^m$ for all $x \in R$
- ii. Let $x \in R$ be such that x^k is idempotent. Then for all $a \in R$
 $x^k a^m = x^{2k} a^m$ (since x^k is idempotent)
 $= x^k (x^k a^m)$
 $= x^k (a^m x^k)$ (since $x^k R^m = R^m x^k$)
 $= (x^k a^m) x^k$
 $= (a^m x^k) x^k$ (since $x^k R^m = R^m x^k$)
 $= a^m x^{2k}$
 $= a^m x^k$ (since x^k is idempotent)

Hence x^k commutes with the m^{th} power of every $a \in R$

- iii. Let $x^m, y^m \in N$. clearly $x^m + y^m \in N$ (adopt the standard proof that N is an ideal in commutative rings)

Since $x^m \in N, (x^m)^n = 0$ for some $n \geq 1$.

For all $r \in R$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (r^k x^m)^n &= (r^k x^m) (r^k x^m) \dots (r^k x^m) \text{ n times} \\
 &= r^k (x^m r^k) (x^m r^k) \dots (x^m r^k) x^m \\
 &= r^k (r^k x^m) (r^k x^m) \dots (r^k x^m) x^m \quad \text{(using (i))} \\
 &= r^{2k} (x^m r^k) (x^m r^k) \dots (x^m r^k) x^{2m} \\
 &= r^{2k} (r^k x^m) (r^k x^m) \dots (r^k x^m) x^{2m} \\
 &= r^{3k} (x^m r^k) (x^m r^k) \dots (x^m r^k) x^{3m} \\
 &= \dots \\
 &= r^{nk} x^{nm} \\
 &= 0 \text{ (since } (x^m)^n = x^{mn} = 0)
 \end{aligned}$$

$(r^k x^m)^n = 0$
Hence $r^k x^m \in N$
Thus $x^m \in N, r \in R \Rightarrow r^k x^m \in N$
So, N is a (k,m) ideal of R

iv. Also,
 $z^m \in A_l(x^k)^m$ iff $z^m x^k = 0$
 iff $x^k z^m = 0$ (using (i))
 iff $z^m \in A_r(x^k)^m$

Hence $|A_l(x^k)^m| = |A_r(x^k)^m|$

v. Let R be a non-commutative ring and x^k does not belongs to Z . Then there exist $y \in R$ such that $x^k y^m \neq y^m x^k$. Consequently y does not belongs to $C_r(x^k)^m$. So $C_r(x^k)^m$ is a proper subgroups of $(R, +)$. Then from (i) and (iv) imply that $A_l(x^k)^m$ and $A_r(x^k)^m$ are also proper subgroups of $(R, +)$. Since a group cannot be the union of two proper subgroups, (v) is proved.

2.8 Note

This generalizes lemma 2.8[4].

2.9 Lemma

If R is an infinite $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring then R is commutative.

Proof

Let R be an infinite $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring.

If R is commutative then there is nothing to prove.

Suppose R is non-commutative. Since all $Q_{1,1,1}$ rings are commutative, $k > 1, m > 1$ and $n > 1$.

Assume that R is not a $Q_{k,m,s}$ ring for any $s < n$. Then there exist $x \in R$ and an $(n-1)$ subset H of R such that $x^k H^m \neq H^m x^k$. Since R is infinite $R \setminus H \neq \emptyset$

For any $a \in R \setminus H, x^k (H \cup \{a\})^m = (H \cup \{a\})^m x^k$

So if we take $h \in H$ for which $x^k h^m$ does not belongs to $H^m x^k$

We have $x^k h^m = a^m x^k$ (1)

Since (1) holds for all $a \in R \setminus H$ it follows that for fixed

$b \in R \setminus H, R \setminus H^m \subseteq b^m + A_l(x^k)^m$ (2)

Moreover

if $c \in A_l(x^k), (b^m + c^m)x^k = b^m x^k + c^m x^k$
 $= b^m x^k$
 $= x^k h^m \notin H^m x^k$

So $b^m + c^m \notin H^m$

That is $b^m + c^m \notin b^m + A_l(x^k)^m$

This implies $b + c \notin H$

Hence $b^m + A_l(x^k)^m \subseteq R - H^m$ (3)

Hence by (2) and (3) we have

$R - H^m = b^m + A_l(x^k)^m$

Hence $|R - H^m| = |A_l(x^k)^m|$ and

$|R \setminus A_l(x^k)^m| = |H^m|$

Since $A_l(x^k)$ is a proper subgroup of $(R, +)$

we have

$|R - A_l(x^k)^m| \geq |A_l(x^k)^m|$

That is $|H^m| > |R - H^m|$

The finiteness of H^m yields finiteness of R , contradicting

R is infinite.

Hence R is commutative

2.10 Note :

This generalizes lemma 2.10[4]

2.11 Lemma: (See[6])

If R is a finite ring with $N \subseteq Z$, then R is commutative.

2.12 Remark

Inview of lemma 2.11, we assume henceforth that R is finite.

III. Commutativity of $Q_{k,m,n}$ Rings

3.1 Theorem If R is any $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with identity such that $|R| > n$, then R is commutative.

Proof : If R is infinite, Commutativity follows from Lemma 2.9. So, assume R is finite.

By Lemma 2.11, we need only to show that $N \subseteq Z$.

Since $u \in N$ implies $1+u$ is invertible, it suffices to prove that invertible elements are central.

Let $x \in R$ be an invertible element. If $x \in Z$, there is nothing to prove. Assume $x \notin Z$, then $x^m \notin Z^m$. Hence $C_R(x^m)$ is a proper subset of R . Choose $y \in R$ such that $y^m \notin C_R(x^m)$.

Then $y^m x^m \neq x^m y^m$. If H is any $(n-1)$ subset of R , which does not contain y , the condition

$(x^k)^m(\{y^m\} \cup H^m) = (\{y^m\} \cup H^m)(x^k)^m$ yields an $z \in H$ such that

$$(x^k)^m y^m = z^m (x^k)^m \quad (1)$$

Since x is invertible, there is unique $z \in R$ satisfying (1). Thus we have proved that every $(n-1)$ subsets of R contains either y^m or z^m .

But $S = |R - \{y^m, z^m\}|$ does not contain y^m and z^m and $|S| \geq n-1$, a contradiction. This contradiction proves that non-central invertible elements cannot exist. This proves the theorem.

3.2 Remark

This theorem generalizes theorem 3.1[4]

3.3 Theorem

Let $n \geq 4$ and let R be a $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring $|R| > 2n-2$ or if n is even and $|R| > 2n-4$.

Then $(x^k)^m \in Z$ for all $x \in R$.

Proof : Let $n \geq 4$ and R be a $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring.

We shall prove that if there exists $x \in R$ such that $(x^k)^m \notin Z$, then $|R| \leq 2n-2$ or $|R| \leq 2n-4$.

Since $(n-1) < 2n-4$, we may suppose that $|R| \geq n$. Suppose there exists $x \in R$ such that $(x^k)^m \notin Z$, by Lemma 2.8(v), there exists

$$y \in R \setminus \{A_r(x^k)^m\} \cup C_R(x^k)^m.$$

If H is any $(n-1)$ subset which does not contain y , we have

$$(x^k)^m(\{y^m\} \cup H^m) = (\{y^m\} \cup H^m)(x^k)^m.$$

Since $(x^k)^m y^m \neq z^m (x^k)^m$, there exists $z^m \in H$ such that $(x^k)^m y^m = z^m (x^k)^m$ is $z^m \in L_{x,y,k}$.

So $H^m \cap L_{x,y,k} \neq \emptyset$.

Thus we have proved that any $(n-1)$ subset of R must either contain y or intersect $L_{x,y,k}$.

This condition cannot hold if $|R - L_{x,y,k}| \geq n$.

So, $|R - L_{x,y,k}| \leq (n-1)$

$$\text{That is } |R| \leq |L_{x,y,k}| + (n-1) \quad (1)$$

Now, if $w \in L_{x,y,k}$ then $L_{x,y,k} = w + A_1(x^k)^m$

Hence $|L_{x,y,k}| = |A_1(x^k)^m|$.

Again by Lemma 2.8 (v), $A_1(x^k)^m \neq R$.

So $|L_{x,y,k}| = \frac{|R|}{p}$ for some $p \geq 2$.

Substituting in(1), we get $|R| \leq \frac{|R|}{p} + (n-1)$

i.e, $|R|(1 - 1/p) \leq (n-1)$

$$\text{i.e, } |R| \leq \frac{p}{p-1} (n-1) \leq 2n-2 \quad (2)$$

Suppose that n is even, If $(A_1(x^k)^m)$ has index at least 3 in $(R,+)$, the inequality (2) yields

$$|R| \leq \frac{3(n-1)}{2} \leq 2n-4$$

Thus we may assume that $|A_1(x^k)^m| = \frac{|R|}{2}$. We shall show that $|R| \neq 2n-2$.

Suppose $|R| = 2n-2$, then $|A_1(x^k)^m| = \frac{2n-2}{2} = (n-1)$. So $|A_1(x^k)^m| = (n-1)$

We note that $A_1(x^k)^m$ is an $(n-1)$ subset not intersecting $L_{x,y,k}$.

Hence $y \in A_1(x^k)^m$.

Since $y \in R \setminus \{A_r(x^k)^m\} \cup C_R(x^k)^m$, we see that $y \notin A_r(x^k)^m$.

So, $A_1(x^k)^m \neq A_r(x^k)^m$ and consequently $A_r(x^k)^m (x^k)^m \neq 0$.

Now, $x^k(\{y^m\} \cup A_r(x^k)^m) = (\{y^m\} \cup A_r(x^k)^m)(x^k)^m$ and therefore $A_r(x^k)^m (x^k)^m \subseteq \{(x^k)^m, y^m, 0\}$.

Hence $A_r(x^k)^m (x^k)^m = \{0, x^k, y^m\}$ is an additive subgroup of order 2.

Hence the map $\phi: A_r(x^k)^m \rightarrow A_r(x^k)^m (x^k)^m$ given by $\phi(w) = w(x^k)^m$ has kernel of index 2 in $A_r(x^k)^m$.

But $|A_r(x^k)^m|$ is odd and so we have a contradiction.

Hence $|R| \leq 2n-4$.

3.4 Lemma (Theorem 5|5|)

Suppose the ring R is such that $x^{n(x)} \in Z$, the centre of R , for all $x \in R$. Then if R has no non – zero nilideals, it must be commutative.

3.5 Theorem

Let $n \geq 4$ and R be a $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring. If $|R| > 2n - 2$ or if n is even and $|R| > 2n - 4$, then R is commutative, provided R has no non- zero nilideals.

Proof: Follows from Theorem 3.3 and Lemma 3.4.

3.6 Theorem

Let $n \geq 4$ and let R be a $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with $|R| > \frac{3}{2}(n-1)$. Then R is commutative, if one the following is satisfied

- i. $|R|$ is odd.
- ii. $(R,+)$ is not the union of three proper subgroups.
- iii. N is commutative.
- iv. $R^3 \neq \{0\}$.

Proof: (i) Assume $|R|$ is odd.

Suppose that R is not commutative.

Since, $|R| > \frac{3}{2}(n-1) > n$

The arguments in the proof of thorem 3.3 gives

$$|A_r(x^k)^m| = |A_r(x^k)^m| = |R|/2$$

This is impossible. So, R must be commutative.

(ii) Assume $(R,+)$ is not the union of three proper subgroups. Suppose that R is not commutative. Then by (i), $|R|$ is even. By applying the first isomorphism thorem of groups:

$$|(x^k)^m R| = |R(x^k)^m| = 2.$$

Hence for any $u \in R \setminus A_l(x^k)^m$, $(x^k)^m R = \{0, (x^k)^m u\}$ and for any $v \in R \setminus A_r(x^k)^m$

$$R(x^k)^m = \{0, v(x^k)^m\}$$

By Lemma 2.8(i),

$$(x^k)^m R = R(x^k)^m.$$

If $y \in R \setminus A_l(x^k)^m \cup A_r(x^k)^m$ then

$$\{0, (x^k)^m y\} = (x^k)^m R = R(x^k)^m = \{0, y(x^k)^m\}$$

Hence $y \in C_R(x^k)^m$

Thus $R = A_l(x^k)^m \cup A_r(x^k)^m \cup C_R(x^k)^m$ which is a contradiction to our assumption that $(R,+)$ is not the union of three proper subgroups.

(iii) Assume N is commutative.

Suppose R is not commutative. Then by thorem 3.1, if R is any $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with 1 such that

$|R| > n$, then R is commutative.

Now, R doesnot have 1. Hence, $R = D$ fro R is finite. If $(x^k)^m \notin N$, some power of $(x^k)^m$ is an idempotent zero divisor $e \neq 0$.

Since, $A_r(x^k)^m \subseteq A_l(e)$ and $A_l(e) \neq R$,

We must have $A_l(x^k)^m = A_l(e)$

And similarly $A_r(x^k)^m = A_r(e)$

By lemma 2.8 (ii), e is central.

Hence, $A_l(x^k)^m = A_r(x^k)^m = A(x^k)^m \subseteq C_R(x^k)^m$.

Thus if $y \notin A(x^k)^m$ then $y \notin A_l(x^k)^m$ and $y \notin A_r(x^k)^m$.

$$Y \notin A_l(x^k)^m \rightarrow y \in R \setminus A_l(x^k)^m.$$

$$\rightarrow \{0, (x^k)^m y\} = (x^k)^m R = R(x^k)^m = \{0, y(x^k)^m\}$$

Hence $y \in C_R(x^k)^m$ which is the contradiction to the assumption that $(x^k)^m \notin Z$.

Hence $(x^k)^m$ is a non – central element.

If there exits two non – commutative elements, which is a contradicton to the assumption that N is commutative.

(iv) Assume $R^3 \neq 0$.

Suppose R is not commutative. Then there exists $x \in R$ such that $x \notin Z$. the fact that $(x^k)^m \in N$ yields

$$A_r(x^k)^m \supseteq A_r(x^k)^m$$

So, $A_r(x^k)^m = R$

Hence, $(x^{k+1})^m R = R(x^{k+1})^m = (0)$

Choose $y \in R \setminus A_r(x^k)^m \cup C_R(x^k)^m$ and $w \in R \setminus A_r(x^k)^m \cup C_R(x^k)^m$

Then $y^{k+1} R = R y^{k+1}$

More over, $\{0, (x^k)^m y\} = (x^k)^m R = R(x^k)^m = \{0, w(x^k)^m\}$ so that $(x^k)^m y = w(x^k)^m$

Thus $(x^k)^m R^2 = (x^k)^m yR = w(x^k)^m R = \{w(x^k)^m y, 0\} = \{xy^{k+1}, 0\} = (0)$

If $z \in Z$ then $(x^k)^m + Z \notin Z$ so that $(x+Z)R^2 = \{0\}$

Hence $R^3 = \{0\}$, which is a contradiction to the fact that $R^3 \neq \{0\}$.

Hence R is commutative.

IV. Further Results for Small n

4.1 Theorem

If $n \leq 8$, then every $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with 1 is commutative.

Proof: Let R be any $Q_{k,m,n}$ ring with identity. Suppose R is not commutative.

We may assume that $n=8$.

Then by theorem 3.1, $|R| \leq 8$.

Since all rings with 1 having fewer than 8 elements are commutative, $|R| = 8$ and R is indecomposable. Since idempotents are central, we must have no idempotents except 0 and 1. Hence every element is either nilpotent or invertible. Since $u \in N, 1+u$ is invertible. It follows from lemma 2.12, there exists a pair x^m, y^m of non-commuting invertible elements. The group of units is not commutative and has almost 7 elements, hence is isomorphic to S_3 . Thus, there exists a unique non-zero nilpotent element u which by Lemma 2.12 is not central. Hence there is an invertible element w such that $u(w^k)^m \neq (w^k)^m u$. By Lemma 2.8(iii), $(w^k)^m$ and $u(w^k)^m$ are non-zero nilpotents. This gives a contradiction.

So, R is commutative.

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