

POLYNOMIAL IDENTITY RINGS AND GROUPRINGS

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Abstract: In this paper, we prove the sufficient condition for group rings to satisfy a polynomial identity. Firstly we define groupring and standard polynomial identity in polynomial ring $K[X_1, X_2, \dots]$ over field K with noncommuting indeterminates X_1, X_2, \dots .

Introduction: Let K be a field and G be a multiplicative group. Let $K[G]$ denote the set of all formal sums $k = \sum_{g \in G} k_g g$, where $k_g \in K$ for every $g \in G$ and the set $\{g \in G / k_g \neq 0\}$ is finite. For $k = \sum_{g \in G} k_g g$ and $s = \sum_{g \in G} s_g g$ belonging to $K[G]$, define $k+s = \sum_{g \in G} (k_g + s_g)g$. This defines addition in $K[G]$ with respect to which $K[G]$ becomes an abelian group. Again for $\alpha \in K$ and $k = \sum_{g \in G} k_g g \in K[G]$, we define $\alpha k = \sum_{g \in G} (\alpha k_g)g$. With respect to this scalar multiplication, $K[G]$ is vectorspace over K . For $k = \sum_{g \in G} k_g g$ and $s = \sum_{g \in G} s_h h$, define $ks = \sum_{l \in G} t_l l$ where $t_l = \sum_{gh=l} k_g s_h$ and the elements of G commutes with the elements of K . With the multiplication as defined above, $K[G]$ becomes a ring. Hence $K[G]$ is an algebra over the field K and is called group ring over K .

Next we define polynomial identity. Let $K[X_1, X_2, \dots]$ be the polynomial ring over a field K in the noncommuting indeterminates X_1, X_2, \dots . An algebra E over K is said to satisfy a polynomial identity, if there exists $f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \in K[X_1, X_2, \dots]$, $f \neq 0 \forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in E$.

For example, any commutative algebra satisfies $f(X_1, X_2) = X_1 X_2 - X_2 X_1$.

The standard polynomial of degree n is defined by

$$[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n] = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} (-1)^\sigma X_{\sigma(1)} X_{\sigma(2)} \dots X_{\sigma(n)}.$$

Here S_n is the symmetric group of degree n on the set $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and $(-1)^\sigma$ is 1 or -1 according as σ is an even or an odd permutation. We will also use $s_n(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ to denote this polynomial.

Theorem 1. Let the group G have an abelian subgroup A such that $[G:A] = n < \infty$. Then $K[G]$ satisfies the standard polynomial identity of degree $2m$.

Proof . Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n be a set of right coset representatives for A in G . Let $E = K[A]$ and $V = K[G]$. Since A is abelian therefore E is commutative algebra. Clearly V is left E -module. Since G is a basis of $K[G]$ over the

field K and $G = \bigcup_{i=1}^n Ax_i$ therefore $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ is a basis of V over E . Now V is also a right $K[G]$ -module and as such it is faithful.

Let $E_n = M_n(E)$ be the ring of all $n \times n$ matrices over E . We define $\phi: K[G] \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{K[A]}(K[G], K[G]) = R$ by $\phi(u) = T_u$ where $T_u: K[G] \rightarrow K[G]$ is defined by $vT_u = vu \forall v \in K[G]$. Let $\phi(u) = 0$ for some $u \in K[G]$, which implies $T_u = 0$ and $\therefore vu = 0 \forall v \in K[G]$. Hence $u \in \text{Ann}(K[G]) = \text{Ann}(V) = 0$. Therefore ϕ is one-one. Hence $V = K[G] \cong \phi(V) \subseteq \text{Hom}_E(V, V) = R$. Define $\phi: R \rightarrow M_n(E) = E_n$ as follows.

Let $T \in R$ then $x_i T \in V$. Since $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ is a basis of V over E therefore there exist $a_{i1}, a_{i2}, \dots, a_{in} \in E$ such that $x_i T = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j$. We define $\phi(T) = m(T)$ where $m(T) = [a_{ij}]_{n \times n} \in E_n$. It is easy to see that ϕ is an algebra isomorphism and hence $R \cong E_n$. Now define a map $f: E \times K_n \rightarrow E_n$ by $f(a, A) = aA$ where $K_n = M_n(K)$. Let $F(E, M_n(K))$ be a free Z -module on $E \times K_n$ and $G(E, K_n)$ be the submodule of $F(E, K_n)$ generated by the elements of the form

- i) $(a_1 + a_2, A) - (a_1, A) - (a_2, A)$
- ii) $(a, A + B) - (a, A) - (a, B)$
- iii) $(ab, A) - (a, bA)$ where $a_1, a_2, a_n, a, b \in E; A, B \in K_n$.

Extend the map to a Z -homomorphism f of $F(E, K_n)$ into E_n which clearly vanishes on $G(E, K_n)$ and therefore induces a Z -homomorphism $f: E \otimes K \rightarrow E_n$ given by $(\sum a_i \otimes A_i = \sum a_i A_i)$. Define $g: E_n \rightarrow E \otimes K_n$ by $g(A) = g(\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} e_{ij}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \otimes e_{ij}$ where $A = [a_{ij}] \in E_n$ and $\{e_{ij}\}$ are the matrix units in E_n then it is easy to see that g is a Z -homomorphism. Now $(f \circ g)(A) = f(g(A)) = f(\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} \otimes e_{ij}) = \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} e_{ij} = A$ where $A = [a_{ij}] \in E_n$. Hence $f \circ g = I_{E_n}$. Also it is easy to see that $g \circ f = I_{E \otimes K_n}$. Hence $E \otimes K_n \cong E_n$. Thus $K[G] \cong E \otimes K_n$. By the result " K_m , the ring of all $m \times m$ matrices over a field K , satisfies the standard polynomial identity of degree $2m$ ", K_n satisfies s_{2n} .

We prove that $E \otimes K_n$ also satisfies s_{2n} . Let $a_1 \otimes A_1, a_2 \otimes A_2, \dots, a_{2n} \otimes A_{2n} \in E \otimes K_n$ then

$$S_{2n}(a_1 \otimes A_1, a_2 \otimes A_2, \dots, a_{2n} \otimes A_{2n}) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2n}} (-1)^\sigma (a_{\sigma(1)} \otimes A_{\sigma(1)}) (a_{\sigma(2)} \otimes A_{\sigma(2)}) \dots (a_{\sigma(2n)} \otimes A_{\sigma(2n)})$$

where S_{2n} is symmetric group of degree $2n$ on set $\{1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$.

$$= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2n}} (-1)^\sigma (a_{\sigma(1)} a_{\sigma(2)} \dots a_{\sigma(2n)} \otimes A_{\sigma(1)} A_{\sigma(2)} \dots A_{\sigma(2n)})$$

Since E is commutative ring therefore $a = a_1 a_2 \dots a_{2n} = a_{\sigma(1)} a_{\sigma(2)} \dots a_{\sigma(2n)} \forall \sigma \in S_{2n}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
s_{2n}(a_1 \otimes A_1, a_2 \otimes A_2, \dots, a_{2n} \otimes A_{2n}) &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2n}} (-1)^\sigma (a \otimes A_{\sigma(1)} A_{\sigma(2)} \dots A_{\sigma(2n)}) \\
&= a \otimes \sum_{\sigma \in S_{2n}} (-1)^\sigma A_{\sigma(1)} A_{\sigma(2)} \dots A_{\sigma(2n)} \\
&= a \otimes s_{2n}(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{2n})
\end{aligned}$$

Since K_n satisfies s_{2n} therefore $s_{2n}(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{2n}) = 0$ and hence $s_{2n}(a_1 \otimes A_1, a_2 \otimes A_2, \dots, a_{2n} \otimes A_{2n}) = 0$.

Thus $E \otimes K_n$ satisfies s_{2n} and the result follows.

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