

# Generalized Morphic Group Rings

Emad Abuosba<sup>1,\*</sup>, Manal Ghanem<sup>2</sup> and Hani A. Khashan<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Mathematics, The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan

<sup>2</sup> Department of Mathematics, The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan

<sup>3</sup> Department of Mathematics, Al al-Bayt University, Mafrq, Jordan

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**Abstract:** Let  $A$  be a commutative ring with identity,  $G$  be an abelian group, and consider the group ring  $AG$ . A ring  $A$  is called a generalized morphic ring (GM ring) if the annihilator of each element in  $A$  is principal. In this article, we showed that if  $AG$  is a GM ring, then so is  $A$ . The converse was proved to be false. We try to put some conditions on  $A$  or  $G$  to get the converse. Among many other results, we showed that if  $A$  is an Armendariz ring and  $G$  is a torsion free group, then  $AG$  is a GM ring if and only if  $A$  is. Moreover, if  $C_m$  denotes the multiplicative cyclic group of order  $m$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  the ring of integers modulo  $n$ , we justified that the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is a GM ring if and only if, whenever  $p$  is a prime dividing  $\gcd(n, m)$ , then  $p^2 \nmid n$ . We also proved that for an integral domain  $D$  with  $\text{char}(D) = p$ , the group ring  $DC_p$  is a GM ring.

**Keywords:** Morphic ring; Generalized morphic ring; Morphic group ring; Generalized morphic group ring.

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## 1 Introduction

In this article, we assume that all rings are commutative rings with identity and all groups are abelian. A ring  $A$  is said to be a **morphic ring** if for each  $a \in A$  there exists  $b \in A$  such that  $\text{Ann}_A(a) = bA$  and  $\text{Ann}_A(b) = aA$ . A ring  $A$  is called a **generalized morphic ring (GM ring)** if the annihilator of each element in  $A$  is principal, see [16]. For any ring  $A$ , we denote by  $Z(A)$ , the set of all zero divisors in  $A$ . Moreover, the set of regular (non-zero divisors) elements and the set of all units in  $A$  are denoted by  $\text{reg}(A)$  and  $U(A)$ , respectively. We recall that a ring  $A$  is called an **Armendariz ring** if for any two polynomials  $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i$  over  $A$ ,  $(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i)(\sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i) = 0$  implies  $a_i b_j = 0$  for all  $i$  and  $j$ . A group  $G$  is called **locally finite** if each finitely generated subgroup of  $G$  is finite. For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we denote the multiplicative cyclic group of order  $n$  by  $C_n$ .

For a ring  $A$  and a group  $G$ , we consider the group ring

$$AG = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i : a_i \in A, g_i \in G, n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

Let  $\varepsilon : AG \rightarrow A$  be the ring epimorphism defined by  $\varepsilon \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$ , and let

$$\Delta(G) = \text{Ker } \varepsilon = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i \in AG : \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = 0 \right\}$$

If  $G$  is a finite group, then we put  $\hat{G} = \sum_{g \in G} g$ . If  $g \in G$  has a finite order  $n$ , then we let  $\hat{g} = 1 + g + \cdots + g^{n-1}$ . For more details and terminology on group rings, see [12].

\* Corresponding author e-mail: [eabuosba@ju.edu.jo](mailto:eabuosba@ju.edu.jo), [m.ghanem@ju.edu.jo](mailto:m.ghanem@ju.edu.jo), [hakhashan@aabu.edu.jo](mailto:hakhashan@aabu.edu.jo)

In [5] the authors studied morphic group rings and showed that for a ring  $A$  and a group  $G$ ,  $A$  is a morphic ring whenever  $AG$  is so. Then they gave some necessary conditions for the converse to be true. A continuation of this work was carried out in [8], while studying conditions under which a group ring is a principal ideal ring. Similar results were obtained for  $AG$  to be Baer (the annihilator of each non-empty subset of the ring is generated by an idempotent), quasi-Baer (the annihilator of any ideal is generated by an idempotent), or a PP-ring (every principal ideal is projective), see [14] and [15]. There are also studies that determine when  $AG$  is a clean ring, see [6].

In section 2, we studied when a group ring  $AG$  is a GM ring. We showed that if  $AG$  is a GM ring, then so is  $A$ , but not conversely. So our task is to study some situations in which the converse is true.

In section 3, we showed that if  $A$  is an Armendariz ring, and  $G$  is a **torsion free** abelian group (every non-identity element has infinite order), then  $AG$  is a GM ring if and only if  $A$  is a GM ring.

In section 4, we showed that  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is a GM ring if and only if, whenever  $p$  is a prime dividing  $\gcd(n, m)$ , then  $p^2 \nmid n$ . We showed that if  $D$  is a Noetherian integral domain,  $n = n.1 \in U(D)$ , and  $\hat{C}_n$  factors uniquely in  $DC_n$  as a product of irreducibles, then  $DC_n$  is a GM ring. Finally, we showed that if  $D$  is an integral domain, with  $\text{char}(D) = p$ , then  $DC_p$  is a GM ring.

## 2 When is $AG$ a GM ring?

In this section, we give necessary conditions for a group ring  $AG$  to be a GM ring.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $S$  be a ring and  $A$  be a subring of  $S$  such that both  $S$  and  $A$  have the same identity 1. Assume that  $S$  is a free  $A$ -module with a multiplicatively closed basis  $B$  such that  $1 \in B$ . Then  $A$  is a GM ring whenever  $S$  is so.*

*Proof.* Let  $r \in A$ . Then  $\text{Ann}_S(r) = \alpha S$ , for some  $\alpha \in S$  which implies that  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i$ , with  $a_i \in A$ ,  $g_i \in B$  for each  $i$ .

Let  $f : S \rightarrow A$  be defined by  $f(\sum r_i g_i) = \sum r_i$ . Then clearly  $f$  is a ring homomorphism, and so  $0 = f(0) = f(r\alpha) = r \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$ .

Thus,  $\left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i\right) A \subseteq \text{Ann}_A(r)$ . If  $b \in \text{Ann}_A(r) \subseteq \text{Ann}_S(r) = \alpha S$ , then  $0 = rb$ , and hence we have  $b = \alpha\beta$ , for some  $\beta \in S$ .

So  $b = f(b.1) = f(b) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i\right) f(\beta) \in \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i\right) A$ . Thus,  $A$  is a GM ring.

**Corollary 1.** *If  $AG$  is a GM ring for a ring  $A$  and a group  $G$ , then  $A$  is a GM.*

It follows by Theorem 1, that  $A$  is a GM ring whenever the polynomial ring  $A[x] = \{\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i : a_i \in A, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  or  $A[x, x^{-1}] = \{\sum_{i=-m}^n a_i x^i : a_i \in A, n, m \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}\}$  is a GM ring, being free  $A$ -modules with bases  $B_1 = \{x^n : n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}\}$  and  $B_2 = \{x^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , respectively. In section 3, we will show that if  $A$  is an Armendariz ring, then the converse is also true.

In general, we note that the converse of Corollary 1 is not true. For example, the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  is a GM ring, while  $\mathbb{Z}_4 C_2$  is not since  $\text{Ann}_{\mathbb{Z}_4 C_2}(2 + 2g) = (2, 1 - g)$  is not principal. Given that a ring  $A$  is a GM, the main objective of this paper is to determine some extra conditions on  $A$  or  $G$  that must be added to ensure that  $AG$  is also a GM ring.

*Example 1.*

1. It was shown in [5] that if  $AG$  is a morphic ring, then  $G$  must be a locally finite group. Now using Theorem 3.3 in [13], we see that if  $A$  is a PP-ring, then  $A\mathbb{Z}$  is a PP-ring, and so it is a GM ring while  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not locally finite.
2. It was shown in [14] that if  $AG$  is quasi-Baer and  $G$  is finite, then  $|G|^{-1} \in A$ . One can easily see that  $\mathbb{Z}_2 C_2$  is a GM ring (in fact it is a morphic ring), but 2 is not even a regular element in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Since  $\mathbb{Z}_2 C_2$  is a principal ideal ring it is not a quasi-Baer ring nor a PP-ring.
3. It was shown in [14, Lemma 3.1] that if  $2^{-1} \in A$ , then  $AC_2 \simeq A \times A$ , and so  $A$  is a GM ring if and only if  $AC_2$  is. In particular, if  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_2$  is a GM ring.
4. For any integral domain  $D$ ,  $Z(DC_2) = \{\alpha(1+g) : \alpha \in D\} \cup \{\beta(1-g) : \beta \in D\}$  with  $\text{Ann}_{DC_2}(\alpha(1+g)) = (1-g)DC_2$  and  $\text{Ann}_{DC_2}(\beta(1-g)) = (1+g)DC_2$ , and so  $DC_2$  is a GM ring. Moreover, if  $D$  is an integral domain that is not a field, with  $2^{-1} \notin D$ , then  $DC_2$  is a GM ring that is not a morphic ring nor a PP-ring.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $G$  be a group and  $A$  be a ring. Then  $AG$  is a GM ring if and only if  $AK$  is a GM ring for each finitely generated subgroup  $K$  of  $G$ .

*Proof.* Using Theorem 1,  $AK$  is a subring of  $AG$  sharing the same identity  $1.e$  and  $AG$  is a free  $AK$ -module with the multiplicatively closed basis  $G$ . Thus if  $AG$  is a GM ring, then  $AK$  is also a GM ring.

Conversely, let  $u = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i k_i \in AG$ , and let  $K = \langle k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \rangle$ . Then  $AK$  is a GM ring and  $u \in AK$ . Therefore,  $\text{Ann}_{AK}(u) = cAK$  is a principal ideal for some  $c \in AK$ , and since  $uc = 0$ , we have  $cAG \subseteq \text{Ann}_{AG}(u)$ . Let  $v \in \text{Ann}_{AG}(u)$  and  $e, g'_1, g'_2, \dots$  be the distinct representatives of the left cosets of  $K$  in  $G$ , and so  $G = K \cup g'_1 K \cup g'_2 K \cup \dots$ . Thus, we have  $v = \sum b_i g'_i$ , with  $b_i \in AK$ . Since  $0 = uv = \sum (ub_i) g'_i$ , we must have  $ub_i = 0$  for each  $i$ , and so  $b_i = cc_i$  with  $c_i \in AK$ . Thus,  $v = \sum b_i g'_i = \sum cc_i g'_i = c \sum c_i g'_i \in cAG$ . Hence,  $\text{Ann}_{AG}(u) = cAG$  is principal, and  $AG$  is a GM ring.

**Corollary 2.** Let  $A$  be a ring and let  $G$  be a locally finite group. Then  $AG$  is a GM ring if and only if  $AK$  is a GM ring for each finite subgroup  $K$  of  $G$ .

**Definition 1.** Let  $A$  be a ring and  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. For each  $m \in M$  let  $\text{Ann}_A(m) = \{r \in A : rm = 0\}$ . An  $A$ -module  $M$  is called a GM  $A$ -module if  $\text{Ann}_A(m)$  is a principal ideal for each  $m \in M$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $A$  be a ring and let  $G$  be a group. Then  $A$  is a GM ring if and only if  $AG$  is a GM  $A$ -module.

*Proof.* Let  $v = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i \in AG$  and let  $\text{Ann}_A(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = cA$ . It is clear that  $cA \subseteq \text{Ann}_A(v)$  and if  $r \in \text{Ann}_A(v)$ , then  $r \in \text{Ann}_A(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = cA$ . Thus,  $\text{Ann}_A(v) = cA$  is principal and  $AG$  is a GM  $A$ -module. The converse is clear.

### 3 The Group Ring $AG$ with $G$ a Torsion Free Abelian Group

In this section, we discuss the GM group rings  $AG$  in the case  $G$  is a torsion free abelian group. But first, we will need the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $\{A_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  be a direct system of rings such that each  $A_\alpha$  is a GM ring. For  $\alpha, \beta \in \Lambda$  with  $\alpha < \beta$ , let  $\varphi_\beta^\alpha : A_\alpha \rightarrow A_\beta$  be the corresponding ring homomorphism. For  $\alpha, \beta \in \Lambda$  with  $\alpha < \beta$ , let  $a_\alpha, b_\alpha \in A_\alpha$  and suppose that whenever  $\text{Ann}_{A_\alpha}(a_\alpha) = b_\alpha A_\alpha$ , we have  $\text{Ann}_{A_\alpha}(\varphi_\beta^\alpha(a_\alpha)) = \varphi_\beta^\alpha(b_\alpha) A_\beta$ . Then  $A = \varinjlim A_\alpha$  is a GM ring.

*Proof.* Using the terminology of [4, page 33] if  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , let  $\varphi_\alpha : A_\alpha \rightarrow A_\alpha$  be a homomorphism such that  $\varphi_\beta \circ \varphi_\beta^\alpha = \varphi_\beta^\alpha \circ \varphi_\alpha$ . Let  $a \in A$ . Then there exists  $\alpha \in \Lambda$  such that  $a = \varphi_\alpha(a_\alpha)$ . Since  $A_\alpha$  is a GM ring,  $\text{Ann}_{A_\alpha}(a_\alpha) = b_\alpha A_\alpha$ . Let  $b = \varphi_\alpha(b_\alpha)$ . Then  $ab = \varphi_\alpha(a_\alpha) \varphi_\alpha(b_\alpha) = \varphi_\alpha(a_\alpha b_\alpha) = \varphi_\alpha(0_\alpha) = 0$ . So  $bA \subseteq \text{Ann}_A(a)$ . Let  $c \in \text{Ann}_A(a)$ . Then there exists  $\beta \geq \alpha$  such that  $c = \varphi_\beta(c_\beta)$ . Now  $0 = ca = \varphi_\beta(c_\beta) \varphi_\alpha(a_\alpha) = \varphi_\beta(c_\beta) \varphi_\beta(\varphi_\beta^\alpha(a_\alpha)) = \varphi_\beta(c_\beta \varphi_\beta^\alpha(a_\alpha))$ . Thus there exists  $\gamma \geq \beta$  such that  $0_\gamma = \varphi_\gamma^\beta(c_\beta \varphi_\beta^\alpha(a_\alpha)) = \varphi_\gamma^\beta(c_\beta) \varphi_\gamma^\alpha(a_\alpha)$ . By assumption we must have  $\varphi_\gamma^\beta(c_\beta) \in \text{Ann}_\gamma(\varphi_\gamma^\alpha(a_\alpha)) = \varphi_\gamma^\alpha(b_\alpha) A_\gamma$ , that is  $\varphi_\gamma^\beta(c_\beta) = \varphi_\gamma^\alpha(b_\alpha) r_\gamma$  for some  $r_\gamma \in A_\gamma$ . Hence  $\varphi_\gamma(\varphi_\gamma^\beta(c_\beta)) = \varphi_\gamma(\varphi_\gamma^\alpha(b_\alpha)) \varphi_\gamma(r_\gamma)$ , and so  $c = \varphi_\beta(c_\beta) = \varphi_\alpha(b_\alpha) \varphi_\gamma(r_\gamma) = b \varphi_\gamma(r_\gamma) \in bA$ . Thus,  $\text{Ann}_A(a) = bA$  and  $A$  is a GM ring.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $A$  be an Armendariz ring and let  $G$  be a torsion free abelian group. Then  $A$  is a GM ring if and only if  $AG$  is.

*Proof.* If  $AG$  is a GM ring, then  $A$  is a GM ring as shown before, so assume that  $A$  is a GM ring. Now,  $AG = \varinjlim AK$  is an ascending union where  $K$  ranges over the finitely generated subgroups of  $G$ . Moreover,  $K$  is a finitely generated torsion free abelian group, and so  $K \approx \mathbb{Z}^n = \mathbb{Z} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}$  which implies that  $AK \approx A[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}]$  which is a GM ring being a localization of the GM ring  $A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , see [10, Theorem 2.1]. Now let  $K_1 \subseteq K_2$  and let  $A_1 = AK_1 = A[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}]$ ,  $A_2 = AK_2 = A[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_s^{\pm 1}]$ . Let  $a \in A_1$ . Then  $\text{Ann}_{A_1}(a) = bA_1$ . We want to show that  $\text{Ann}_{A_2}(a) = bA_2$ . Since  $ab = 0$  we have  $bA_2 \subseteq \text{Ann}_{A_2}(a)$ . Let  $c \in \text{Ann}_{A_2}(a)$ . Then  $0 = ac = \frac{a}{1} \frac{c}{t_1}$  where  $t_1$  is a monomial in  $x_1, \dots, x_s$ ,  $c_1 \in A[x_1, \dots, x_s]$ . We can view  $c_1$  as a polynomial in  $A_1[x_{n+1}, \dots, x_s]$ . Since  $A$  is Armendariz,  $\alpha_i \beta_j = 0$  for each coefficient  $\alpha_i$  of  $a$  and coefficient  $\beta_j$  of  $c_1$ . Thus  $\beta_j a = 0$  for each  $j$ , and so  $\beta_j \in \text{Ann}_{A_1}(a) = bA_1$  and this implies that  $c \in bA_2$ . Hence,  $\text{Ann}_{A_2}(a) = bA_2$ . Using Lemma 1, we get that  $AG$  is a GM ring.

Note that  $A\mathbb{Z}$  is never a morphic ring, since  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not locally finite, while if  $A$  is a GM Armendariz ring, then indeed  $A\mathbb{Z}$  is a GM ring.

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $A$  be an Armendariz ring. Then  $A$  is a GM ring if and only if  $A[x, x^{-1}]$  is a GM ring if and only if  $A[x]$  is a GM ring.*

*Proof.*  $A$  is a GM ring  $\Leftrightarrow A\mathbb{Z}$  is a GM ring  $\Leftrightarrow A[x, x^{-1}]$  is a GM ring.  
For  $A$  is a GM ring  $\Leftrightarrow A[x]$  is a GM ring, see [10].

## 4 The Group Ring $AC_n$

To work with torsion groups, we will consider the finite cyclic group  $C_n$ .

Following [3], a ring  $A$  is called an **EM ring** if for each finitely generated ideal  $I_1$  of  $A$  there exist an element  $x \in A$  and a finitely generated ideal  $I_2$  with  $I_1 = xI_2$  and  $\text{Ann}_A(I_2) = \{0\}$ . We recall that a ring  $A$  is said to have the **property (A)**, if whenever  $I$  is a finitely generated ideal contained in  $Z(A)$ , then we must have  $\text{Ann}_A(I) \neq 0$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $A$  be a Noetherian ring such that  $U(A) = \text{reg}(A)$ . Then  $A$  is an EM ring if and only if  $A$  is a principal ideal ring.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $A$  is an EM ring and  $I_1$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Then there exist  $x \in A$  and an ideal  $I_2$  of  $A$  such that  $I_1 = xI_2$  with  $\text{Ann}_A(I_2) = \{0\}$ . Since  $A$  has the property (A), the ideal  $I_2$  must be regular. Hence,  $I_2 = A$ , and so  $I_1 = xA$  is principal.

It was shown in [16, Proposition 2.8] that if  $A$  is a local ring with nilpotent Jacobson radical, then  $A$  is morphic if and only if  $A$  is GM. So if  $A$  is a finite ring, it is a product of quasi-local rings, and so a finite ring is morphic if and only if it is a GM ring. Now, we can give other equivalent conditions to the results 3.6, 3.8, 3.10 and 3.11 in [5]. The main result is:

**Theorem 5.** *The following are equivalent for  $n, m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ .*

1.  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is a morphic ring.
2.  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is a GM ring.
3.  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is an EM ring.
4.  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is a principal ideal ring.
5. If a prime integer  $p$  divides  $\text{gcd}(n, m)$ , then  $p^2 \nmid n$ .

*Proof.* (1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2) Follows immediately, since  $\mathbb{Z}_n C_m$  is a finite ring.

(2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (3) Follows by [1, Theorem 3.26].

(3) $\Leftrightarrow$ (4) Follows from Lemma 2.

(1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (5) See [5, Theorem 3.10].

It was shown in [6, Lemma 3.3] that if  $A$  is a division ring, then  $AC_n$  is a morphic ring. We now give a generalization of this result. Let  $A$  be a ring, and let  $a \in A$  be nonunit. Then  $a$  is called **irreducible** if  $a = bc$  implies  $b$  or  $c$  is **associate** with  $a$ , that is  $(a) = (b)$  or  $(a) = (c)$ . A commutative ring  $A$  is called **atomic** if every nonzero nonunit element of  $A$  is a finite product of irreducible elements. It is well known that if a ring  $A$  satisfies the ascending chain condition on principal ideals (in particular if  $A$  is Noetherian), then  $A$  is atomic, see [2].

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $A$  be a Noetherian ring and  $y \in Z(A)$  such that  $yA$  is a prime principal ideal of  $A$ . If  $x \in yA \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $x = y^n s$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $s \in A \setminus yA$ .*

*Proof.* See [1, Lemma 3.25].

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $A$  be a ring and let  $G$  be a finite group such that  $|G| = n$ . Then  $n$  is a unit in  $A$  if and only if  $AG = (\hat{G}) \oplus \triangle(G)$  as rings.*

*Proof.* It is clear that for any  $\alpha \in AG$ ,  $\alpha \hat{G} = \varepsilon(\alpha) \hat{G}$ . Thus  $(n^{-1} \hat{G})^2 = n^{-1} \hat{G}$  is an idempotent, and so we have  $AG = (n^{-1} \hat{G}) \oplus (1 - n^{-1} \hat{G})$ . But  $(n^{-1} \hat{G}) = (\hat{G})$ , and  $1 - n^{-1} \hat{G} \in \triangle(G)$ . Now, if  $f \in \triangle(G)$ , then

$$f = f n^{-1} \hat{G} + f(1 - n^{-1} \hat{G}) = \varepsilon(f) n^{-1} \hat{G} + f(1 - n^{-1} \hat{G}) = f(1 - n^{-1} \hat{G}) \in (1 - n^{-1} \hat{G})$$

and since we have  $1 - n^{-1} \hat{G} \in \triangle(G)$ , then  $AG = (\hat{G}) \oplus \triangle(G)$  as rings. If  $AG = (\hat{G}) \oplus \triangle(G)$ , then  $1 = \alpha \hat{G} + \beta$ , where  $\alpha \in AG$ , and  $\beta \in \triangle(G)$ . Thus,  $1 = \varepsilon(\alpha \hat{G} + \beta) = \varepsilon(\alpha) n + 0$ .

**Theorem 6.** If  $D$  is a Noetherian integral domain,  $n \in U(D)$ , and  $\hat{C}_n$  factors uniquely in  $DC_n$  as a product of irreducibles, then  $DC_n$  is a GM ring.

*Proof.* Note that  $DC_n$  is a reduced Noetherian ring, see [7, Theorem 5]. Assume that  $C_n = \langle g \rangle$ . Since  $\Delta(C_n)$  is generated by the set  $\{1 - g^i : 1 \leq i < n\}$  and  $1 - g^i = (1 - g)(1 + g + \cdots + g^{i-1})$ , we have  $\Delta(C_n) = (1 - g)DC_n$  a principal prime ideal, since  $D$  is an integral domain, and so it follows by Lemma 4, that  $DC_n = (\hat{g}) \oplus (1 - g)$ . Thus, we can write any element in  $DC_n$  as  $\alpha_0 \hat{g} + \alpha_1 (1 - g)$ , where  $\alpha_0 \in D$  and  $\alpha_1 \in \Delta(C_n)$ . Note that  $1 - g$  is an irreducible element in  $DC_n$  being a prime element, and assume that  $\hat{g} = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_m$  a finite product of irreducibles. Let  $f = \alpha_0 \hat{g} + \alpha_1 (1 - g) \in Z(DC_n) \setminus \{0\}$  and  $h = \beta_0 \hat{g} + \beta_1 (1 - g) \in \text{Ann}_{DC_n}(f) \setminus \{0\}$ . Then  $\alpha_0 \beta_0 n \hat{g} + \alpha_1 \beta_1 (1 - g)^2 = 0$ , which implies that  $\alpha_0 \beta_0 n \hat{g} = -\alpha_1 \beta_1 (1 - g)^2 \in (\hat{g}) \cap \Delta(C_n) = \{0\}$ , and so  $\alpha_0 \beta_0 n \hat{g} = \alpha_1 \beta_1 (1 - g)^2 = 0$ . Thus we have,  $\alpha_0 \beta_0 = 0$ , which implies that  $\alpha_0 = 0$  or  $\beta_0 = 0$ , and since  $DC_n$  is a reduced ring we have  $\alpha_1 \beta_1 (1 - g) = 0$ , and so,  $\alpha_1 \beta_1 \in \text{Ann}_{DC_n}(1 - g) \cap \Delta(C_n) = (\hat{g}) \cap \Delta(C_n) = \{0\}$ . Using Lemma 3, and that  $DG$  is an atomic ring with  $1 - g$  is an irreducible element, we get  $\alpha_1 = a(1 - g)^s, \beta_1 = b(1 - g)^l$ , where  $a, b \in DC_n \setminus (1 - g)$ , and so,  $0 = ab(1 - g)^{s+l}$ , and since  $DC_n$  is reduced, we have  $ab(1 - g) = 0$ , and hence  $ab \in (\hat{g})$ . Thus  $\alpha_1 = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k \alpha_2 (1 - g)^s$  and  $\beta_1 = \frac{\hat{g}}{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k} \beta_2 (1 - g)^l$ . If  $\alpha_0 = 0$ , then  $f = \alpha_1 (1 - g)$ ,

$$h = \beta_0 \hat{g} + \frac{\hat{g}}{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k} \beta_2 (1 - g)^l = (\beta_0 \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k + \beta_2 (1 - g)^l) \left( \frac{\hat{g}}{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k} \right)$$

and  $\text{Ann}_{DC_n}(f) = \left( \frac{\hat{g}}{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k} \right)$  is principal. If  $\alpha_0 \neq 0$ , then  $f = \alpha_0 \hat{g} + \alpha_1 (1 - g), h = \beta_1 (1 - g) \in \frac{\hat{g}}{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k} (1 - g)$ , and  $\text{Ann}_{DC_n}(f) = \left( \frac{\hat{g}}{\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_k} (1 - g) \right)$  is principal. Thus,  $DC_n$  is a GM ring.

*Example 2.* The ring  $\mathbb{Q}[x]C_n$  is a GM ring for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , but it is not a morphy ring, since  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  is not.

We now turn to the case when  $n$  is not a unit in  $A$ . We showed in Example 1(4) that if  $D$  is an integral domain, then  $DC_2$  is a GM ring. Now, we generalize to any prime number.

**Theorem 7.** Let  $D$  be an integral domain with  $\text{char}(D) = p$ , an odd prime. Then  $DC_p$  is a GM ring.

*Proof.* Let  $C_p = \langle g \rangle$ , and let  $f = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} a_i g^i \in Z(DC_p) \setminus \{0\}$ . Assume  $h = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} x_i g^i \in \text{Ann}(f) \setminus \{0\}$ . Then we get the system  $\sum_{i+j \equiv k \pmod{p}} a_i x_j = 0$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, p-1$ . Thus we have a circulant matrix

$$C = \text{CIRC}(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{p-1}) = \begin{bmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{p-2} & a_{p-1} \\ a_{p-1} & a_0 & \dots & a_{p-3} & a_{p-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_0 & a_1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_{p-1} & a_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

such that  $C \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{p-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Working in the field of fractions  $Q(D)$  and using [9, Theorem 1.1], we get  $0 = \det(C) =$

$\sum_{i=0}^{p-1} a_i^p + pt$  for  $t \in D$ . Since  $\text{char}(D) = p$ , we get  $0 = \det(C) = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} a_i^p = \left( \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} a_i \right)^p$ , and hence  $\sum_{i=0}^{p-1} a_i = 0$ , i.e.,  $f \in \Delta(C_p)$ .

If  $a_i = a_j$  for all  $i, j$ , then  $f = a_0 \hat{g}$  and  $\text{Ann}(f) = (1 - g)$  is principal.

If  $a_i \neq a_j$  for some  $i \neq j$ , then  $C$  is nonrecurrent circular matrix, and so it follows by [11, Theorem 2.1] that  $\text{rank}(C) = p - 1$ , and thus,  $\text{nullity}(C) = 1$ , that is  $\text{nullspace}(C) = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{p-1})D$  is a one dimensional  $D$ -module. But  $h \in \text{Ann}_{DC_p}(f)$

if and only if  $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{p-1}) \in \text{nullspace}(C) = (c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{p-1})D$ , and so  $h \in \left( \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} c_i g^i \right) DC_p$ . Thus,  $\text{Ann}_{DC_p}(f) =$

$\left( \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} c_i g^i \right) DC_p$  is a principal ideal.

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