

GPF-PROPERTIES OF GROUP RINGS

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ABSTRACT. All rings R in this article are assumed to be commutative with unity $1 \neq 0$. A ring R is called a *GPF*-ring if for every $a \in R$ there exists a positive integer n such that the annihilator ideal $\text{Ann}_R(a^n)$ is pure. We prove that for a ring R and an Abelian group G , if the group ring RG is a *GPF*-ring then so is R . Moreover, if G is a finite Abelian group then $|G|$ is a unit or a zero-divisor in R . We prove that if G is a group such that for every nontrivial subgroup H of G , $[G : H] < \infty$, then the group ring RG is a *GPF*-ring if and only if RH is a *GPF*-ring for each finitely generated subgroup H of G . It is proved that if R is a local ring and RG is a *U*-group ring, then RG is a *GPF*-ring if and only if R is a *GPF*-ring and $p \in \text{Nil}(R)$. Finally, we prove that if R is a semisimple ring and G is a finite group such that $|G|^{-1} \in R$, then RG is a *GPF*-ring if and only if RG is a *PF*-ring.

1. INTRODUCTION

All rings considered in this paper are assumed to be commutative with unity $1 \neq 0$, and all groups are Abelian. Recall that a ring R is called a *PF*-ring if every principal ideal is a flat R -module. An ideal I of a ring R is called pure if for every $a \in I$, there exists $b \in I$ such that $ab = a$. It is well known that a ring R is a *PF*-ring if and only

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if $\text{Ann}_R(a) = \{x \in R : xa = 0\}$ is a pure ideal for every $a \in R$, see [2]. There are different characterizations of PF -rings, see [7] and [3]. A ring R is called a PP -ring if for each $a \in R$, $\text{Ann}_R(a)$ is generated by an idempotent element in R . These rings were studied extensively in literatures, see [6], [9], and [3]. As a generalization of PP -ring, Hirano in [10] introduced a new class of rings called GPP -rings. A ring R is called a GPP -ring if for each $a \in R$, there exists a positive integer n such that $a^n R$ is projective. It is known that a ring R is a GPP -ring if and only if for every $a \in R$ there exists a positive integer n such that the annihilator ideal $\text{Ann}_R(a^n)$ is generated by an idempotent. Some properties of GPP -rings were investigated in [10] and [11].

Al-Ezeh in [4] introduced a new class of rings called GPF -rings. A ring R is called a GPF -ring if for each $a \in R$, there exists a positive integer n such that $a^n R$ is a flat R -module. Also, a ring R is a GPF -ring if and only if for every $a \in R$, there exists a positive integer n such that the annihilator ideal $\text{Ann}_R(a^n)$ is a pure ideal. A study of this class of rings and the relationship between GPP -rings and GPF -rings were carried by Al-Ezeh [4].

Clearly, every PF -ring is a GPF -ring. Every PF -ring is a reduced ring (a ring with no nonzero nilpotent elements), see [2, Lemma 2], but not every GPF -ring is a reduced ring. Al-Ezeh in [4] proved that a ring R is a reduced GPF -ring if and only if R is a PF -ring. Let $C(X)$ be the ring of all real valued continuous functions defined on X . Then $C(\mathbb{N})$ is PF -ring, and so it is GPF -ring, while $C(\mathbb{R})$ is not GPF -ring, being a reduced non PF -ring. Later on we will give an example of a GPF -ring which is not a PF -ring.

It was shown in [14] that if the group ring RG is PP -ring (PF -ring), then so is R , and if G is torsion free, then the converse is also true. Other cases for the converse can be found also in [16].

The PP -rings has been studied on group rings by Zan and Chen in [17]. Our aim in this paper is to characterize when group rings RG are GPF -rings. Our work would be parallel to the work done in [17], with modifications when needed.

2. GPF -RINGS

In this section, we establish general new results on GPF -rings.

Definition 2.1 ([15]). *An ideal I of the ring R is said to be generalized pure if for every $a \in I$ there exists $b \in I$ and a positive integer n such that $a^n = a^n b$.*

Proposition 2.1 ([15, Theorem 2.5]). *Let R be a GPF -ring. Then for every $a \in R$, $\text{Ann}_R(a)$ is a generalized pure ideal.*

Recall that a ring S is called an over ring of R if $R \subset S \subset Q(R)$, where $Q(R)$ is the total quotient ring of R .

Theorem 2.1. *If a ring R is a GPF -ring, then every over ring of R is a GPF -ring.*

Proof. Let S be an over ring of R . Let $\frac{a}{t} \in S$. Since R is a GPF -ring, there exists a positive integer n such that $\text{Ann}_R(a^n)$ is a pure ideal. Let $\frac{x}{s} \in \text{Ann}_S\left(\frac{a^n}{t^n}\right)$. Then $xa^n = 0$, and so there exists $y \in \text{Ann}_R(a^n)$ such that $x = xy$. Hence, $y \in \text{Ann}_S\left(\frac{a^n}{t^n}\right)$ and $\frac{x}{s} = \frac{xy}{s}y$. So, S is a GPF -ring. \square

Theorem 2.2. *Let R be a subring of a ring S both with the same identity. Suppose that S is a free R -module with a basis G such that $1 \in G$. If S is GPF -ring, then so is R .*

Proof. Let $a \in R \subseteq S$. Then there exists a positive integer $n \geq 1$ such that $\text{Ann}_S(a^n)$ is pure.

Let $b \in \text{Ann}_R(a^n) \subseteq \text{Ann}_S(a^n)$. Then there exists $c = c_0 + c_1g_1 + \dots + c_mg_m \in \text{Ann}_S(a^n)$ such that $b = bc$, where $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_m \in R$.

So, $b = bc = bc_0 + bc_1g_1 + \dots + bc_mg_m$. Thus, $b = bc_0$.

Moreover, since $0 = a^n c = a^n c_0 + a^n c_1 g_1 + \dots + a^n c_m g_m$, $a^n c_i = 0$ for all $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$, we have $c_0 \in \text{Ann}_R(a^n)$ and $b = bc_0$.

Thus, R is GPF -ring. □

Corollary 2.1. *If $R[x]$ or $R[x, x^{-1}]$ is a GPF -ring, then so is R .*

Proof. $R[x]$ and $R[x, x^{-1}]$ are free R -module with bases $\{x^i : i = 0, 1, \dots\}$

and $\{x^i : i = 0, \pm 1, \dots\}$, respectively, satisfying the assumptions of Theorem 2.2. □

Corollary 2.2. *Let $f(x) = x^m + a_1x^{m-1} + \dots + a_m \in R[x]$ be a monic polynomial. If $R[x]/(f(x))$ is a GPF -ring, then R is so.*

Proof. $S = R[x]/(f(x))$ is a free R -module with a basis $\{1, x, \dots, x^{m-1}\}$ satisfying the assumptions of Theorem 2.2. □

Lemma 2.1. *Let R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m be rings. Then $R = \prod_{i=1}^m R_i$ is a GPF -ring if and only if R_i is a GPF -ring for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.*

Proof. Assume that R_i is a GPF -ring for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Let $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \in R$. Then there exist positive integers $n_i \geq 1$ such that $\text{Ann}_{R_i}(x_i^{n_i})$ is pure ideal for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Hence, $\text{Ann}_{R_i}(x_i^k)$ is pure ideal for all $k \geq n_i$; $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, see [15, Lemma 3.2].

Let $k = \max\{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m\}$ and let $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m) \in \text{Ann}_R(x^k)$.

Then $y_i \in \text{Ann}_{R_i}(x_i^k)$ and so, there exists $c_i \in \text{Ann}_{R_i}(x_i^k)$ such that $y_i = y_i c_i$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

So, $c = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m) \in \text{Ann}_R(x^k)$ and $y = yc$.

Thus, R is a GPF -ring.

Conversely, assume that $R = \prod_{i=1}^m R_i$ is a GPF -ring and let $x_i \in R_i$; $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Consider $x = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m)$, with $\alpha_j = \begin{cases} x_i & j = i \\ 0 & j \neq i \end{cases}$. Then since R is a GPF -ring, there exists a positive integer n such that $\text{Ann}_R(x^n)$ is pure.

Let $y_i \in \text{Ann}_{R_i}(x_i^n)$. Consider $y = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m)$, with $\beta_j = \begin{cases} y_i & j = i \\ 0 & j \neq i \end{cases}$. Then $y \in \text{Ann}_R(x^n)$ and hence there exists $c = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m) \in \text{Ann}_R(x^n)$ such that $y = yc$.

Thus, $c_i \in \text{Ann}_{R_i}(x_i^n)$ and $y_i = y_i c_i$.

Therefore, R_i is a GPF -ring for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. □

3. GROUP RINGS

Given a ring R and a group G , we will denote the group ring of G over R by RG . Elements of the ring RG are just formal finite sums of the form $\sum_{g \in G} a_g g$ with all but a finite number of a_g are 0_R . We write C_n for the cyclic group of order n , \mathbb{Z} for the ring of integers, \mathbb{Z}_n for the ring of integers modulo n , and \mathbb{C} is the field of complex numbers. The imaginary unit is denoted by \mathbf{i} .

Theorem 3.1. *Let R be a ring and G be a group. If RG is a GPF -ring, then so is R .*

Proof. $S = RG$ is a free R -module with a basis G satisfying the assumptions of Theorem 2.2. □

However, the converse of this theorem is not true, as well be seen in Example 3.4, and the question is what extra conditions on R or G can be added to ensure that if R is a GPF -ring, then so is RG .

Theorem 3.2. *If RG is a GPF–ring and H is a subgroup of G , then RH is a GPF–ring too.*

Proof. RH is a subring of RG and RG is a free RH –module on the set $\{g_1, g_2, \dots\}$, the coset representatives of H in G . So, by Theorem 2.2, RH is a GPF–ring. \square

Corollary 3.1. *Let G be a group such that for every non trivial finitely generated subgroup H of G , $[G : H] < \infty$. Then the group ring RG is a GPF–ring if and only if RH is a GPF–ring for each finitely generated subgroup H of G .*

Proof. If RG is GPF–ring, then by Theorem 3.2 RH is a GPF–ring for each finitely generated subgroup H of G .

Assume that RH is a GPF–ring for each finitely generated subgroup H of G . Let $u = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i h_i \in RG$, and let $H = \langle h_1, \dots, h_m \rangle$ be the finitely generated subgroup of G generated by h_1, \dots, h_m . Then RH is a GPF–ring. Since $u \in RH$, there exists a positive integer n such that $\text{Ann}_{RH}(u^n)$ is pure ideal.

Let $v \in \text{Ann}_{RG}(u^n)$. Since $[G : H] < \infty$, let $\{g_0, g_1, \dots, g_r\}$ be a left coset representative of H in G , $g_0 = 1$. That is $G = H \cup g_1 H \cup \dots \cup g_r H$. Now, v can be written as $v = \sum_{j=0}^r g_j b_j$, where $b_j \in RH$. Since $0 = vu^n = \sum_{j=0}^r g_j (b_j u^n)$, we obtain that $b_j u^n = 0$ for all $j = 0, 1, \dots, r$. So, $b_j \in \text{Ann}_{RH}(u^n)$ and thus $b_j = b_j c_j$ for some $c_j \in \text{Ann}_{RH}(u^n)$, $j = 0, 1, \dots, r$.

Let $1 - c = \prod_{j=0}^r (1 - c_j)$. Then $c \in \text{Ann}_{RH}(u^n)$ and $b_j = b_j c$ for all $j = 0, 1, \dots, r$.

It follows that $v = \sum_{j=0}^r g_j b_j = \sum_{j=0}^r g_j (b_j c) = \left(\sum_{j=0}^r g_j b_j \right) c = vc$ and $c \in \text{Ann}_{RH}(u^n) \subseteq \text{Ann}_{RG}(u^n)$.

Hence, $\text{Ann}_{RG}(u^n)$ is pure ideal for some positive integer n .

Therefore, RG is GPF–ring. \square

Theorem 3.3. *If RG is a GPF–ring, then the order of each finite order element $g \in G$ is either a unit or a zero-divisor in R .*

Proof. Let $g \in G$ with $|g| = m$. Let H be the cyclic subgroup generated by g . Then, by Theorem 3.2, RH is a GPF -ring too. Now $1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{m-1} \in \text{Ann}_{RH}(1 - g)$.

Since RH is a GPF -ring, $\text{Ann}_{RH}(1 - g)$ is generalized pure ideal in RH . So, there exists a positive integer $n \geq 1$ and $a = a_0 + a_1g + \dots + a_{m-1}g^{m-1} \in \text{Ann}_{RH}(1 - g)$ such that $(1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{m-1})^n a = (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{m-1})^n$ and $a(1 - g) = 0$.

Thus, $a_0 = a_1 = \dots = a_{m-1}$ since $a = ag$.

So, $(1 + g + \dots + g^{m-1})^n (a_0 + a_0g + \dots + a_0g^{m-1}) = (1 + g + \dots + g^{m-1})^n$.

Hence, $a_0(1 + g + \dots + g^{m-1})^{n+1} = (1 + g + \dots + g^{m-1})^n$.

So, $a_0m^n = m^{n-1}$ and hence $(a_0m - 1)m^{n-1} = 0$.

Therefore, m is either a unit or a zero-divisor in R . □

Corollary 3.2. *If G is a finite group and RG is a GPF -ring, then $|G|$ is either a unit or a zero-divisor in R .*

Proof. Let G be a finite group and $|G| = n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i}$ where p_i are distinct primes and $\alpha_i \geq 1$ are positive integers for all $i = 1, \dots, k$. Then by Cauchy Theorem, there exists $g_i \in G$ such that $|g_i| = p_i$, for all $i = 1, \dots, k$.

Thus, since RG is a GPF -ring and by Theorem 3.3, p_i is either a unit or a zero-divisor in R for all $i = 1, \dots, k$.

So, $|G| = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i}$ is either a unit or a zero-divisor in R . □

Example 3.1. *Let $R = \mathbb{Z}_4$ and $G = C_2$. Then RG is not a PF -ring because RG is not a reduced ring. Since every non-zero element in RG is either a unit or a nilpotent, then it follows by [4, Lemma 1.5] that RG is a GPF -ring. Moreover, 2 is a zero-divisor in $R = \mathbb{Z}_4$.*

Example 3.2. *$\mathbb{Z}G$ is not a GPF -ring for any nontrivial finite group G .*

A group ring is called a U -group ring if $a = \sum a_i g_i \in RG$ is a unit if and only if $\epsilon(a) = \sum a_i$ is a unit in R . It was proved in [1] that RG is a U -group ring if and only if G is a p -group and $p \in J(R)$, the Jacobson Radical of R .

Theorem 3.4. *Let R be a local ring and RG be a U -group ring. Then RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R is a GPF -ring and $p \in Nil(R)$.*

Proof. By [13, page 138], RG is a local ring.

Since RG is a local ring, RG is a GPF -ring if and only if RG is a domainlike ring, $(Z(R) = Nil(R))$, see [4, Lemma 1.5].

Now, G is a torsion group because G is an Abelian p -group and so by [5, Theorem 3.8] RG is a domainlike ring if and only if R is a domainlike ring and $p \in Nil(R)$.

But since R is a local ring, R is a domainlike ring if and only if R is a GPF -ring.

Thus, RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R is a GPF -ring and $p \in Nil(R)$. \square

Example 3.3. $\mathbb{Z}_{p^r}G$ is a GPF -ring for any Abelian p -group because $p \in Nil(\mathbb{Z}_{p^r})$ and \mathbb{Z}_{p^r} is local domainlike ring.

The following lemma exists in [12, page 134].

Lemma 3.1. $(R_1 \times R_2 \times \cdots \times R_m)G \cong \prod_{i=1}^m R_i G$

Theorem 3.5. *If $R = R_1 \times R_2 \times \cdots \times R_m$, then RG is a GPF -ring if and only if $R_i G$ is a GPF -ring for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.*

Proof. The proof follows from Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 3.1. \square

Theorem 3.6. *Let $R = \prod_{i=1}^n R_i$ where each R_i is local ring. Assume that RG is a U -group ring. Then RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R is GPF -ring and $p \in Nil(R_i)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.*

Proof. RG is a U -group ring if and only if R_iG is a U -group ring for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, see [1].

But since R_i is local and R_iG is a U -group ring, R_iG is a GPF -ring if and only if R_i is a GPF -ring and $p \in \text{Nil}(R_i)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

By Theorem 3.5, RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R_iG is a GPF -ring for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

So, RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R_iG is a GPF -ring for all $i = 1, \dots, n$ if and only if R_i is a GPF -ring and $p \in \text{Nil}(R_i)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$ if and only if R is a GPF -ring and $p \in \text{Nil}(R_i)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. \square

Recall that, every Artinian ring R is isomorphic to a finite direct product of Artinian local rings R_i .

Corollary 3.3. *Let R be an Artinian ring and RG be a U -group ring. Then RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R is a GPF -ring and $p \in \text{Nil}(R_i)$, where $R = \prod_{i=1}^n R_i$, for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.*

Theorem 3.7. *If R is a semisimple ring and G is a finite group such that $|G|^{-1} \in R$, then RG is a GPF -ring if and only if RG is a PF -ring.*

Proof. By [12, Theorem 3.4.7], RG is a semisimple ring and hence it is a reduced ring.

Thus, RG is a GPF -ring if and only if RG is a PF -ring. \square

Theorem 3.8. *Let R be a ring and G be a torsion free group such that $|\text{Spec}(RG)| < \infty$. Then RG is a GPF -ring if and only if R is a GPF -ring.*

Proof. By Theorem 3.1, if RG is a GPF -ring then R is a GPF -ring.

Conversely, assume R is a GPF -ring. Then R_p is a domainlike for every $p \in \text{Spec}(R)$.

Since G is a torsion free, it follows that R_pG is a domainlike, see [5, Theorem 3.11].

Let $P \in \text{Spec}(RG)$. Then $q = P \cap R \in \text{Spec}(R)$, and $(RG)_P = (R_q G)_{PR_q G}$. Consequently, $(RG)_P$ is a domainlike for all $P \in \text{Spec}(RG)$. Since $|\text{Spec}(RG)| < \infty$ and by [4, Theorem 1.8], RG is a GPF -ring. \square

The following proposition exists in [16].

Proposition 3.1. *Let R be a ring. Then*

- (1) *If $2^{-1} \in R$, then $RC_2 \cong R \times R$ and $RC_4 \cong R \times R \times (R[x]/(x^2 + 1))$*
- (2) *If $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $3^{-1} \in R$, then $RC_3 \cong R \times (R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1))$.*

Corollary 3.4. *If $2^{-1} \in R$, then RC_2 is a GPF -ring if and only if R is a GPF -ring.*

Proof. The proof follows from Theorem 3.1, Proposition 3.1 and Lemma 2.1. \square

Corollary 3.5. *If $2^{-1} \in R$, then RC_4 is a GPF -ring if and only if $R[x]/(x^2 + 1)$ is a GPF -ring.*

Proof. The proof follows from Theorem 3.1, Proposition 3.1, Corollary 2.2 and Lemma 2.1. \square

Corollary 3.6. *If $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $3^{-1} \in R$, then RC_3 is a GPF -ring if and only if $R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$ is a GPF -ring.*

Proof. The proof follows from Theorem 3.1, Proposition 3.1, Corollary 2.2 and Lemma 2.1. \square

Note that, if $G = H \times K$, then $RG = R(H \times K) \cong (RH)K$.

Corollary 3.7. *If $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $6^{-1} \in R$, then RC_6 is a GPF -ring if and only if $R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$ is a GPF -ring.*

Proof. Since $C_6 \cong C_3 \times C_2$, then $RC_6 \cong (RC_3)C_2$.

So, because $2^{-1} \in R \subseteq RC_3$, RC_6 is a *GPF*-ring if and only if RC_3 is a *GPF*-ring.

Since $R \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and $3^{-1} \in R$, RC_3 is a *GPF*-ring if and only if $R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$ is a *GPF*-ring.

Hence, RC_6 is a *GPF*-ring if and only if $R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$ is a *GPF*-ring. \square

We now investigate a case at which $R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$ is a *GPF*-ring.

Lemma 3.2. *Let R_1 and R_2 be two integral domains, and let T be a non-integral domain subring of $R = R_1 \times R_2$ containing the identity element $(1, 1)$. Then T is a *GPF*-ring if and only if $(0, 1) \in T$.*

Proof. Assume that T is a *GPF*-ring. Since T is not an integral domain, there are non-zero elements $(a, b), (c, d) \in T$ such that $(a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (0, 0)$. Since $(a, b) \neq (0, 0)$, either $a \neq 0$ or $b \neq 0$, say $a \neq 0$. Thus $c = 0$ and $d \neq 0$. Since $(c, d) \in \text{Ann}_T((a, b))$, by [15, Theorem 2.5] there exists a positive integer n and $(x, y) \in \text{Ann}_T((a, b))$ such that $(c, d)^n(x, y) = (c, d)^n$. So, $d^ny = d^n$ and $d \neq 0$ in R_2 . Thus $y = 1$. Since $x^na = 0$ and $a \neq 0$ in R_1 , $x = 0$. So, $(x, y) = (0, 1) \in T$.

Now, assume that $(0, 1) \in T$. Then, $(1, 1) - (0, 1) = (1, 0) \in T$. Consider any $(0, 0) \neq (a, b) \in T$. If $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$, $\text{Ann}_T((a, b)) = \{(0, 0)\}$. If $a = 0, b \neq 0$, $\text{Ann}_T((a, b)) = (1, 0)T$ and if $a \neq 0, b = 0$, $\text{Ann}_T((a, b)) = (0, 1)T$. Also if $a = b = 0$, then $\text{Ann}_T((a, b)) = T$. So, T is a *PP*-ring and hence T is a *GPF*-ring. \square

Theorem 3.9. *Let R be an integral domain and let $Q(R)$ denotes the quotient field of R . Consider the polynomial $x^2 + a_1x + a_2 \in R[x]$ with α, β are its roots in some field extension, and $\alpha - \beta$ is a unit in R . Then $R[x]/(x^2 + a_1x + a_2)$ is a *GPF*-ring if and only if either $\alpha \in R$ or $\alpha \notin Q(R)$.*

Proof. Let $T = R[x]/(x^2 + a_1x + a_2)$ and $x^2 + a_1x + a_2 = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$. By hypothesis, $\alpha \neq \beta$. First suppose $\alpha \notin Q(R)$. Then $x^2 + a_1x + a_2$ is irreducible over

$Q(R)$ and hence it is irreducible over R since the polynomial is monic. Thus, T is an integral domain. In particular T is a GPF -ring.

If $\alpha \in Q(R)$, then define $\Phi : R[x] \longrightarrow Q(R) \times Q(R)$ by $\Phi(f(x)) = (f(\alpha), f(\beta)) \in Q(R) \times Q(R)$. Then Φ is a ring homomorphism with $\text{Ker}(\Phi) = (x^2 + a_1x + a_2)$. Hence, T is a subring of $Q(R) \times Q(R)$.

Assume now that T is a GPF -ring, and so it follows by Lemma 3.2 that $(0, 1) \in T$.

Thus there exists $ax + b \in R[x]$ such that $a\alpha + b = 0$ and $a\beta + b = 1$. But since $x^2 + a_1x + a_2 = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$, $\alpha + \beta = -a_1$ and $\alpha\beta = a_2$. So,

$$2(b - 1)b = 2(-a\beta)(-a\alpha) = 2a^2\alpha\beta = 2a^2a_2.$$

Also,

$$2(b - 1)b = (2b - 2)b = -(1 + a(\alpha + \beta))b = -(1 - aa_1)b = (aa_1 - 1)b.$$

So,

$$2a^2a_2 = (aa_1 - 1)b.$$

Thus

$$-b = 2a^2a_2 - aa_1b.$$

Hence

$$\alpha = -\frac{b}{a} = 2aa_2 - a_1b \in R.$$

So, $\alpha \in R$.

Now, assume that $\alpha \in R$, and define $p(x) = \frac{x - \alpha}{\beta - \alpha}$. Then $p(x) \in R[x]$, since $\beta - \alpha$ is a unit. But $\Phi(p(x)) = (p(\alpha), p(\beta)) = (0, 1)$. Thus it follows by Lemma 3.2 that T is a GPF -ring. \square

Example 3.4. Let $S = \{\frac{n}{3^k} : n, k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \geq 0\}$. Then S is a subring of \mathbb{Q} . Set $R = \{a + \sqrt{3}bi : a, b \in S\}$. Then R is a subring of \mathbb{C} with $\frac{1}{3} \in R$. Because R is a domain, it is certainly a GPF -ring.

Let $f(x) = x^2 + x + 1 \in R[x]$. Then $\alpha = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}\mathbf{i}}{2} \notin R$.

Let $r = 2\sqrt{3}\mathbf{i}$, $s = -(3 + \sqrt{3}\mathbf{i})$. Then $r, s \in R$ and $\alpha = \frac{s}{r} \in Q(R)$.

Since $(\alpha - \beta)^{-1} = (\sqrt{3}\mathbf{i})^{-1} = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\mathbf{i} \in R$, $RC_3 \cong R \times (R[x]/(x^2 + x + 1))$ is not a GPF-ring.

The above example shows that RC_3 is not a GPF-ring although 3 is a unit in R and R is a GPF-ring.

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