

## SKEW POLYNOMIAL RINGS OVER 2-PRIMAL NOETHERIAN RINGS

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### Abstract

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . We say that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring if  $a\delta(a) \in P(R)$  implies  $a \in P(R)$ , where  $P(R)$  is the prime radical of  $R$ .

We prove that  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  is a 2-primal Noetherian ring if  $R$  is a Noetherian ring, which moreover an algebra over the field of rational numbers,  $\sigma$  and  $\delta$  are such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring and  $\sigma(P) = P$ ,  $P$  being any minimal prime ideal of  $R$ . We use this to prove that if  $R$  is a Noetherian  $\sigma(*)$ -ring (i.e.  $a\sigma(a) \in P(R)$  implies  $a \in P(R)$ ),  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring, then  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  is a 2-primal Noetherian ring.

## 1 Introduction

We begin with the following question:

**Question (2) of Bhat [4]:** If  $R$  is Noetherian ring, which is also an algebra over the field of rational numbers,  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . Is  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  2-primal?

In this paper an affirmative answer to this question is given in case  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring.

We follow the notation as in Bhat [4], but to make the paper self contained, we have the following:

A ring  $R$  always means an associative ring. The field of rational numbers is denoted by  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The set of prime ideals and the set of minimal prime ideals of  $R$  are denoted by  $Spec(R)$  and  $MinSpec(R)$  respectively.  $P(R)$  and  $N(R)$

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denote the prime radical and the set of nilpotent elements of  $R$ , respectively. Let  $I$  and  $J$  be any two ideals of a ring  $R$ . Then  $I \subset J$  means that  $I$  is strictly contained in  $J$ . Let  $I$  be an ideal of a ring  $R$  such that  $\sigma^m(I) = I$  for some integer  $m \geq 1$ , we denote  $\bigcap_{i=1}^m \sigma^i(I)$  by  $I^0$ .

This article concerns the study of skew polynomial rings in terms of 2-primal rings. 2-primal rings have been studied in recent years and the 2-primal property is being studied for various types of rings. In [15], G. Marks discusses the 2-primal property of  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$ , where  $R$  is a local ring,  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  is a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ .

Recall that a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  is an additive map  $\delta : R \rightarrow R$  such that  $\delta(ab) = \delta(a)\sigma(b) + a\delta(b)$ , for all  $a, b \in R$ . In case  $\sigma$  is the identity map,  $\delta$  is called just a derivation of  $R$ . For example for any endomorphism  $\tau$  of a ring  $R$  and for any  $a \in R$ ,  $\varrho : R \rightarrow R$  defined as  $\varrho(r) = ra - a\tau(r)$  is a  $\tau$ -derivation of  $R$ .

Let  $\sigma$  be an endomorphism of a ring  $R$  and  $\delta : R \rightarrow R$  any map. Let  $\phi : R \rightarrow M_2(R)$  be a homomorphism defined by

$$\phi(r) = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma(r) & 0 \\ \delta(r) & r \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for all } r \in R.$$

Then  $\delta$  is a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ .

Also let  $R = K[x]$ ,  $K$  a field. Then the formal derivative  $\frac{d}{dx}$  is a derivation of  $R$ .

Minimal prime ideals of 2-primal rings have been discussed by Kim and Kwak in [12] and Shin in [17]. 2-primal near rings have been discussed by Argac and Groenewald in [1]. Recall that a ring  $R$  is called 2-primal if the set of nilpotent elements of  $R$  coincides with the prime radical of  $R$  (G. Marks [15]), or equivalently if its radical contains every nilpotent element of  $R$ , or if  $P(R)$  is a completely semiprime ideal of  $R$ . An ideal  $I$  of a ring  $R$  is called completely semiprime if  $a^2 \in I$  implies  $a \in I$  for  $a \in R$ .

We also note that a reduced ring (i.e. a ring with no nonzero nilpotent elements) is 2-primal and a commutative ring is also 2-primal. For further details on 2-primal rings, we refer the reader to [3, 4, 12, 14, 15].

Recall that  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  is the skew polynomial ring with coefficients in  $R$  in which multiplication is subject to the relation  $ax = x\sigma(a) + \delta(a)$  for all  $a \in R$ . We denote  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  by  $O(R)$ . In case  $\sigma$  is the identity map, we denote the ring of differential operators  $R[x; \delta]$  by  $D(R)$ , if  $\delta$  is the zero map, we denote  $R[x; \sigma]$  by  $S(R)$ .

Recall that in Krempa [13], a ring  $R$  is called  $\sigma$ -rigid if there exists an endomorphism  $\sigma$  of  $R$  with the property that  $a\sigma(a) = 0$  implies  $a = 0$  for  $a \in R$ . In [14], Kwak defines a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring  $R$  to be a ring if  $a\sigma(a) \in P(R)$  implies  $a \in P(R)$  for  $a \in R$  and establishes a relation between a 2-primal ring and a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring. The property is also extended to  $S(R)$ .

**Example 1.1** Let  $R = \begin{pmatrix} F & F \\ 0 & F \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $F$  is a field. Then  $P(R) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $\sigma : R \rightarrow R$  be defined by  $\sigma\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix}$ . Then it can be seen that  $\sigma$  is an endomorphism of  $R$  and  $R$  is a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring.

We note that if  $R$  is a ring and  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring, then  $R$  is 2-primal. For let  $a \in R$  be such that  $a^2 \in P(R)$ . Then  $a\sigma(a)\sigma(a\sigma(a)) = a\sigma(a)\sigma(a)\sigma^2(a) \in \sigma(P(R)) = P(R)$ . Therefore  $a\sigma(a) \in P(R)$  and so  $a \in P(R)$ . Thus  $P(R)$  is a completely semiprime ideal of  $R$  and hence  $R$  is 2-primal.

In Theorem (12) of [14], Kwak has proved that if  $R$  is a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring such that  $\sigma(P(R)) = P(R)$ , then  $R[x; \sigma]$  is 2-primal if and only if  $P(R)[x; \sigma] = P(R[x; \sigma])$ .

Hong, Kim and Kwak have proved in Corollary (2.8) of [11] that if  $R$  is a 2-primal ring and every simple singular left  $R$ -module is p-injective, then every prime ideal of  $R$  is maximal. In particular, every prime factor ring of  $R$  is a simple domain.

It is known (Theorem (1.2) of Bhat [3]) that if  $R$  is 2-primal Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra and  $\delta$  is a derivation of  $R$ , then  $D(R)$  is 2-primal. We also note that if  $R$  is a Noetherian ring, then even  $R[x]$  need not be 2-primal.

**Example 1.2** Let  $R = M_2(\mathbb{Q})$ , the set of  $2 \times 2$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $R[x]$  is a prime ring with non-zero nilpotent elements and, so can not be 2-primal.

Let now  $R$  be a 2-primal ring. Is  $O(R)$  also a 2-primal ring? This question was attacked by the author and towards this the following has been proved in Bhat [4]:

Let  $R$  be a ring,  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  be a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . We say that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring if  $a\delta(a) \in P(R)$  implies  $a \in P(R)$ . We note that a ring with identity is not a  $\delta$ -ring. Then:

1. (Theorem 2 of Bhat [4]): Let  $R$  be a 2-primal Noetherian ring. Then  $S(R)$  is 2-primal Noetherian.
2. (Theorem 6 of Bhat [4]): Let  $R$  be a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring,  $\sigma(\delta(a)) = \delta(\sigma(a))$ , for all  $a \in R$ ;  $\sigma(P) = P$  for all  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$  and  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$ . Then  $O(R)$  is 2-primal Noetherian.
3. (Theorem 7 of Bhat [4]): Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring, which is also an algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring and  $\delta$  be a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $\sigma(\delta(a)) = \delta(\sigma(a))$ , for all  $a \in R$  and  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring. Then  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  is 2-primal Noetherian.

In this paper we prove (2) and (3) above even without the condition that  $\sigma(\delta(a)) = \delta(\sigma(a))$ , for all  $a \in R$ . These results are proved in Theorems (2.10) and (2.12) respectively.

Ore-extensions including skew-polynomial rings and differential operator rings have been of interest to many authors. See [2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15].

## 2 Skew polynomial ring $O(R)$

Recall that an ideal  $I$  of a ring  $R$  is called  $\sigma$ -invariant if  $\sigma(I) = I$ . Also  $I$  is called completely prime if  $ab \in I$  implies  $a \in I$  or  $b \in I$  for  $a, b \in R$ . We also note that in a right Noetherian ring  $R$ ,  $MinSpec(R)$  is finite (Theorem (2.4) of Goodearl and Warfield [9]), and for any  $P \in MinSpec(R)$ ,  $\sigma^t(P) \in MinSpec(R)$  for all integers  $t \geq 1$ . Let  $MinSpec(R) = \{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n\}$ . Let  $\sigma^{m_i}(P_i) = P_i$ , for some positive integers  $m_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and  $u = m_1.m_2\dots m_n$ . Then  $\sigma^u(P_i) = P_i$  for all  $P_i \in MinSpec(R)$ . We use same  $u$  henceforth, and as mentioned in introduction above, we denote  $\cap_{i=1}^u \sigma^i(P)$  by  $P^0$ ,  $P$  being any minimal prime ideal of  $R$ .

**Definition 2.1** *Let  $R$  be a ring. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . We say that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring if a  $\delta(a) \in P(R)$  implies  $a \in P(R)$ .*

Recall that an ideal  $I$  of a ring  $R$  is called  $\delta$ -invariant if  $\delta(I) \subseteq I$ . If an ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is  $\sigma$ -invariant and  $\delta$ -invariant, then  $O(I)$  is an ideal of  $O(R)$  as for any  $a \in I$ ,  $\sigma^j(a) \in I$  and  $\delta^j(a) \in I$  for all positive integers  $j$ .

Gabriel proved in Lemma (3.4) of [8] that if  $R$  is a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra and  $\delta$  is a derivation of  $R$ , then  $\delta(P) \subseteq P$ , for all  $P \in MinSpec(R)$ . The author generalized this for a  $\sigma$ -derivation  $\delta$  of  $R$  in [4] and proved the following:

**Theorem 2.2 (Theorem 3 of Bhat [4]):** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $\sigma(\delta(a)) = \delta(\sigma(a))$ , for all  $a \in R$ . Then:*

1.  $P_1 \in MinSpec(R)$  such that  $\sigma(P_1) = P_1$  implies  $O(P_1) \in MinSpec(O(R))$ .
2.  $P \in MinSpec(O(R))$  such that  $\sigma(P \cap R) = P \cap R$  implies  $P \cap R \in MinSpec(R)$ .

We now prove the above result without the condition that  $\sigma(\delta(a)) = \delta(\sigma(a))$ , for all  $a \in R$ . Towards this we have the following:

**Theorem 2.3** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . Then:*

1.  $P_1 \in MinSpec(R)$  such that  $\sigma(P_1) = P_1$  implies  $O(P_1) \in MinSpec(O(R))$ .
2.  $P \in MinSpec(O(R))$  such that  $\sigma(P \cap R) = P \cap R$  implies  $P \cap R \in MinSpec(R)$ .

**Proof (1)** Let  $P_1 \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$  with  $\sigma(P_1) = P_1$ . Let  $T = \{a \in P_1 \text{ such that } \delta^k(a) \in P_1, \text{ for all positive integers } k\}$ . Then it can be seen that  $T \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . Also  $\delta(T) \subseteq T$ . Now  $T \subseteq P_1$ , and  $P_1$  being a minimal prime ideal of  $R$  implies that  $T = P_1$ . Hence  $\delta(P_1) \subseteq P_1$ .

Now on the same lines as in Theorem (2.22) of Goodearl and Warfield [9], it can be easily seen that  $O(P_1) \in \text{Spec}(O(R))$ . Suppose that  $O(P_1) \notin \text{MinSpec}(O(R))$ , and  $P_2 \subset O(P_1)$  is a minimal prime ideal of  $O(R)$ . Then we have  $P_2 = O(P_2 \cap R) \subset O(P_1) \in \text{MinSpec}(O(R))$ . Therefore  $P_2 \cap R \subset P_1$ , which is a contradiction as  $P_2 \cap R \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . Hence  $O(P_1) \in \text{MinSpec}(O(R))$ .

**(2)** Let  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(O(R))$  with  $\sigma(P \cap R) = P \cap R$ . Then on the same lines as in Theorem (2.22) of Goodearl and Warfield [9], it can be seen that  $P \cap R \in \text{Spec}(R)$  and  $O(P \cap R) \in \text{Spec}(O(R))$ . Therefore  $O(P \cap R) = P$ . We now show that  $P \cap R \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Suppose that  $U \subset P \cap R$ , and  $U \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Then  $O(U) \subset O(P \cap R) = P$ . But  $O(U) \in \text{Spec}(O(R))$  and,  $O(U) \subset P$ , which is not possible. Thus we have  $P \cap R \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ .  $\square$

Recall that in Proposition (1.11) of Shin [17], it has been proved that a ring  $R$  is 2-primal if and only if each minimal prime ideal of  $R$  is a completely prime ideal.

**Proposition 2.4** *Let  $R$  be a 2-primal ring. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$ . If  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$  is such that  $\sigma(P) = P$ , then  $\delta(P) \subseteq P$ .*

**Proof** See Proposition (3) of Bhat [4].  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5** *Let  $R$  be a ring. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring and  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$ . Then  $R$  is 2-primal.*

**Proof** See Theorem (4) of Bhat [4]  $\square$

**Proposition 2.6** *Let  $R$  be a ring. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . Then:*

1. *For any completely prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  with  $\sigma(P) = P$  and  $\delta(P) \subseteq P$ ,  $O(P)$  is a completely prime ideal of  $O(R)$ .*
2. *For any completely prime ideal  $U$  of  $O(R)$ ,  $U \cap R$  is a completely prime ideal of  $R$ .*

**Proof** See Proposition (4) of Bhat [4]  $\square$

**Corollary 2.7** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$ . Then:*

1. *For any completely prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  with  $\sigma(P) = P$ ,  $S(P)$  is a completely prime ideal of  $S(R)$ .*

2. For any completely prime ideal  $U$  of  $S(R)$ ,  $U \cap R$  is a completely prime ideal of  $R$ .

**Corollary 2.8** *Let  $R$  be a ring,  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is moreover a  $\delta$ -ring and  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$ . Let  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$  be such that  $\sigma(P) = P$ . Then  $O(P)$  is a completely prime ideal of  $O(R)$ .*

**Theorem 2.9** *Let  $R$  be a ring,  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring and  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$  and  $\sigma(P) = P$  for all  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Then  $O(R)$  is 2-primal if and only if  $O(P(R)) = P(O(R))$ .*

**Proof** See Theorem (5) of Bhat [4] □

**Theorem 2.10** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra,  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring,  $\sigma(P) = P$  for all  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$  and  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$ . Then  $O(R)$  is 2-primal.*

**Proof** Let  $P_1 \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Then it is given that  $\sigma(P_1) = P_1$ , and therefore Theorem (2.3) implies that  $O(P_1) \in \text{MinSpec}(O(R))$ . Similarly for any  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(O(R))$  such that  $\sigma(P \cap R) = P \cap R$  Theorem (2.3) implies that  $P \cap R \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Therefore,  $O(P(R)) = P(O(R))$ , and now the result is obvious by using Theorem (2.9). □

**Corollary 2.11** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra,  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring and  $\sigma(P) = P$  for all  $P \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Then  $O(R)$  is 2-primal.*

**Proof** Let  $P_1 \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$  with  $\sigma(P_1) = P_1$ . Then as in the proof of Theorem (2.3)  $\delta(P_1) \subseteq P_1$ , and therefore  $\delta(P(R)) \subseteq P(R)$ . Now the rest is obvious using Theorem (2.10). □

**Theorem 2.12** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring, which is also an algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\sigma(*)$ -ring and  $\delta$  be a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $R$  is a  $\delta$ -ring. Then  $R[x; \sigma, \delta]$  is 2-primal Noetherian.*

**Proof** We show that  $\sigma(U) = U$  for all  $U \in \text{MinSpec}(R)$ . Suppose  $U = U_1$  is a minimal prime ideal of  $R$  such that  $\sigma(U) \neq U$ . Let  $U_2, U_3, \dots, U_n$  be the other minimal primes of  $R$ . Now  $\sigma(U)$  is also a minimal prime ideal of  $R$ . Renumber so that  $\sigma(U) = U_n$ . Let  $a \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{n-1} U_i$ . Then  $\sigma(a) \in U_n$ , and so  $a\sigma(a) \in \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_i = P(R)$ . Therefore  $a \in P(R)$ , and thus  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{n-1} U_i \subseteq U_n$ , which implies that  $U_i \subseteq U_n$  for some  $i \neq n$ , which is impossible. Hence  $\sigma(U) = U$ . Now the rest is obvious. □

We now have the following question:

**Question 2.13** *If  $R$  is a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra (even commutative),  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $R$  and  $\delta$  is a  $\sigma$ -derivation of  $R$ . Is  $O(R)$  2-primal?*

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