

On $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy Prime Ideals Of $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings

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(Acceptance Date 19th June, 2012)

Abstract

The notion of $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings, $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals, $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideals and their fuzzy counterparts are introduced and analyzed. We also give a characterization of $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of a fuzzy ring.

Key words: $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring, $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring, $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideal, $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal.

1. Introduction

Fuzzy Gamma rings were studied by Jun and Lee³. Dutta and Chanda¹ continued this investigation and obtained a characterization of fuzzy ideals of a Gamma ring. Later Shaoquan Sun⁴ introduced the notions of fuzzy rings with operators, their ideals and quotient rings.

In this paper, as a continuation of these works, we introduce and analyze the notions of $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings, $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals, $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideals and their fuzzy counterparts. We also give a

characterization of $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring. Throughout this paper $\mathbb{Q}[\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}]$ denote the set of all rational [real, complex] numbers and R denotes a general ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ unless otherwise stated. Algebraic terms and notations used in this work are as in Fraleigh².

2. $\mathbb{Q}$ -Rings and $\mathbb{Q}$ -Ideals :

2.1. Definition. Let R be a ring and $\mathbb{Q}$ be the set of all rational numbers. We say that R is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -**ring** if for any $a \in R$ and $q \in \mathbb{Q}$, there exists a product qa , called the **action of**

q on a such that for every $a, b \in R$ and $q \in \mathbb{Q}$

- (i) $qa \in R$
- (ii) $q(a+b) = qa + qb$, and
- (iii) $q(ab) = (qa)b = a(qb)$.

The above multiplication is referred to as the **left action** of $\mathbb{Q}$ on R . In a similar way, we can define the **right action** of $\mathbb{Q}$ on R . In this paper, we shall consider only left action. First we shall give some examples of $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings.

2.2. Example. The rings $\mathbb{C}$ [$\mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{Q}$] of all complex [real, rational] numbers; $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ [$\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, $\mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$] of all $n \times n$ square matrices of complex [real, rational] numbers; and $\mathbb{C}[x]$, [$\mathbb{R}[x]$, $\mathbb{Q}[x]$] of all polynomials in x with coefficients from $\mathbb{C}$ [$\mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{Q}$] are all $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings with respect to the usual multiplication.

Now we proceed to give some examples of rings which are not $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings. In all these examples, the action of $\mathbb{Q}$ on the rings is the usual multiplication.

2.3. Example. The ring of integers $\mathbb{Z}$; the ring of even integers E ; and $n\mathbb{Z}$ are not $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings.

2.4. Example. Let $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$ and $\times_n$ and $+_n$ respectively denote multiplication modulo n and addition modulo n . Then $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \times_n)$ is a ring; but it is not a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring.

2.5. Example. Let $I[\sqrt{2}] = \{a+b\sqrt{2} : a, b \text{ are integers}\}$. Then $I[\sqrt{2}]$ is a commutative ring with identity with respect to usual addition and multiplication. But it is not a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring.

Recall that if R is a general ring and $I \subset R$ then I is said to be a **left ideal** of R if

- (i) $a-b \in I$ and (ii) $ra \in I$, $\forall a, b \in I$ and $r \in R$.

I is called **right ideal** of R if $a-b \in I$ and $ar \in I$. We say that I is an **ideal** of R if it is both a left ideal and a right ideal. For any ring R , $\{0\}$ and R itself are ideals. They are called the **trivial ideals**. Any ideal different from these two are called **non-trivial (or proper) ideal**. Now we turn to ideals in $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings.

2.6. Definition. Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring and I be a [left, right] ideal of R . Then I is said to be a **[left, right] $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal** of R if $qa \in I$, $\forall q \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $a \in I$.

In any $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring R , the trivial ideals $\{0\}$ and R itself are $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals. In $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings $\mathbb{C}$, $\mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{Q}$, there are only the trivial $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals. But there are $\mathbb{Q}$ -rings possessing non-trivial $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals. The following is an example.

2.7. Example. Let $R = \mathbb{C}[x]$, the ring of polynomials in x with complex coefficients and let $I = (x^2 + 1)$ be the ideal generated by the polynomial $x^2 + 1$. Then every element of I has the form $f(x)(x^2+1)$, where $f(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$. Obviously, $q f(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$, $\forall q \in \mathbb{Q}$, and so $q f(x)(x^2+1) \in I$. Hence I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal of R . Note that for $A, B \subset R$, $AB = \{ab : a \in A, b \in B\}$

2.8. Definition. Let P be a proper $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal of a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring R . Then P is said to be a **$\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal** if for every pair of $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals A and B of R
 $AB \subset P \Rightarrow$ either $A \subset P$ or $B \subset P$

or equivalently

$$ab \in P \Rightarrow \text{either } a \in P \text{ or } b \in P.$$

2.9. *Example.* Consider the $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring $\mathbb{R}[x]$ of all polynomials in x with real coefficients. Let $P = (x+1)$, be the ideal generated by $x+1$ so that every element $r(x) \in P$ has the form $r(x) = f(x)(x+1)$, where $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$.

Suppose $ab \in P$. Then $ab = f(x)(x+1)$, for some $f(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$. This implies that either a or b is a polynomial multiple of $(x+1)$. That is, either $a \in P$ or $b \in P$. Hence P is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal of $\mathbb{R}[x]$.

3. $\mathbb{Q}$ -Fuzzy rings and ideals :

Let R be a ring and A be a **fuzzy set** on R (i.e. A is a function from R to the closed interval $[0,1]$). Then A is called a **fuzzy ring** on R if for every $x, y \in R$:

$$A(x-y) \geq \min\{A(x), A(y)\} \text{ and}$$

$$A(xy) \geq \min\{A(x), A(y)\}.$$

For any $\alpha \in [0,1]$ the set

$$\alpha_A = \{x \in R : A(x) \geq \alpha\}$$

Is called the **α -level set** (or **α -cut**) of A . It is well known that a non-constant fuzzy set A on R is a fuzzy ring if, and only if, α_A is a subring of R , $\forall \alpha \in \text{Im}(A)$.

A fuzzy ring A on R is called a **fuzzy left ideal** of R if

$$A(xy) \geq A(y), \forall x, y \in R$$

and a **fuzzy right ideal** if

$$A(xy) \geq A(x), \forall x, y \in R.$$

We say that A is a **fuzzy ideal** of R if it is both a fuzzy left ideal and a fuzzy right ideal. In other words, a fuzzy set A on R is a fuzzy ideal of R if $\forall x, y \in R$

$$(i) A(x-y) \geq \min\{A(x), A(y)\} \text{ and}$$

$$(ii) A(xy) \geq \max\{A(x), A(y)\}.$$

3.1. *Definition.* Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring and A be a fuzzy ring on R . Then A is said to be a **$\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring** on R if

$$A(qx) \geq A(x), \forall x \in R \text{ and } q \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

3.2. *Example.* Consider the $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring $\mathbb{C}[x]$ of all polynomials in x having complex coefficients. Define $A : \mathbb{C}[x] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$A[f(x)] = 1, \text{ if } x+1 \text{ divides } f(x) \\ = 0.4, \text{ otherwise.}$$

Then A is a fuzzy ring on $\mathbb{C}[x]$. Now for any $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $f(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$, $x+1$ divides $qf(x)$ if, and only if, $x+1$ divides $f(x)$. Hence $A[qf(x)]$ has the same value as $A[f(x)]$. Therefore, we can write

$$A[qf(x)] \geq A[f(x)], \forall q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } f(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x].$$

Hence A is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on $\mathbb{C}[x]$.

It may be recalled that if A and B are fuzzy sets on R , then $A \cup B$ and $A \cap B$ are defined by

$$(A \cup B)(x) = \max\{A(x), B(x)\} \text{ and}$$

$$(A \cap B)(x) = \min\{A(x), B(x)\}, \forall x \in R.$$

Further if A and B are fuzzy rings on R , then $A \cap B$ is a fuzzy ring on R , but $A \cup B$ need not be a fuzzy ring. This extends to $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy rings also. The case of $A \cup B$ is trivial, since it fails to be even a fuzzy ring. In the following proposition we prove the case of $A \cap B$.

3.3. *Proposition.* Let A and B be $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy rings on a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring R . Then $A \cap B$ is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on R .

Proof: Since A and B are fuzzy rings on R , $A \cap B$ also is a fuzzy ring on R . Now let $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $x \in R$. Since A and B are $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy rings on R , we have

$$\begin{aligned} A(qx) &\geq A(x) \text{ and } B(qx) \geq B(x) \\ \Rightarrow \min\{A(qx), B(qx)\} &\geq \min\{A(x), B(x)\} \\ \Rightarrow (A \cap B)(qx) &\geq (A \cap B)(x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence $A \cap B$ is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on R ■

If $\{A_i : i \in I\}$ is an arbitrary collection of fuzzy sets on R , then their intersection $\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i$ is defined by

$$(\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i)(x) = \inf_{i \in I} A_i(x), \forall x \in R.$$

The arguments in the above proof extends to arbitrary intersection also. Hence we get the following as a corollary to the last proposition.

Corollary. Any intersection of $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy rings is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring ■

3.4. Proposition. Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring and A be a fuzzy ring on R . Then A is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on R if, and only if, A_t is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -subring of R , $\forall t \in [0, 1]$ for which $A_t \neq \emptyset$.

Proof : Suppose A is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on R . Let $t \in [0, 1]$ such that $A_t \neq \emptyset$. Since A is a fuzzy ring on R , A_t is a subring of R . Now let $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $x \in A_t$. Then $A(x) \geq t$. Since A is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring, $A(qx) \geq A(x)$. Hence $A(qx) \geq t$. Therefore, $qx \in A_t$. This proves that A_t is a subring of R .

Conversely, suppose A_t is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -subring of R , $\forall t \in [0, 1]$ for which $A_t \neq \emptyset$. Then A_t is a subring of R for every such t . Therefore A

is a fuzzy subring of R . Further, $\forall q \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $x \in R$, since each A_t is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -subring of R ,

$$x \in A_t \Rightarrow qx \in A_t, \forall q \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

Hence,

$$A(x) \geq t \Rightarrow A(qx) \geq t, \forall t.$$

This is possible only if

$$A(qx) \geq A(x), \forall q \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ and } x \in R.$$

Therefore A is a fuzzy subring of R ■

3.5. Definition. Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring A be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on R . Then A is called a **$\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy [left, right] ideal** of R if A is also a fuzzy [left, right] ideal of R .

3.6. Example. Consider the $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring A on $\mathbb{C}[x]$ given in example 3.2. It is also a fuzzy ideal of $\mathbb{C}[x]$. Hence A is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideal of $\mathbb{C}[x]$.

We give below two propositions regarding $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideals, omitting their proofs which are similar to the proofs of proposition 3.3 and 3.4.

3.7. Proposition. Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring and A, B be $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy [left, right] ideals of R . Then $A \cap B$ is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy [left, right] ideal of R ■

Corollary. Any intersection of $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy [left, right] ideals is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy [left, right] ideal ■

3.8. Proposition. Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring and A be a fuzzy set on R . Then A is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy [left, right] ideal of R if, and only if, A_t is a [left, right] $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal of R , $\forall t \in [0, 1]$ for which $A_t \neq \emptyset$ ■

4. $\mathbb{Q}$ -Fuzzy prime ideals :

4.1. *Definition.* If A, B are fuzzy sets on R , Then their **product** AB is defined as follows: $\forall x \in R$

$$(AB)(x) = \sup_{x=yz} \{\min[A(y), B(z)]\} \\ = 0, \text{ if } x \text{ is not expressible as } x = yz.$$

4.2. *Definition.* Let R be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring and A be a non-constant $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideal of R . Then A is said to be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -**fuzzy prime ideal** if for any two $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideals B and C of R

$$BC \subset A \Rightarrow \text{either } B \subset A \text{ or } C \subset A.$$

4.3. *Example.* The $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideal A of $\mathbb{C}[x]$ given in example 3.2 is $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal.

4.4. *Example.* Consider the $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring $\mathbb{R}[x]$ of all polynomials in x having real coefficients. Define the fuzzy set F on $\mathbb{R}[x]$ by $F[f(x)] = 1$, if (x^2+1) divides $f(x)$
 $= 0.2$, otherwise.
 Then F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of $\mathbb{R}[x]$.

We now give below a characterization of $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of a general $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring R .

4.5. *Theorem.* Let I be a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal of a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring R , $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ and F be a fuzzy set on R defined by

$$F(x) = 1, \text{ if } x \in I \\ = \alpha, \text{ otherwise.}$$

Then F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R if, and only if, I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal of R .

Proof: Suppose I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal of R . We have to prove that F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy

prime ideal of R . Obviously, F is non-constant. First we will prove that $F(a-b) \geq \min\{F(a), F(b)\}$, $\forall a, b \in R$.

Case (i): If $\min\{F(a), F(b)\} = \alpha$, then by the definition of F

$$F(a-b) = 1 \text{ or } \alpha \geq \min\{F(a), F(b)\}.$$

Case (ii): If $\min\{F(a), F(b)\} = 1$, then $F(a) = F(b) = 1$. Therefore $a, b \in I$. Since I is an ideal $a-b \in I$. Hence $F(a-b) = 1 = \min\{F(a), F(b)\}$.

Thus in both cases, $F(a-b) \geq \min\{F(a), F(b)\}$. In a similar way we get

$$F(ab) \geq F(a) \text{ and } F(ab) \geq F(b)$$

and hence

$$F(ab) \geq \max\{F(a), F(b)\}.$$

Therefore F is a fuzzy ideal of R . Also since I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal of R , F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ring on R , and hence is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideal of R .

Now, suppose that there exist two $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideals A and B of R such that $AB \subset F$, $A \not\subset F$ and $B \not\subset F$. Then there exist $x, y \in R$ such that $A(x) > F(x)$ and $B(y) > F(y)$. Since $AB \subset F$, this implies that $F(x) = F(y) = \alpha$. Hence $x, y, xy \notin I$. Therefore by the definition of F , $F(x) = F(y) = F(xy) = \alpha$. Now,
 $(AB)(xy) = \sup\{\min[A(x), B(y)]\}$
 $\geq \min[A(x), B(y)]$
 $> \min[F(x), F(y)], \text{ since } A(x) > F(x) \text{ and } B(y) > F(y)$
 $= \alpha = F(xy)$

Thus there exist $x, y \in R$ such that $(AB)(xy) > F(xy)$. This contradicts the hypothesis that $AB \subset F$. Hence

$$AB \subset F \Rightarrow \text{either } A \subset F \text{ or } B \subset F.$$

Therefore F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R .

Conversely, suppose F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy

prime ideal of R . We have to prove that I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal of R . If not, we can find two $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideals A and B of R such that $AB \subset I$, but $A \not\subset I$ and $B \not\subset I$. Hence there exist elements $p, q \in R$ such that $p \in A$, but $p \notin I$ and $q \in B$, but $q \notin I$. Define fuzzy sets F_1 and F_2 on R by

$$F_1(x) = 1, \text{ if } x \in A \text{ and } F_1(x) = \alpha, \text{ if } x \notin A \\ F_2(x) = 1, \text{ if } x \in B \text{ and } F_2(x) = \alpha, \text{ if } x \notin B.$$

Then F_1 and F_2 are $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy ideals of R such that $F_1 F_2 \subset F$. Also, $F_1(p) = 1 > \alpha = F_2(p)$. Therefore, $F_1 \not\subset F$. Similarly we get $F_2 \not\subset F$. This is a contradiction, since F is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R . Hence I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal of R ■

Corollary. The characteristic function c_I of a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ideal I of a $\mathbb{Q}$ -ring R is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal if, and only if, I is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -prime ideal of R .

Proof: This follows from last theorem by taking $\alpha = 0$ ■

4.6. Remark. $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideals can be formed only as in the above theorem. Hence if μ is a $\mathbb{Q}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R , then $\text{Im}(\mu) = \{1, \alpha\}$, for some $\alpha \in [0, 1)$.

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