

Structure of Inner Isomorphic and Inner Non-isomorphic Rings*

Zhou Shifan

(Dept. Math., Suzhou University)

Abstract

An associative ring R is called an inner isomorphic, if any two proper subrings of it are isomorphic. An associative ring R is called an inner nonisomorphic, if the distinct subrings of it are always non-isomorphic. In this paper, we obtain several structure theorems of inner isomorphic and inner non-isomorphic ring, so that totally solve the open problem 81 provided by F. A. Szasz who asks "in which ring are the distinct subrings always non-isomorphic?" [1] additional, we point out that the main results and its proofs in paper [2] are mistaken.

Lemma 1 ^[3] If any two finitely generated proper subrings of associative ring R are always isomorphic, then R is isomorphic to one of the following types:

- (1) $(p^2)/(p^4)$; (2) $(p)/(p^3)$; (3) Z_p^2 ; (4) $Z_p \oplus Z_p$; (5)
 $(R, +) \subseteq (Q, +)$ and $R^2 = 0$; (6) $(p)/(p^2)$; (7) $(p)/(p^2) \oplus$
 $(p)/(p^2)$; (8) $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} a, b \in Z_p$; (9) An extension field

of degree q over Z_p (q is either a prime number or 1).

Where p is a prime number, $(Q, +)$ is a rational number additive group.

Therefore we have the following:

Theorem 1 An associative ring R is an inner isomorphic iff R is isomorphic to one of the following types:

- (1) $(p^2)/(p^4)$; (2) $(p)/(p^3)$; (3) Z_p^2 ; (4) $Z_p \oplus Z_p$; (5)
 $(R, +)$ is an infinite cyclic group, and $R^2 = 0$; (6) $(p)/(p^2)$;
 (7) $(p)/(p^2) \oplus (p)/(p^2)$; (8) $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} a, b \in Z_p$; (9) An

extension field of degree q over Z_p (q is either a prime number or 1).

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where p is a prime number.

The following are immediate consequences.

Corollary 1 The inner isomorphic ring is a commutative ring.

Corollary 2 Any two proper subgroups of a commutative group G are always isomorphic iff G is isomorphic to one of the following type:

- (1) $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +)$; (2) $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_p, +)$; (3) $(\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}, +)$;
 (4) $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$

where p is a prime number.

According to definition of inner non-isomorphic ring and through calculation, we get the following:

Lemma 2 The subring of inner non-isomorphic ring is an inner non-isomorphic ring.

Lemma 3 If a is an element of inner non-isomorphic ring R ,

(1) When a is an infinite order element, then a is the algebraic element over integral number ring \mathbb{Z} , i.e., a is either a nilpotent element or one of roots of a polynomial $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x^i$ (at least one of a_i ($i=1, \dots, n$) is not multiple of order of a^i).

(2) When a is a finite order element (let be m , $m \in \mathbb{N}$), then a is an algebraic element over residue class ring \mathbb{Z}_m , i.e., a is either a nilpotent element or one of roots of a polynomial $\sum_{i=1}^s a_i x^i$ over \mathbb{Z}_m , (at least one of a_i ($i=1, \dots, s$) is not multiple of order of a_i).

Lemma 4 If R is an inner non-isomorphic ring, and the additive group $(R, +)$ is torsion-free (R is simple called a torsion-free inner non-isomorphic ring). Then

- (1) R doesn't contain non-zero nilpotent element;
 (2) R contains at most one non-zero idempotent element.

Lemma 5 The torsion-free inner non-isomorphic ring R must be a subring of algebra R' over rational number field \mathbb{Q} , and R' is also a torsion-free inner non-isomorphic ring.

Proof If R is an algebra over \mathbb{Q} , then it's obvious. Otherwise, let $R' = \{r/n \mid r \in R, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ (Symbol r/n represents that $n(r/n) = r$). It is then easily verified that R' is an algebra over \mathbb{Q} , and R' is torsion-free. If R' isn't an inner non-isomorphic, then R' contains subring $\langle r \rangle \cong \langle r' \rangle$, and $r \neq r'$ $\langle r \rangle \not\cong \langle r' \rangle$, therefore, at least one of r and r' doesn't belong to R . Thus there exists $mr, nr' \in R$ ($m, n \in \mathbb{N}$), such that $\langle kr \rangle \cong \langle kr' \rangle$ (k is the least common multiple of m and n), i.e., $kr = \sum_{i=1}^s a_i (kr')^{i-1} = k \sum_{i=1}^s a_i r' (kr')^{i-1}$, because

R is torsion-free, $r = \sum_{i=1}^s a_i r^i (kr^i)^{i-1} \in \langle r \rangle$. In the same way, $r^i \in \langle r \rangle$, thus $\langle r^i \rangle = \langle r \rangle$. this is a contradiction.

Lemma 6 If the torsion-free inner non-isomorphic ring R contains the idempotent element $e \neq 0$, then R has only one non-zero idempotent element, and e is a unit element of R .

Proof Any idempotent element of torsion-free ring must belong to the centre of R [4], R contains only one non-zero idempotent element e by lemma 4. Therefore, by lemma 5, let torsion-free inner non-isomorphic ring $R' \supseteq R$, such that R' is an algebra over Q , then R' also has only one non-zero idempotent e which belongs to the centre of R' . Thus let R' be direct sum of ideals $eR'e$ and $R_1 = \{r - re \mid r \in R'\}$, because e is a unit element of R' , e is also a unit element of R .

If $R_1 \neq 0$, then by lemma 3, a non-zero element a of R is an algebra element over Z , i.e., $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i a^i = 0$. according to lemma 4, a is not nilpotent, thus at least two elements of a_1, \dots, a_n are non-zero element, let $a_1 = \dots = a_{k-1} = 0$, $a_k \neq 0$ such that $a_k a^k = -\sum_{i=k+1}^n a_i a^i$, i.e., $a^k = \sum_{i=k+1}^n a_i / a_k a^i = a^{k+1} g(a)$ ($g(a) = \sum_{i=k+1}^n a_i / a_k a^{i-k}$), thus $g^k(a) \cdot a^k$ is a non-zero idempotent element of R' , i.e., $g^k(a) \cdot a^k = e$, and $a^k = a^k e$. By means of definition of direct sum, we have $a^k = a^k e = 0$. this is contrary to the assumption.

• Similarly, we can get :

Lamma 7 Let R be a torsion-free inner non-isomorphic ring, then R is a subring of normal extension field E over Q , and E is an inner non-isomorphic, thus R is a commutative ring without zero divisor.

Theorem 2 If R is a torsion-free ring, then R is inner non-isomorphic iff R is a subring of normal extension field R' over Q , automorphism group G of R' over Q is either a commutative group of a Hamilton group ([5], [6]).

Proof If: By lemma 7, R is a subring of normal extension field R' over Q , and R' is an inner non-isomorphic. Because any subring F of R' ($F \supseteq Q$) must be a subfield, F is a normal extension field over Q . Let H be an arbitrary subgroup of G over Q and $|H| > 1$. therefore, let $\text{Inv}H = \{a \mid a \in R', ha = a, h \in H\}$. Since $\text{Inv}H$ is a normal extension field over Q . $f(x)$ is a minimum polynomial of a over Q ($\forall a \in \text{Inv}H$) thus $f(x) = (x - a_1) \dots (x - a_n)$ ($a_1 = a$) over $\text{Inv}H$, $f(g(a)) = g(f(a)) = 0$. There exist that $g(a) = a_j \in \text{Inv}H$, i.e. $g(\text{Inv}H) \subseteq \text{Inv}H$. So $H(g\text{Inv}H) = gHg^{-1}g\text{Inv}H$. i.e., the invariant subfield of conjugate

sub-group gHg^{-1} of H is $g\text{Inv}H$. Therefore $gHg^{-1} \subseteq H$, i.e. $H \triangleleft G$.

Only if: If $H \triangleleft G$, $a \in \text{Inv}H$. $f(x)$ is a minimum polynomial of a over Q , $f(x) = (x - a_1) \cdots (x - a_n)$. Because $g\text{Inv}H$ is an invariant subfield of gHg^{-1} , $\text{Inv}H = g\text{Inv}H$.

The following can be verified.

Lemma 8 If additive group $(R, +)$ of associative ring R is a periodical group, then (1) R is direct sum of some ideals R_{p_i} ($p_i \in Z$), where additive period of R_{p_i} is exponent of prime number p , $I = \{p \mid p \text{ is a prime number, } 0 \neq a \in R, pa = 0\}$, (2) R_{p_i} ($p_i \in Z$) are all inner non-isomorphic if and only if R is inner non-isomorphic.

Lemma 9 If additive period of every element of inner non-isomorphic ring R is a prime number, then (1) Nilpotent of any nilpotent element a ($a \neq 0$) of R is either 2 or 3; (2) When nilpotent index of a is 3, then $R/\langle a \rangle$ doesn't contain nilpotent element; (3) When R only contains nilpotent element with index 2, then $R/\langle a \rangle$ doesn't contain nilpotent element; (4) When R contains at most one idempotent element e ($e \neq 0$), e is a unit element of Re , (5) When R doesn't contain non-zero nilpotent element, R is a normal algebra extension of Z_p .

Combining the lemmas above and verifying, we can obtain the following:

Theorem 3 If $(R, +)$ of associative ring R is a p -group and it contains complete subgroup, then R is an inner non-isomorphic if and only if R is isomorphic to one of the four following types:

(1) Zero-ring $Z[p^\infty]$; (2) $Z[p^\infty] \dot{+} [a]$ ($\dot{+}$ is direct sum of additive groups, a is a nilpotent element with index 3; $[a]$ is an additive group, $|a| = p$, $[a] + N_p$ is a ring with order p^2 , $N_p = \langle a^2 \rangle$ is a zero-subring with order p of $Z[p^\infty]$). (3) $\{Z[p^\infty] + [a]\} \oplus E$ (\oplus is directsum of rings, a is described in (2). E is a normal extension over Z_p); (4) $Z[p^\infty] \oplus E$ (E is described in (3)).

Proof If: Since complete subring contained by $(R, +)$ is directsum of Priiferian group $Z[p^\infty]$ [1]. Then $(R, +) = \Sigma Z[p^\infty] + R'$, where R' is irreducible group [5]. and $Z[p^\infty]$ is zero-ideal of $R^{[1]}$. Because R is an inner non-isomorphic ring, R contains only one $Z[p^\infty]$, i.e., $R = Z[p^\infty] \dot{+} R'$. When $R' = 0$, this proves (1); when $R' \neq 0$, additive period of every non-zero element a of R is p . Otherwise, if additive period of a is p^n ($n > 1$), then $\langle p^{n-1}a \rangle \cong N_p \subseteq Z[p^\infty]$, as $\langle p^{n-1}a \rangle \neq N_p$ this would contradict the assumption. By lemma 9, R' at most contains a nilpotent subring $\langle a \rangle$ with nilpotent index 3. Let $\langle a \rangle = Z_p a + Z_p a^2$ ($a^3 = 0$), Since R is an inner non-isomorphic ring, so $\langle a^2 \rangle = Z_p a^2 = N_p$. When $R = Z[p^\infty] \dot{+} [a]$, i.e., Result (2); When $R \supseteq Z[p^\infty] \dot{+} [a]$, $\forall \beta \in R/\{Z[p^\infty] \dot{+} [a]\}$, by

lemma 9, β isn't a nilpotent and is an algebra element over Z_p , thus $R \setminus \{Z[p^\infty] + [a]\}$ has non-zero idempotent element e and every element has inverse. Because $(R, +)$ is a primary group and is a bounded group, by Prüfer first theorem^[5] $(R', +) = [a] \dot{+} E$, when E is directsum of some cyclic groups with order p , every non-zero element β of E is not nilpotent, and E has non-zero idempotent element, β has inverse $\beta^{-1} \in E$, so E is a division algebra over Z_p and E is a normal extension field over Z_p . As $ea \cdot a = ea = 0$, $ea(ae)$ is not inversible. Let $ea = a + ka$ ($a \in N_p$, $0 \leq k < p$), $ea = e \cdot ea = e(a + ka) = 0 + kea$, so ea is either a or 0 , when $ea = a$, $a^2 = ea \cdot a = ea^2 = 0$, this would contradict $a^2 \neq 0$. Thus $ea = 0$ ($ae = 0$), $\beta a = a\beta = 0$ and $\beta\gamma = \gamma\beta = 0$ ($\beta \in E$, $\gamma \in Z[p, Z[p^\infty]]$). This proves (3); If R' doesn't contain nilpotent element with index 3, then R' doesn't contain non-zero nilpotent element. As above we can prove (4).

Iff: It can be verified easily.

Lemma 10 If R is an inner non-isomorphic ring, $(R, +)$ is not a p -group and it doesn't contain complete subgroup, then R hasn't infinite height element^[5].

Theorem 4 If $(R, +)$ is a p -group without complete subgroup, and R has no non-zero idempotent element. Then R is inner non-isomorphic iff R is isomorphic to one of the following types:

- (1) $(p^k)/(p^{n+k})$ ($k, n \in N$, $n \leq 2k$); (2) $Z_p a \dot{+} Z_p a^2$ ($a^3 = 0$);
 (3) $(p^n)/(p^{2n}) \dot{+} [a]$ ($n \in N$, $[a]$ is a cyclic group with order p , $\langle a \rangle = Z_p a + Z_p a^2$, $\langle a^2 \rangle = (p^{2n-1})/(p^{2n})$, $a \cdot p^n = p^n \cdot a = 0$).

Proof Iff: It can be verified easily;

Only if: By assumption and lemma 10, $(R, +)$ doesn't contain infinite height element, by Prüfer second theorem^[5], $(R, +)$ can be decomposed into directsum of cyclic group G with order p^{n_i} .

(1) If $\forall n_i \neq 1$, then the character of R is p , by assumption and lemma 8, R only contains nilpotent element with index 2 or 3. By lemma 9, result (1), (2) can be get;

(2) Contrary to (1), let $n_1 > 1$, we can proof that $n_i = 1$ ($i > 1$).

1° If $R = G_1 = \{ka_1 \mid 0 \leq k < p^{n_1}\}$, let $a_1^2 = ma_1$, we can get $p \mid m$. Therefore, let $a_1^2 = p^k qa_1$, $(p, q) = 1$, where $\langle qa_1 \rangle = \langle a_1 \rangle$. Let $a_1^2 = p^k a_1$, we have $R = \langle a_1 \rangle \cong (p^k)/(p^{n_1+k})$, because nilpotent index of a is less than or equal to 3. $n \leq 2k$. This proves (1).

2° If $R \supset G_1$, where additive perodes of every non-zero element of $\sum_i G_i$ are all p . By lemma 9, nilpotent index of them are of all 2 or 3. It can be

verified that they doesn't contain nilpotent element with index 2, thus $R = G_1 + G_2 = \{ka_1 \mid 0 \leq k < p^{n_1}\} \dot{+} [a_2]$, and $\langle a_2 \rangle = Z_p a_2 \dot{+} Z_p a_2^2$, $a_2^2 = p^{n_1-1} a_1$. By lemma 9, nilpotent index of a_1 is either 2 or 3.

(i) If nilpotent index of a_1 is 2, then G_1 is a zero-ring with order p^{n_1} , let $G_1 = (p^{n_1}) / (p^{2n_1})$. Result (3) is get;

(ii) If nilpotent index of a_1 is 3, then $\langle a_1 \rangle = Z_{p^m} a_1 \dot{+} Z_{p^m} a_1^2 \subseteq R$ ($m \in N$). Since $|R| = p^{n_1+1}$, then $m=1$ and $R = Z_p a_1 \dot{+} Z_p a_1^2$, where $\langle p^{n_1-1} a_1 \rangle \cong \langle a_1^2 \rangle$, but $\langle p^{n_1-1} a_1 \rangle \neq \langle a_1^2 \rangle$, contradicts the assumption.

By lemma 8, we get the following:

Lemma 11 If character of inner non-isomorphic ring R is a prime number p , and R has a unit element and contains nilpotent element with index 2, then $R = Z_p e \dot{+} \langle a \rangle$, $ea = ae = a$, $a^2 = 0$.

Lemma 12 The character of inner non-isomorphic ring R with unit element e is a prime number p , and $\exists a \in R$, nilpotent index of a is 3, then $R = Z_p e \dot{+} \langle a \rangle$, $ea = ae = a$.

Theorem 5 If $(R, +)$ of associative ring is a p -group (p is a prime number), and it contains non-zero idempotent element, but doesn't contain complete subgroup, then R is an inner non-isomorphic ring iff R is isomorphic to one of types:

- (1) Z_{p^n} ($n \in N, n > 1$);
- (2) A normal extension E over Z_p ;
- (3) $Z_p e \dot{+} \langle a \rangle$ ($e^2 = e, a^2 = 0, ea = ae = a$);
- (4) $Z_p e \dot{+} \langle a \rangle$ ($e^2 = e, a^3 = 0, a^2 \neq 0, ea = ae = a$);
- (5) $E \oplus (p^k) / (p^{n-k})$ (E is a normal extension E over $Z_p, n, k \in N, n \leq 2k$);
- (6) $Z_p e \dot{+} \langle a \rangle$ ($e^2 = e, a^2 = 0, ae = 0, ea = a$);
- (7) $E \oplus \langle a \rangle$ (E is a normal extension over $Z_p, \langle a \rangle = Z_p a \dot{+} Z_p a^2, a^3 = 0$);
- (8) $E \oplus ((p^n) / (p^{2n}) \dot{+} [a])$ (E is a normal extension over $Z_p, \langle a \rangle = Z_p a \dot{+} Z_p a^2, \langle a^2 \rangle = (p^{2n-1}) / (p^{2n}), p^n a = a p^n = 0$).

Proof If: We can verify directly.

Only if: (I) If the additive period of non-zero idempotent element e in R is p^n ($n > 1$), then define a directsum of left ideal $R = Re \dot{+} R_1$ ($R_1 = \{r - re \mid r \in R\}$), we can prove $R_1 = 0$ by lemma 9, hence $R = Re$. We can also prove that R contains only one right unit element, thus e is the unit element of R . By Prüfer first theorem^[5] we can get that $R \cong Z_{p^n}$, this proves result (1);

(II) If the additive period of non-zero idempotent element e in R is p , then let $R = Re \dot{+} R_1$ ($R_1 = \{r - re \mid r \in R\}$), as above, we have that R has only one non-zero idempotent element e , and e is a unit element of Re . Therefore Re is

an algebraic extension over $Z_p e$.

(1°) If $R_1 = 0$, then $R = eRe$.

① When R doesn't contain non-zero nilpotent element, by Lemma 9, R is a normal extension over Z_p . This proves result (2);

② When R contains non-zero nilpotent element by lemma 9, its nilpotent index is either 2 or 3;

(i) When R contains only nilpotent with index 2, by Lemma 9 and Lemma 11, we can get result (3);

(ii) When R contains nilpotent element with index 3, by Lemma 9 and Lemma 12, we can get result (4) directly.

(2°) If $R_1 \neq 0$, then $R = eRe + R_1$, then the inner non-isomorphic ring eRe must be isomorphic to that in result (2), (3) or (4).

If eRe is isomorphic to result (3) or (4). Then additive period of every non-zero element of R_1 is p by assumption, therefore R_1 contains non-zero idempotent element, it's impossible, thus eRe can only be a normal extension E over Z_p .

By assumption and Theorem 4, we have one of following:

- 1) R_1 is isomorphic to $(p^k)/(p^{n+k})$ ($k, n \in N, n \leq 2k$);
- 2) R_1 is isomorphic to $Z_p a + Z_p a^2$ ($a^3 = 0$);
- 3) R_1 is isomorphic to $(p^n)/(p^{2n}) + [a]$ ($n \in N$, $[a]$ is a cyclic group with order p , $\langle a \rangle = Z_p a + Z_p a^2$, $\langle a^2 \rangle = (p^{2n-1})/(p^{2n})$, $ap^n = p^n a = 0$).

When 1), if $ep^k = p^k e = 0$ and $n > 1$, this proves result (5); if $n = 1$, by Lemma 11 we can prove result (6);

When 2), we have $R \cong E + Z_p a + Z_p a^2$ ($a^3 = 0$), since $ae = 0$, so $(ea)^2 = 0$, thus $ea = 0$. This proves result (7);

When 3), if $R = E \oplus ((p^n)/(p^{2n}) + [a])$, we can prove result (8).

As above we have

Theorem 6 If the additive group $(R, +)$ of non-zero associative ring R is a cyclic group, i.e., R is a directsum of some ideals R_p ($p \in I$), ($R_p = \{a \mid a \in R, \exists n \in N, p^n a = 0\}$, $I = \{p \mid p \text{ is a prime number, } \exists 0 \neq a \in R, pa = 0\}$), then R is an inner non-isomorphic ring iff every ideal R_p ($p \in I$) of R is isomorphic to one of the following 15 types:

- (I) Type (1) to (4) in Theorem 3;
- (II) Type (1) to (3) in Theorem 4;
- (III) Type (1) to (8) in Theorem 5.

We can calculate directly, and get

Lemma 13 If R is an inner non-isomorphic ring, then

(1) $R_0 = \{a \mid a \in R, \exists n \in N, na = 0\} \triangleleft R$, and when $R_0 \neq 0$, R_0 has the structure in Theorem 6;

(2). When $R \neq R_0$, $\forall a \in R \setminus R_0$, $\langle a \rangle$ is a torsion-free subring, then R/R_0 has at most one non-zero idempotent element.

Similarly, we can prove

Theorem 7 If R is an inner non-isomorphic ring, $(R, +)$ has a torsion-free complete subgroup. Then $R \cong R_0 \oplus E$, where E is a normal extension over Q , and every subring of E containing Q is a normal extension over Q , $R_0 = \{r \mid r \in R, \exists n \in N, nr = 0\}$ is an inner non-isomorphic ring without non-zero idempotent element, therefore $R_0 \cong \sum_{p \in I} R_p$ ($R_p = \{a \mid a \in R, \exists n \in N, pa = 0\}$), $I = \{p \mid p$ is a prime number, $\exists 0 \neq a \in R, pa = 0\}$, and R_p must be isomorphic to one of 15 types in theorem 6.

Additionally, we point out that the main results and its proofs in paper [2] are mistaken.

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内同构环与内异环的结构

周士藩

(苏州大学数学系)

摘要:

所有真子环都同构的结合环, 称为内同构环, 任两不同的子环都不同构的结合环, 称为内异环. 本文目的是给出内同构环与内异环的一些结构定理, 从而基本上解决了 Szasz F. A. 提出的问题 81: 怎样的结合环, 它的不同子环总不同构?