

## PF and PP-properties in Hurwitz series ring

by  
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### Abstract

In this note we continue the study of Hurwitz series ring  $HA$  introduced by Keigher. We focus on the PF and PP-properties in  $HA$  and its sub-ring  $hA$  of Hurwitz polynomials.

**Key Words:** Hurwitz series and polynomials; PP-ring; PF-ring.

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### Introduction

Let  $A$  be a commutative ring with unit and  $HA$  the set of formal expressions of the type  $f = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} a_i X^i$  where  $a_i \in A$ . When  $g = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} b_i X^i$  then  $f + g = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} (a_i + b_i) X^i$  and  $f * g = \sum_{n:0}^{\infty} c_n X^n$  with  $c_n = \sum_{i:0}^n C_n^i a_i b_{n-i}$ . With these two operations  $HA$  is a commutative ring with identity. It was introduced and studied by Keigher in [3]. It plays an important role in many areas, especially in differential algebra. Its behavior depends deeply on the characteristic of  $A$ . In the positive characteristic case, it is closely connected to the structure of  $A$ . In the first section, we give some general properties of the ring  $HA$ . The main result says that if  $f = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} a_i X^i$

and  $g = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} b_i X^i \in HA$ , then  $f * g = 0$  if and only if  $a_i b_j = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ . In

the second section, we prove that the Hurwitz polynomials ring  $hA$  is a PF-ring if and only if  $A$  is a PF-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. The analogous for  $HA$  is true when  $A$  is Noetherian. In the third section, we prove that  $hA$  is PP if and only if  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. For  $HA$ , we define an order  $\leq$  on  $Bool(A)$ , the set of all idempotents of  $A$ , by  $a \leq b$  if  $ab = a^2$ . Then  $HA$  is a PP-ring if and only if  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module and any finite or countable set of  $Bool(A)$  admits a least upper bound.

## 1 Generalities.

**Proposition 1.1.** *The Hurwitz series  $f = \sum_{j:0}^{\infty} a_j X^j \in (X, X^2, \dots, X^m)$  if and only if  $a_0 = 0$  and for every  $j > m$ ,  $a_j$  is a linear expansion of  $C_j^1, C_j^2, \dots, C_j^m$  with coefficients in  $A$ .*

**Proof:** " $\implies$ " Let  $f = \sum_{k:1}^m X^k * f_k$ , with  $f_k = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} a_{k,i} X^i \in HA$ . Since  $X^k * f_k = \sum_{i:k}^{\infty} a_{k,i-k} C_i^k X^i$  then  $a_0 = 0$  and for each  $j > m$ ,  $a_j = \sum_{k:1}^m a_{k,j-k} C_j^k$ .  
" $\impliedby$ " For  $j > m$ , let  $a_j = \sum_{k:1}^m b_{j,k} C_j^k$ , so  $a_j X^j = \sum_{k:1}^m b_{j,k} C_j^k X^j = \sum_{k:1}^m b_{j,k} X^k * X^{j-k}$ . Then  $f = \sum_{j:1}^{\infty} a_j X^j = \sum_{j:1}^m a_j X^j + \sum_{j:m+1}^{\infty} \sum_{k:1}^m b_{j,k} X^k * X^{j-k} = \sum_{k:1}^m X^k * (a_k + \sum_{j:m+1}^{\infty} b_{j,k} X^{j-k}) \in (X, X^2, \dots, X^m)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.2.** *The series  $f = \sum_{j:0}^{\infty} a_j X^j \in (X, X^2, \dots, X^m)$  if and only if for each  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_j X^j \in (X, X^2, \dots, X^m)$ .*

**Remark 1.3.** *The analogous of Proposition 1.1 and Corollary 1.2 are true in Hurwitz polynomials ring.*

**Proposition 1.4.** *Suppose that the ring  $A$  is reduced and the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $A$  is torsion free. Let  $f = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} a_i X^i$  and  $g = \sum_{j:0}^{\infty} b_j X^j \in HA$ . Then  $f * g = 0$  if and only if  $a_i b_j = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ . In particular,  $(0 : f) = H(0 : a_i, i \in \mathbb{N})$ .*

**Proof:** First step: If  $(a_k X^k + a_{k+1} X^{k+1} + \dots) * g = 0$  then  $a_k g = 0$ . Indeed, the coefficient of  $X^k$  in this product is  $a_k b_0 = 0$ . Suppose by induction that  $a_k b_i = 0$  for any  $i < n$ . The coefficient of  $X^{k+n}$  in the product is  $\sum_{i:0}^{k+n} C_{k+n}^i a_i b_{k+n-i} = \sum_{i:k}^{k+n} C_{k+n}^i a_i b_{k+n-i} = \sum_{j:0}^n C_{k+n}^{k+n-j} a_{k+n-j} b_j = 0$ . Multiplying by  $a_k$  we obtain  $C_{k+n}^k a_k^2 b_n = 0$ . Since  $A$  is torsion free then  $a_k^2 b_n = 0$  so  $(a_k b_n)^2 = 0$ . Since  $A$  is reduced  $a_k b_n = 0$ .

Second step: Let  $f = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} a_i X^i$  and  $g = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} b_i X^i$  such that  $f * g = 0$ . By the first step,  $a_0 g = 0$ . Suppose by induction that  $a_i g = 0$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n$ . Then

$(a_{n+1}X^{n+1} + \dots) * g = (f - \sum_{i:0}^n a_i X^i) * g = f * g - \sum_{i:0}^n X^i * (a_i g) = 0$ . By the first step,  $a_{n+1}g = 0$ . So for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_i b_j = 0$ . □

**Examples.**

All the hypotheses in Proposition 1.4 are necessary.

1. Let  $A$  be any ring,  $0 \neq a \in A$  and  $m \geq 2$  an integer such that  $ma = 0$ . Then  $aX * X^{m-1} = maX^m = 0$ . But  $a.1 = a \neq 0$ . For the non-reduced ring  $A = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ , we have  $X * 2X = 4X^2 = 0$ . But here  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  is not a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

2. Let  $K$  be a commutative field of zero characteristic and  $A = K[U, V]/(U^2, V^2)$  where  $U$  and  $V$  are indeterminates over  $K$ . The ring  $A$  is not reduced. Put  $u = \bar{U}$  and  $v = \bar{V}$ . Then  $A$  is a  $K$ -vector space with basis  $\{1, u, v, uv\}$  and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. In  $HA$ , we have  $(u - vX) * (u + vX) = u^2 - v^2 X^{(2)} = 0$ . But  $uv \neq 0$ .

**Corollary 1.5.** *Suppose that the ring  $A$  is reduced and the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $A$  is torsion free. Let  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in HA$  be such that  $f_1 * \dots * f_n = 0$ . Then  $a_1 \dots a_n = 0$  for each coefficient  $a_i$  of  $f_i$ .*

**Proof:** Let  $a_i$  any coefficient of  $f_i$ . Since  $f_1 * (f_2 * \dots * f_n) = 0$  by Proposition 1.4,  $a_1 b = 0$  for any coefficient  $b$  of  $f_2 * \dots * f_n$ . Thus  $a_1 (f_2 * \dots * f_n) = 0$  so  $(a_1 f_2) * (f_3 * \dots * f_n) = 0$ . Since  $a_1 a_2$  is a coefficient of  $a_1 f_2$  we have  $(a_1 a_2) c = 0$  for any coefficient  $c$  of  $f_3 * \dots * f_n$ . Hence  $a_1 a_2 (f_3 * \dots * f_n) = 0$ . Continuing, we see that  $a_1 \dots a_n = 0$ . □

**Notation.**

For any ring  $A$ ,  $Nil(A)$  is its nilradical, i.e; the set of all the nilpotent elements of  $A$  and  $T(A) = \{x \in A; \exists 0 \neq m \in \mathbb{Z}, mx = 0\}$  is the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -sub-module of  $A$  consisting of elements with torsion.

**Proposition 1.6.** *The following conditions are equivalent for a ring  $A$ :*

1.  $T(A) \subseteq Nil(A)$ .
2. The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $A/Nil(A)$  is torsion free.
3. If  $f$  and  $g \in HA$  (resp  $hA$ ) are such that  $f * g \in H(Nil(A))$  (resp  $h(NilA)$ ) then for each coefficient  $a$  of  $f$  and each coefficient  $b$  of  $g$ ,  $ab \in Nil(A)$ .

**Proof:** "(1)  $\implies$  (2)" Let  $\bar{a} \in A/Nil(A)$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that  $n\bar{a} = 0$ . Then  $na \in Nil(A)$ . There exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that  $0 = (na)^k = n^k a^k$ . Hence  $a^k \in T(A) \subseteq Nil(A)$ . So  $a \in Nil(A)$  and  $\bar{a} = 0$ .

"(2)  $\implies$  (3)"  $A/Nil(A)$  is a reduced ring and torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. In  $H(A/Nil(A))$ , we have  $\bar{f} * \bar{g} = 0$ . By Proposition 1.4, for each coefficient  $a$  of  $f$  and each coefficient  $b$  of  $g$ , we have  $\bar{a}\bar{b} = 0$  so  $ab \in Nil(A)$ .

"(3)  $\implies$  (1)" Suppose that  $T(A) \not\subseteq Nil(A)$  and let  $a \in T(A) \setminus Nil(A)$ . There exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}^*$  such that  $ma = 0$ . For the Hurwitz polynomials  $f = X$  and

$g = aX^{m-1}$ , we have  $f * g = maX^m = 0 \in H(\text{Nil}(A))$ . But  $a1 = a$  is not nilpotent.  $\square$

## 2 Hurwitz series over a PF-ring

We recall the definition of a PF-ring and we prove that it is reduced; i.e., without nontrivial nilpotent element. While we give necessary and sufficient conditions for Hurwitz polynomials ring to have the PF-property, the case of Hurwitz series is stated under the Noetherian hypothesis.

**Definition 2.1.** *A ring  $A$  is said to be PF if for each  $a \in A$  and  $x \in (0 : a)$  there exists  $y \in (0 : a)$  such that  $x=xy$ .*

The following Lemma must be well known.

**Lemma 2.2.** *A PF-ring  $A$  is reduced.*

**Proof:** Let  $0 \neq a \in \text{Nil}(A)$  and  $n \geq 1$  the smallest integer such that  $a^n = 0$ . Then  $n \geq 2$  and  $a \in (0 : a^{n-1})$ . Since  $A$  is a PF-ring, there exists  $b \in (0 : a^{n-1})$  such that  $ab = a$ . So  $0 = ba^{n-1} = (ba)a^{n-2} = aa^{n-2} = a^{n-1}$ , which contradicts the minimality of  $n$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *If  $hA$  or  $HA$  is a PF-ring then  $A$  is a PF-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.*

**Proof:** Let  $a \in A$  and  $b \in (0 : a)_A$ . Since  $hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) is PF-ring, there is  $g = c_0 + c_1X + \dots$  such that  $ag = 0$  and  $bg = b$ . So  $c_0a = 0$  and  $bc_0 = b$ . Then  $A$  is a PF-ring. Let  $a \in A$  and  $m \geq 1$  an integer such that  $ma = 0$ . Then  $aX * X^{m-1} = maX^m = 0$ , so  $aX \in (0 : X^{m-1})$ . Since  $hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) is a PF-ring there is  $f = a_0 + a_1X + \dots \in (0 : X^{m-1})$  such that  $aX = aX * f = aa_0X + 2aa_1X^2 + \dots$ . So  $a = aa_0$ . But  $0 = X^{m-1} * f = a_0X^{m-1} + \dots$  so  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a = 0$ . We conclude that the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $A$  is torsion free.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *If  $\text{charact}(A) = m > 0$  then  $hA$  and  $HA$  are not PF-rings.*

**Proof:** For each  $a \in A$ ,  $ma = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** *The ring  $hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) is PF if and only if for each  $f, g \in hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) such that  $f * g = 0$  there is  $c \in A$  such that  $cf = 0$  and  $cg = g$ .*

**Proof:** Let  $f = a_0 + a_1X + \dots$  and  $g = b_0 + b_1X + \dots \in hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) such that  $f * g = 0$ . Since  $hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) is a PF-ring there exists  $h = c_0 + c_1X + \dots \in (0 : f)$  such that  $g = h * g$  so  $g * (h - 1) = 0$  and  $f * h = 0$ . By Lemma 2.3,  $A$  is a reduced ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. By Proposition 1.4,  $a_i c_j = 0$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$  and in particular  $c_0 f = 0$ . Also  $b_i(c_0 - 1) = 0$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $b_i c_0 = b_i$  and  $c_0 g = g$ . The converse is clear.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** *Hurwitz polynomials ring over  $A$  is PF if and only if  $A$  is a PF-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.*

**Proof:** " $\implies$ " By Lemma 2.3. " $\impliedby$ " Let  $f = a_0 + \dots + a_m X^m$  and  $g = g_0 + \dots + g_n X^n \in hA$  such that  $f * g = 0$ . Since  $A$  is reduced then by Proposition 1.4,  $a_i g_j = 0$  for all  $i, j$ . Put  $J = (0 : g_0)_A \cap \dots \cap (0 : g_n)_A$ . Then  $a_0, \dots, a_m \in J$ . If  $x \in J$  since  $A$  is PF, for each  $j = 0, \dots, n$  there is  $y_j \in (0 : g_j)_A$  such that  $x = xy_j$ . Let  $y = y_0 \dots y_n \in J$  then  $xy = x$ . Applying this for  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_m \in J$ , we find  $b_0, b_1, \dots, b_m \in J$  such that  $a_0 b_0 = a_0, a_1 b_1 = a_1, \dots, a_m b_m = a_m$ . Define inductively the elements  $c_0, \dots, c_m$  of  $J$  by  $c_0 = b_0$  and  $c_i = c_{i-1} + b_i - c_{i-1} b_i$ . Note that  $a_0 c_0 = a_0 b_0 = a_0$ . Suppose by induction that  $(a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_i X^i) c_i = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_i X^i$ , for each  $i \leq k$ . Then  $(a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_k X^k + a_{k+1} X^{k+1}) c_{k+1} = (a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_k X^k + a_{k+1} X^{k+1})(c_k + b_{k+1} - c_k b_{k+1}) = (a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_k X^k) c_k + (a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_k X^k)(b_{k+1} - c_k b_{k+1}) + a_{k+1} X^{k+1}(c_k + b_{k+1} - c_k b_{k+1}) = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_k X^k + a_{k+1} c_k X^{k+1} + a_{k+1} b_{k+1} X^{k+1} - c_k a_{k+1} b_{k+1} X^{k+1} = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_k X^k + a_{k+1} X^{k+1}$ . So for  $t = 0, 1, \dots, m$ ,  $(a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_t X^t) c_t = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_t X^t$ . Take  $c = c_m \in A$ , then  $cf = f$  and  $c \in J = (0 : g_0)_A \cap \dots \cap (0 : g_n)_A$  so  $c \in (0 : g)_{hA}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.7.** *Suppose  $A$  Noetherian. Then  $HA$  is a PF-ring if and only if  $A$  is a PF-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.*

**Proof:** " $\implies$ " By Lemma 2.3. " $\impliedby$ " Let  $f = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots$  and  $g = g_0 + g_1 X + \dots \in HA$  such that  $f \in (0 : g)$ . Then  $f * g = 0$  and since  $A$  is reduced then by Proposition 1.4,  $a_i g_j = 0$  for all  $i, j$ . Let  $C_f = (a_0, a_1, \dots)$  and  $C_g = (g_0, g_1, \dots)$  be the contents of  $f$  and  $g$  respectively. Since  $A$  is Noetherian there are integers  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $C_f = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_m)$  and  $C_g = (g_0, g_1, \dots, g_n)$ . Put  $\tilde{f} = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_m X^m$  and  $\tilde{g} = g_0 + g_1 X + \dots + g_n X^n \in hA$ . Then  $\tilde{f} * \tilde{g} = 0$  so  $\tilde{f} \in (0 : \tilde{g})_{hA}$ . By Theorem 2.6,  $hA$  is PF. By Theorem 2.5, there is  $c \in A$  such that  $c\tilde{f} = \tilde{f}$  and  $c \in (0 : \tilde{g})$ . This means that  $ca_0 = a_0, \dots, ca_m = a_m$  and  $cg_0 = \dots = cg_n = 0$ . So  $ca = a$  for each  $a \in C_f$  and  $cb = 0$  for each  $b \in C_g$ . Then  $cf = f$  and  $c \in (0 : g)_{HA}$ . Then  $HA$  is PF.  $\square$

### 3 Hurwitz series over a PP-ring

We give necessary and sufficient conditions for Hurwitz polynomials and series rings to have the PP-property.

**Definition 3.1.** *A ring  $A$  is said to be a PP-ring if the annihilator  $(0 : a)$  of each element  $a \in A$  is generated by an idempotent element of  $A$ .*

The following three lemmas are less or more known. We include their proofs for sake of the completeness.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Any PP-ring  $A$  is a PF-ring, so reduced.*

**Proof:** Let  $a \in A$  then  $(0 : a) = eA$  with  $e^2 = e$ . For each  $x \in (0 : a)$ ,  $x = eb$  with  $b \in A$ . So  $x = eb = e^2b = ex$  with  $e \in eA = (0 : a)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be idempotent elements in a ring  $A$ . Then the intersection  $e_1A \cap \dots \cap e_nA = eA$  where  $e = e_1e_2 \dots e_n$  is an idempotent.*

**Proof:** By induction it suffices to prove the property for  $n = 2$ . Put  $e = e_1e_2 \in e_1A \cap e_2A$  then  $eA \subseteq e_1A \cap e_2A$ . Conversely, let  $x \in e_1A \cap e_2A$  then  $x = e_1a$  and  $x = e_2b$  with  $a, b \in A$ . Then  $e_2x = e_1e_2a = ea$  and  $e_2x = e_2^2b = e_2b = x$  so  $x = ea \in eA$  and  $e_1A \cap e_2A \subseteq eA$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** *The following assertions are equivalent for a ring  $A$*

1.  $A$  is a PP-ring.
2. For each  $0 \neq a \in A$ , there exists an idempotent  $e \in A$  and a regular element  $b \in A$  such that  $a = be$ .

**Proof:** "(1)  $\implies$  (2)" Let  $0 \neq a \in A$  then  $(0 : a) = Ae$  with  $e^2 = e$  and  $ae = 0$ . We have  $(1 - e)(e + a) = e + a - e^2 - ea = a$ . Since  $1 - e$  is idempotent, we just need to prove that  $e + a$  is regular. Let  $x \in A$  such that  $x(e + a) = 0$  then  $xe + xa = 0$ . By multiplying by  $e$  we have  $xe + xae = 0$  so  $xe = 0$ . The equality  $xe + xa = 0$  becomes  $xa = 0$  so  $x \in (0 : a) = Ae$ . Put  $x = eb$  with  $b \in A$ . The equality  $x(e + a) = 0$  becomes  $0 = eb(e + a) = b(e^2 + ea) = be = x$  so  $e + a$  is regular.

"(2)  $\implies$  (1)" Let  $0 \neq a \in A$  then  $a = be$  with  $e^2 = e$  and  $b$  a regular element. Let  $x \in (0 : a)$  then  $0 = ax = bex$  so  $ex = 0$  because  $b$  is regular. So  $x = (1 - e)x \in (1 - e)A$  then  $(0 : a) \subseteq (1 - e)A$ . Conversely,  $(1 - e)a = (1 - e)be = (e - e^2)b = 0$  so  $1 - e \in (0 : a)$  then  $(0 : a) = (1 - e)A$ .  $\square$

This section is based on the result [1, Proposition 2.3] which states that  $Bool(HA) = Bool(hA) = Bool(A)$  for any commutative ring  $A$ .

**Lemma 3.5.** *If  $hA$  or  $HA$  is a PP-ring then  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.*

**Proof:** Let  $r \in A$ . Since  $hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) is a PP-ring,  $(0 : r)_{hA} = ehA$  (resp.  $(0 : r)_{HA} = eHA$ ) with  $e \in Bool(HA) = Bool(hA) = Bool(A)$ . Because  $er = 0$  then  $e \in (0 : r)_A$  so  $eA \subseteq (0 : r)_A$ . Conversely, let  $l \in (0 : r)_A \subseteq (0 : r)_{hA} = ehA$  (resp.  $(0 : r)_A \subseteq (0 : r)_{HA} = eHA$ ) then  $l = ef$ . So  $l = ea_0 \in eA$  where  $a_0$  is the constant term of  $f$ , then  $(0 : r)_A \subseteq eA$ . We conclude that  $(0 : r)_A = eA$  and  $A$  is a PP-ring.

Let  $a \in A$  and  $m \geq 2$  be an integer such that  $ma = 0$ . By Lemma 3.4, there is  $e \in Bool(A)$  and  $f = a_0 + a_1X + \dots \in hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) a regular element such that  $X = ef$ . Then  $ea_0 = ea_2 = \dots = 0$  and  $ea_1 = 1$ . So  $e \in U(A)$  but the only invertible idempotent is 1. Then  $e = 1$ ,  $a_1 = 1$  and  $a_0 = a_2 = \dots = 0$  so  $X = f$  is a regular element. But  $X * aX^{m-1} = maX^m = 0$  so  $aX^{m-1} = 0$  and  $a = 0$ . This proves that  $A$  is a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

An alternative proof: Since  $hA$  (resp.  $HA$ ) is a PP-ring then it is a PF-ring. By Lemma 2.3,  $A$  is a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.6.** *If  $\text{charact}(A) > 0$  then  $hA$  and  $HA$  are not PP-rings.*

**Theorem 3.7.** *The Hurwitz polynomials ring over  $A$  is PP if and only if  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.*

**Proof:** " $\implies$ " By Lemma 3.5. " $\impliedby$ " Let  $f = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i X^i \in hA$ . Put  $(0 : a_i) = e_i A$  with  $e_i \in \text{Bool}(A)$  and  $e = e_0 \dots e_n \in \text{Bool}(A)$ . By Lemma 3.3,  $e_0 A \cap \dots \cap e_n A = eA$ . Because  $A$  is a PP-ring so it is reduced by Lemma 3.2. By Proposition 1.4, we have  $(0 : f) = h(e_0 A \cap \dots \cap e_n A) = ehA$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.8.** *Let  $A$  be a reduced ring. The relation defined on  $A$  by  $a \leq b$  if and only if  $ab = a^2$  is an order.*

**Proof:** The reflexivity is clear. Let  $a, b \in A$  such that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$ , then  $ab = a^2$  and  $ab = b^2$ . So  $(a - b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab = 0$ . Since  $A$  is reduced  $a - b = 0$  and  $a = b$ . So  $\leq$  is anti-symmetric. Let  $a, b, c \in A$  such that  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$  then  $ab = a^2$  and  $bc = b^2$ . Then  $(ac - ab)^2 = a^2(c^2 + b^2 - 2cb) = ab(c^2 + b^2 - 2b^2) = ab(c^2 - b^2) = ab(c - b)(c + b) = a(bc - b^2)(c + b) = 0$ . Since  $A$  is reduced then  $ac - ab = 0$  so  $ac = ab = a^2$  then  $a \leq c$ , which means that  $\leq$  is transitive.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.9.** *Let  $A$  be a PP-ring and  $S \subseteq \text{Bool}(A)$ . Then  $S$  admits a least upper bound in  $\text{Bool}(A)$  if and only if it admits a least upper bound in  $(A, \leq)$  which is an idempotent.*

**Proof:** " $\impliedby$ " Clear. " $\implies$ " Let  $e$  be the least upper bound of  $S$  in  $\text{Bool}(A)$  and  $y \in A$  be any upper bound of  $S$ . Then  $xy = x$  for each  $x \in S$ , so  $x(1 - y) = 0$ . By Lemma 3.4,  $1 - y = fa$  with  $f^2 = f$  and  $a \in A$  a regular element. Since  $0 = x(1 - y) = xfa$  then  $xf = 0$  and  $x(1 - f) = x$  so  $x \leq 1 - f$  for each  $x \in S$ . By definition of  $e$  we have  $e \leq 1 - f$  so  $e(1 - f) = e$  and  $ef = 0$ . Then  $e(1 - y) = efa = 0$  so  $ey = e$ . This means that  $e \leq y$  and  $e$  is the least upper bound of  $S$  in  $(A, \leq)$ .

The PP-property in Hurwitz series ring is raised in [4] under strong hypotheses. In the following Theorem we characterize it completely.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10.** *The following assertions are equivalent for a ring  $A$*

1.  $HA$  is a PP-ring.
2.  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module and any finite or countable set of  $\text{Bool}(A)$  admits a least upper bound in  $(\text{Bool}(A), \leq)$ .
3.  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module and any finite or countable increasing sequence in  $\text{Bool}(A)$  admits a least upper bound in  $(A, \leq)$  that belongs to  $\text{Bool}(A)$ .

**Proof:** "(1)  $\implies$  (2)" By Lemma 3.5,  $A$  is a PP-ring and a torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. Let  $C = \{e_i; i \in I\}$ ,  $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ , be a finite or countable set of nonzero idempotent elements of  $A$ . Put  $0 \neq g = \sum_{i \in I} e_i X^i \in HA$ . Since  $HA$  is a PP-ring, by

Lemma 3.4,  $g = t\theta$  with  $t \in Bool(HA) = Bool(A)$  and  $\theta \in HA$  a regular element. We will prove that  $t$  is the least upper bound of  $C$  in  $Bool(A)$ . We have  $(1 - t)g = g - tg = g - t^2\theta = g - t\theta = g - g = 0$  so for each  $i \in I$ ,  $(1 - t)e_i = 0$ , then  $te_i = e_i$  or  $e_i \leq t$ . Then  $t$  is an upper bound of  $C$ . Let  $t' \in Bool(A)$  be such that  $e_i \leq t'$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then  $e_it' = e_i$  so  $(1 - t')e_i = 0$  then  $(1 - t')g = 0$  or  $(1 - t')t\theta = 0$  and then  $(1 - t')t = 0$  because  $\theta$  is a regular element. Then  $t't = t$  so  $t \leq t'$ . We conclude that  $t$  is the least upper bound for  $C$ .

"(2)  $\implies$  (3)" By Lemma 3.9. "(3)  $\implies$  (1)" Let  $f = \sum_{i:0}^{\infty} a_i X^i \in HA$ . Since  $A$  is

reduced,  $(0 : f) = H(0 : (a_0, a_1, \dots))$ . But  $0 : (a_0, a_1, \dots) = \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} (0 : a_i) = \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} e_i A$

with  $e_i \in Bool(A)$  because  $A$  is a PP-ring. Put  $d_n = e_0 e_1 \dots e_n \in Bool(A)$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $d_i \in e_i A$  then  $\bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} d_i A \subseteq \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} e_i A$ . Conversely, let  $x \in \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} e_i A$ ,

then  $x = e_0 a = d_0 a$  with  $a \in A$  so  $x \in d_0 A$ . Suppose by induction that  $x \in d_n A$  so  $x = d_n b$  with  $b \in A$ . But  $x \in e_{n+1} A$  so  $x = e_{n+1} c$  with  $c \in A$ . Then  $e_{n+1} x = e_{n+1} d_n b = d_{n+1} b$  and  $e_{n+1} x = e_{n+1}^2 c = e_{n+1} c = x$ . So  $x = d_{n+1} b \in$

$d_{n+1} A$ . Then  $\bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} d_i A = \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} e_i A$ . We have an increasing sequence of idempotents

$1 - d_0 \leq 1 - d_1 \leq \dots$  because  $(1 - d_n)(1 - d_{n+1}) = 1 - d_{n+1} - d_n + d_n d_{n+1} = 1 - d_{n+1} - d_n + d_{n+1} = 1 - d_n$  so  $1 - d_n \leq 1 - d_{n+1}$ . Let  $d \in Bool(A)$  the least

upper bound of  $\{1 - d_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  in  $(A, \leq)$ . We will prove that  $\bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} d_i A = (1 - d)A$ .

Since  $1 - d_i \leq d$  then  $(1 - d_i)d = 1 - d_i$  so  $1 - d = d_i(1 - d) \in d_i A$  then

$(1 - d)A \subseteq \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} d_i A$ . Conversely, let  $y \in \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} d_i A$ . Then  $y = d_i y_i$  with  $y_i \in A$  so

$(1 - d_i)(1 - y) = 1 - y - d_i + d_i y = 1 - y - d_i + d_i^2 y_i = 1 - y - d_i + d_i y_i = 1 - y - d_i + y = 1 - d_i$  so  $1 - d_i \leq 1 - y$ . According to the definition of  $d$  we

have  $d \leq 1 - y$  so  $d = d(1 - y) = d - dy$  then  $dy = 0$ . So  $y(1 - d) = y - yd = y$

then  $y \in (1 - d)A$ . We conclude that  $\bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} e_i A = \bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} d_i A = (1 - d)A$ . Then

$$(0 : f) = H\left(\bigcap_{i:0}^{\infty} e_i A\right) = (1 - d)HA. \quad \square$$

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