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# McCoy Rings and Matrix Rings with McCoy 0-Multiplication

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### Abstract

In this study, we consider a construction of subrings with McCoy 0multiplication of matrix rings of McCoy rings which is a unifed generalization of the ring  $R[x]/(x^n)$ , where  $n \ge 0$ . One objective is to extend the various known results to this new extension from the rings such as  $R[x]/(x^n)$ , Hurwitz extension H(R).

*Keywords*: Armendariz Ring, McCoy Ring, Simple 0-multiplication, McCoy 0-multiplication.

## McCoy Halkaları ve McCoy-0 Çarpımlı Matris Halkaları

### Özet

Bu çalışmada,  $n \ge 0$  için  $R[x]/(x^n)$ , halkasının bir genellemesi olan McCoy halkalarının matris halkalarının McCoy 0-Çarpımlı alt halkalarını ele aldık. Bu doğrultuda,  $R[x]/(x^n)$ , H(R) Hurwitz genişlemeleri gibi halkalardaki bilinen bazı sonuçları bu yeni genişlemeye aktarmayı amaçladık.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Armendariz Halka, McCoy Halka, Basit 0-çarpım, McCoy 0çarpım.

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### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, we will assume that **R** is an associative ring with nonzero identity and the polynomial ring over **R** is denoted by R[x] with **x** its indeterminate. For notation,  $\mathbb{M}_n(R)$  and  $\mathbb{T}_n(R)$  denote the  $n \times n$  full matrix ring over **R** and full upper triangular matrix ring over **R**, respectively.

In 1942, McCoy observed that if **R** is a commutative ring, then whenever  $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$  is a zero divisor in **R**[**x**], there exists a nonzero element  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{R}$  such that  $\mathbf{cg}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$  (see [10, Theorem 2]). But it is only in 2006 when Nielsen [11] started a systematic study of McCoy rings. According to Nielsen, a ring **R** is said to be right McCoy, when the equation  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$  over **R**[**x**], where  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \neq \mathbf{0}$ , implies that there exists a nonzero element  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{R}$  with  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0}$ . The definition of left McCoy ring is similar. If **R** is both a left and right McCoy, then **R** is called a McCoy ring. In the literature, there are several different studies on this topic. For instance, among other interesting manuscripts and results, it is shown in [6, Theorem 2.8] that **R** is a right McCoy ring if and only if **R**[**x**] is a right McCoy ring and if **R** is a right McCoy ring then **R**[**x**]/(**x**<sup>**n**</sup>) is a right McCoy ring where  $\mathbf{n} \ge \mathbf{2}$  is a positive integer. This implies that **R** is a right McCoy ring if and only if and only if the trivial extension  $\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R})$  is a right McCoy ring.

Let R be a domain (commutative or not) and R[x] its polynomial ring. Let  $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} a_i x^i$ ,  $g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n} b_j x^j$  be two elements of R[x]. It is easy to see that if f(x)g(x) = 0, then  $a_i b_j = 0$  for every i and j, since f(x) = 0 or g(x) = 0. Armendariz [2] noted that the above result can be extended the class of reduced rings. Note that a ring R is called reduced if it has no nonzero nilpotent elements. A ring R is symmetric if  $a_1a_2 \cdots a_n = 0$ , then  $a_{\sigma(1)}a_{\sigma(2)} \cdots a_{\sigma(n)} = 0$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\sigma \in S_n$ . Note that reduced rings are symmetric. A ring R is said to be Armendariz if f(x)g(x) = 0, then  $a_i b_j = 0$  for each i, j (see [1]). Anderson and Camillo [1], showed that R is an Armendariz ring if and only if R[x] is an Armendariz ring. In [8, Corollary 1.5], Lee and Zhou showed that R is a reduced ring if and only if R[x] if and only if  $R[x]/(x^n)$  is an Armendariz ring. It

is well known that  $R[x]/(x^n)$  is isomorphic to the subring  $S_n(R)$  of the ring  $\mathbb{T}_n(R)$  over R consisting of matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \cdots & a_n \\ 0 & a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & a_1 & \cdots & a_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $\mathbb{T}_{n}(\mathbb{R})$  is not an Armendariz ring by [5, Example 3], Lee and Zhou studied many specific Armendariz subrings of  $\mathbb{T}_{n}(\mathbb{R})$  in [8]. This was a starting point of the notion of simple 0-multiplication. According to Wang, Puczylowski and Li [13], a subring S of the ring  $\mathbb{M}_{n}(\mathbb{R})$  of  $n \times n$  matrices over R is with simple 0-multiplication if for arbitrary  $(\mathbf{a}_{ij}), (\mathbf{b}_{ij}) \in S$  satisfying  $(\mathbf{a}_{ij})(\mathbf{b}_{ij}) = 0$  implies that  $\mathbf{a}_{il}\mathbf{b}_{lj} = 0$  for arbitrary  $1 \leq i, j, l \leq n$ .

In the present paper, we define the ring with McCoy 0-multiplication as follows: a subring S of the ring  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  is with McCoy 0-multiplication if for arbitrary  $(\mathbf{a}_{ij}) \in S$ and  $(\mathbf{b}_{ij}) \in S \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $(\mathbf{a}_{ij})(\mathbf{b}_{ij}) = 0$  implies that for arbitrary  $1 \le i, j \le n$  there exists  $0 \ne c \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $\mathbf{a}_{ij}\mathbf{c} = 0$ . We give many descriptions of subrings with McCoy 0multiplication and McCoy subrings of matrix rings.

In Section 2, we gave several properties of this new notion. For many subrings, if **R** is a reduced ring, then  $S_4(\mathbf{R})$  is a ring with McCoy **0**-multiplication (see Theorem 2.10). We also prove that if a subring  $S_1$  of  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbf{R}_1)$  and a subring  $S_2$  of  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbf{R}_2)$  are rings with McCoy **0**-multiplication, then the subring  $S_1 \times S_2$  of  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbf{R}_1 \times \mathbf{R}_2)$  is a ring with McCoy **0**-multiplication (see Theorem 2.6). Sequentially, we will argue the property McCoy **0**-multiplication of some kinds of ring extensions.

#### 2. Results

We start this section with an example showing that the definition below, which is main focus of the paper, is not meaningless. **Example 2.1** Let R be a McCoy ring,  $f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x$  and  $g(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} x$  be two elements of  $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{R})[x]$ . Clearly f(x)g(x) = 0. But, there is only one element  $C = (0) \in \mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{R})$  such that f(x)C = 0.

Example 2.2 Let R be a McCoy ring and  $S = \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ 0 & d & e \\ 0 & 0 & f \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c, d, e, f \in R \end{cases}$ . Now we consider the elements  $f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x \in S[X]$  and  $g(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x \in S[X]$ . A simple computation gives that f(x)g(x) = 0. Taking  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in S$  gives f(x)C = 0.

By this vein, we can mention the following defition.

**Definition 2.3** The subring S of the ring  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  of  $n \times n$  matrices over R is with McCoy 0-multiplication if for arbitrary  $(a_{ij}) \in S$  and  $(b_{ij}) \in S \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $(a_{ij})(b_{ij}) = 0$  implies that for arbitrary  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ , there exists a nonzero element  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a_{ij}c = 0$ .

Example 2.4 Let R be a ring. Then

$$S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & a \end{pmatrix} : a \in R \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{M}_{n}(R)$$

is a subring of  $\mathbb{M}_{n}(\mathbb{R})$  with McCoy 0-multiplication.

We denote the set of all nilpotent elements of R by nil(R). Note that a ring R is semicommutative if ab = 0 implies aRb = 0.

Theorem 2.5 If R is semicommutative, then the subring

$$S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} : a \in R, b \in nil(R) \right\}$$

of  $\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{R})$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{T}_2(\mathbb{R})$  with McCoy 0-multiplication case  $\mathbb{R}$  is a domain.

**Proof.** Since R is semicommutative, nil(R) is an ideal of R by [9, Lemma 3.1]. So, S is a subring of  $\mathbb{T}_2(R)$ . Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \in S$  with AB = 0. We may assume that both A and B are nonzero. Then we have

$$ac = 0, ad + bc = 0.$$
 (2.0)

If a = 0, then  $b \neq 0$  and  $b^m = 0$  for some minimal integer m. Let  $r = b^{m-1} (\neq 0)$ . Then  $a_{ij}r = 0$  for  $1 \le i, j \le 2$ . If b = 0, then both c and d annihilate a on the right by (2.0).

Next we suppose that  $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$ .

If d = 0, then  $c \neq 0$  and ac = bc = 0. If c = 0, then  $d \neq 0$  and ad = 0 by (2.0). In this case, if bd = 0, then we are done, otherwise (i.e.,  $bd \neq 0$ ), since  $b \in nil(R)$ , there exists an integer n such that  $b^n d = 0$  but  $b^{n-1}d \neq 0$ . Take  $r = b^{n-1}d$ . Then br = 0 and  $ar = ab^{n-1}d = 0$  since R is semicommutative and ad = 0. Thus, we now assume that all of a, b, c, d are nonzero.

If ad = 0, then bc = 0 by (2.0). Thus ac = bc = 0. So, we only need to check the case that  $ad \neq 0$ . Assume that  $ad \neq 0$ . Then  $bc \neq 0$ . Since  $b \in nil(R)$ , there exists an integer k such that  $b^{k}c = 0$  but  $b^{k-1}c \neq 0$  Take  $r = b^{k-1}c \neq 0$ . Then  $ar = a(b^{k-1})c = 0$  by the semicommutativity of R and  $br = b^{k}c = 0$ . The proof is now complete. **Theorem 2.6** If a subring  $S_1$  of  $\mathbb{M}_n(R_1)$  and a subring  $S_2$  of  $\mathbb{M}_n(R_2)$  are rings with McCoy 0-multiplication, then the subring  $S_1 \times S_2$  of  $\mathbb{M}_n(R_1 \times R_2)$  is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

**Proof.** Let  $(A_{ij}) = ((a_{ij}, b_{ij}))$  and  $(B_{ij}) = ((c_{ij}, d_{ij})) \in M_n(R_1 \times R_2)$  such that  $(A_{ij})(B_{ij}) = 0$  for all  $1 \le i, j \le n$ . Then

$$(A_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} (a_{11}, b_{11}) & (a_{12}, b_{12}) & (a_{13}, b_{13}) & \cdots & (a_{1n}, b_{1n}) \\ (a_{21}, b_{21}) & (a_{22}, b_{22}) & (a_{23}, b_{23}) & \cdots & (a_{2n}, b_{2n}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (a_{n1}, b_{n1}) & (a_{n2}, b_{n2}) & (a_{n3}, b_{n3}) & \cdots & (a_{nn}, b_{nn}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} (a_{11}, 0) & \cdots & (a_{1n}, 0) \\ (a_{21}, 0) & \cdots & (a_{2n}, 0) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ (a_{n1}, 0) & \cdots & (a_{nn}, 0) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} (0, b_{11}) & \cdots & (0, b_{1n}) \\ (0, b_{21}) & \cdots & (0, b_{2n}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ (0, b_{n1}) & \cdots & (0, b_{nn}) \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$(B_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} (c_{11}, d_{11}) & (c_{12}, d_{12}) & (c_{13}, d_{13}) & \cdots & (c_{1n}, d_{1n}) \\ (c_{21}, d_{21}) & (c_{22}, d_{22}) & (c_{23}, d_{23}) & \cdots & (c_{2n}, d_{2n}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (c_{n1}, d_{n1}) & (c_{n2}, d_{n2}) & (c_{n3}, d_{n3}) & \cdots & (c_{nn}, d_{nn}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} (c_{11}, 0) & \cdots & (c_{1n}, 0) \\ (c_{21}, 0) & \cdots & (c_{2n}, 0) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ (c_{n1}, 0) & \cdots & (c_{nn}, 0) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} (0, d_{11}) & \cdots & (0, d_{1n}) \\ (0, d_{21}) & \cdots & (0, d_{2n}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ (0, d_{n1}) & \cdots & (0, d_{nn}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Set  $(a_{ij})' = ((a_{ij}, 0))$ ,  $(b_{ij})' = ((0, b_{ij}))$ ,  $(c_{ij})' = ((c_{ij}, 0))$  and  $(d_{ij})' = ((0, d_{ij}))$ , for every  $1 \le i, j \le n$ . Then  $(a_{ij})'(d_{ij})' = 0 = (b_{ij})'(c_{ij})'$  for  $1 \le i, j \le n$ .

If 
$$(a_{ij})' = 0$$
, then  $(0, b_{ij})(1, 0) = (0, 0)$  for  $1 \le i, j \le n$ .

If  $(b_{ij})' = 0$ , then  $(a_{ij}, 0)(0, 1) = (0, 0)$  for  $1 \le i, j \le n$ .

Now assume that  $(a_{ij})' \neq 0$  and  $(b_{ij})' \neq 0$ . Since  $B_{ij} \neq (0)$ , we have  $(c_{ij})' \neq 0$  or  $(d_{ij})' \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ .

If  $(c_{ij})' \neq 0$ , then  $c_{ij} \neq 0$  for some i, j. So, there exists a nonzero  $u_1 \in R_1$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  such that  $a_{ij}u_1 = 0$ . Hence  $(a_{ij}, 0)(u_1, 0) = 0$ .

If  $(d_{ij})' \neq 0$ , then  $d_{ij} \neq 0$  for some i, j. So, there exists a nonzero  $u_2 \in R_2$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  such that  $b_{ij}u_2 = 0$ . Hence  $(0, b_{ij})(0, u_2) = 0$ .

**Corollary 2.7** If  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R}_1)$  and  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R}_2)$  are rings with McCoy 0-multiplication, then  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R}_1 \times \mathbb{R}_2)$  is also a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

By the same notation of authors in [13],  $\phi$  denotes the canonical isomorphism of  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R})[\mathbb{x}]$  onto  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R}[\mathbb{x}])$ . It is given by

$$\varphi(A_0 + A_1 x + \dots + A_m x^m) = (f_{ij}(x)),$$

where

$$f_{ij}(x) = (a_{ij}^{(0)} + a_{ij}^{(1)}x + \dots + a_{ij}^{(m)}x^m)$$

and  $a_{ij}^{(k)}$  denotes the (i, j)-entry of  $A_k$ . In what follows  $E_{ij}$  will denote the usual matrix unit.

According to Nielsen and Camillo [12], a ring R is said to be right linearly McCoy if given nonzero linear polynomials  $f(x), g(x) \in R[X]$  with f(x)g(x) = 0, then there exists a nonzero element  $r \in R$  with f(x)r = 0.

**Theorem 2.8** Let **R** be an integral domain.

(1) If a subring S of  $\mathbb{M}_{n}(\mathbb{R})$  is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication, then S is a linearly McCoy ring.

(2) If for a subring S of M<sub>n</sub>(R), φ(S[X]) is a subring of M<sub>n</sub>(R[X]) with McCoy
 0-multiplication, then S is a McCoy ring.

**Proof.** (1) Assume that  $(A_0 + A_1x)(B_0 + B_1x) = 0$ , where  $A_i$ ,  $B_i$ 's are nonzero matrices in S. Then  $A_0B_0 = 0$  and  $A_1B_1 = 0$ . Since S is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication, we have  $0 \neq c_0, c_1 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a_{ij}^{(0)}c_0 = 0$  and  $a_{ij}^{(1)}c_1 = 0$ . Set  $c_2 = c_0c_1$ . Since R is symmetric, we have  $(a_{ij}^{(0)} + a_{ij}^{(1)}x)c_2 = 0$ . Consequently, if we choose  $0 \neq C = (c_{ij})$  where  $(c_{ij}) = c_2$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ , then we get  $(A_0 + A_1x)C = 0$ .

(2) Suppose that  $A_i, B_j \in S$  for  $0 \le i, j \le m$ . Let  $f(x) = A_0 + A_1x + \dots + A_mx^m$ and  $g(x) = B_0 + B_1x + \dots + B_mx^m$  be two elements in  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R}[X])$  and f(x)g(x) = 0. Then  $\phi(f(x))\phi(g(x)) = 0$  and since  $\phi(S[X])$  is with McCoy 0-multiplication, we get  $0 \ne C \in \mathbb{R}[X]$  such that  $f_{ij}(x)C = 0$ . We know that R is a McCoy ring so we have  $0 \ne k_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f_{ij}(x)k_{ij} = 0$ . If we choose  $a_{ij} = \prod_{i,j=1}^m k_{ij}$  and  $C' = (a_{ij})$ , then we get f(x)C' = 0.

Given a ring R and a bimodule  ${}_{R}M_{R}$ , the trivial extension of R by M is the ring T(R,M) = R  $\bigoplus$  M with the usual addition and multiplication

$$(r_1, m_1)(r_2, m_2) = (r_1r_2, r_1m_2 + m_1r_2).$$

This is the subring  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & m \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} : a \in R, m \in M \right\}$  of the formal triangular matrix ring  $\begin{pmatrix} R & M \\ 0 & R \end{pmatrix}$ .

Let **R** be a domain. Recall that, an **R**-module **M** is called **torsion**, if t(M) = M, where  $t(M) = \{x \in M : l_R(x) \neq 0\}$  (see [14]). Let **S**[**x**] and **R**[**x**] be the polynomial rings over rings **S** and **R**, respectively. Given a module **M**, let **M**[**x**] be the set of all formal polynomials with indeterminate **x** and with coefficients from **M**. Then **M**[**x**] becomes an (**S**[**x**],**R**[**x**])-bimodule under usual addition and multiplication of polynomials. Assume that **M** is an **R**-module such that **ma** = **0** implies **mRa** = **0**, for any **m**  $\in$  **M** and **a**  $\in$  **R**. In [3, Proposition 2.5], it is proved that, if **m**'(**x**) is a torsion element in **M**[**x**], then there exists a nonzero element  $c \in R$  such that **m**'(**x**)c = 0. An **R**-module **M** is called a McCoy module if  $m(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} m_i x^i \in M[x]$  and  $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{s} a_j x^j \in R[x]$ , m(x)f(x) = 0 implies m(x)c = 0 for some nonzero  $c \in R$ .

**Theorem 2.9** Let M be an (R, R)-bimodule and R a domain such that M is torsion as a right R-module. If for any  $h(x) \in R[x]$  and  $n(x) \in M[x] \setminus \{0\}$ , h(x) = 0 whenever h(x)n(x) = 0, then the trivial extension T(R[X], M[X]) is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

Proof. Let

$$\begin{split} f(x) &= a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n, \ g(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots + b_s x^s, \\ m(x) &= m_0 + m_1 x + \dots + m_n x^n, \\ l(x) &= l_0 + l_1 x + \dots + l_s x^s. \end{split}$$

Then  $f(x), g(x) \in R[X]$  and  $m(x), l(x) \in M[X]$ . Suppose that

$$\begin{pmatrix} f(x) & m(x) \\ 0 & f(x) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} g(x) & l(x) \\ 0 & g(x) \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

where at least one of g(x) and l(x) is nonzero. Then f(x)g(x) = 0 and f(x)l(x) + m(x)g(x) = 0. Since R[x] is a domain, one of f(x) and g(x) is equal to 0. So, we have f(x)l(x) = m(x)g(x) = 0. Next we separate the proof into two cases:

**Case 1**: Let m(x) = 0. We shall show that f(x) = 0. If  $f(x) \neq 0$ , then g(x) = 0 since f(x)g(x) = 0 and R[x] is a domain. By assumption, we have  $l(x) \neq 0$ . Now we can obtain that f(x)l(x) = 0. This is a contradiction.

**Case 2**: Let  $m(x) \neq 0$ , we conclude that f(x) = 0. Otherwise, if  $f(x) \neq 0$ , then g(x) = 0. So  $l(x) \neq 0$  and f(x)l(x) = 0 which contradicts the hypotesis. Thus we have f(x) = 0. Since M is a torsion right R-module, there exists a nonzero  $c_i \in R$  such that  $m_i c_i = 0$ , where i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n. Let  $c = c_0, ..., c_n$ . Then  $c \neq 0$  and m(x)c = 0.

Let **R** be a ring. We consider the following subrings of  $\mathbb{T}_n(\mathbf{R})$  for any  $n \ge 2$ :

$$S_{n}(R) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & a & \cdots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & a \end{pmatrix} : a, a_{ij} \in R \right\},$$
$$T(R,n) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_{1} & a_{2} & a_{3} & \cdots & a_{n} \\ 0 & a_{1} & a_{2} & \cdots & a_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{1} & \cdots & a_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{1} \end{pmatrix} : a_{i} \in R \right\},$$

Let  $m \le n$  be positive integers and  $S_{n,m}(R)$  the set of all  $n \times n$  matrices  $(a_{ij})$  with entries in a ring R such that

(a) For i > j,  $a_{ij} = 0$ ,

(b) For  $i \le j$ ,  $a_{ij} = a_{kl}$  when i - k = j - l and either  $1 \le i, j, k, l \le m$  or  $m \le j, k, l \ne n$ . Clearly,  $S_{n,1}(R) = S_{n,n}(R) = T(R, n)$ .

By [6, Example 2.3],  $S_3(R)$  is a right McCoy ring if R is a reduced ring and R is a right McCoy ring if and only if  $S_4(R)$  is a right McCoy ring by [6, Theorem 2.5]. One may suspect that, if R is a reduced ring, then the subring  $S_{n,m}(R)$  of  $\mathbb{T}_n(R)$  is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication. In particular,  $S_{n,m}(R)$  is a right McCoy ring. But this is not true. Let R be any ring and  $A = B = e_{1n}$ , where  $e_{1n}$  is a matrix unit (with 1 in (1,n)-th entry and 0 elsewhere). Then AB = 0, but non of nonzero element in R annihilates  $a_{1n} = 1$ .

**Theorem 2.10** If R is a commutative reduced ring, then the subring  $S_4(R)$  of  $\mathbb{T}_n(R)$  is a ring with McCoy **0**-multiplication.

**Proof.** Let 
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ 0 & a & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ 0 & 0 & a & a_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} b & b_{12} & b_{13} & b_{14} \\ 0 & b & b_{23} & b_{24} \\ 0 & 0 & b & b_{34} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$  with

AB = 0. Then we get

$$ab = 0, (2.1)$$

$$ab_{12} + a_{12}b = 0,$$
 (2.2)

$$ab_{13} + a_{12}b_{23} + a_{13}b = 0,$$
 (2.3)

$$ab_{14} + a_{12}b_{24} + a_{13}b_{34} + a_{14}b = 0,$$
 (2.4)

$$ab_{23} + a_{23}b = 0,$$
 (2.5)

$$ab_{24} + a_{23}b_{34} + a_{24}b = 0,$$
 (2.6)

$$ab_{34} + a_{34}b = 0.$$
 (2.7)

As R is reduced, multiplying equation (2.2), (2.5) and (2.7) on the left by b gives  $1a_{12}b^2 = 0$ ,  $a_{23}b^2 = 0$  and  $a_{34}b^2 = 0$ . Similarly, multiplying equation (2.3) and (2.6) on the left by  $b^2$  gives  $a_{13}b^3 = 0$  and  $a_{24}b^3 = 0$ . Finally, multiplying equation (2.4) on the left by  $b^3$  gives  $a_{14}b^4 = 0$ . If we choose  $c = b^4$ , then we see  $S_n(R)$  is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

Let R be a ring. We denote H(R) the ring of Hurwitz series over R which is defined as follows. The elements of H(R) are sequences of the form  $a = (a_n) = (a_0, a_1, ...)$ , where  $a_n \in R$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . An element in H(R) can be thought as a function from N to R.

Two elements  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  in H(R) are equal if they are equal as functions from N to R, i.e., if  $a_n = b_n$  for all  $n \in N$ . The element  $a_m \in R$  will be called the mth term of  $(a_n)$ . Addition in H(R) is defined termwise, such that  $(a_n) + (b_n) = (c_n)$ , where  $c_n = a_n + b_n$  for all  $n \in N$ .

If one identifies a formal power series  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \in R[[x]]$  with the sequence of its coefficients  $(a_n)$ , then multiplication in H(R) is similar to the usual product of formal power series, except that binomial coefficients are introduced at each term in the

product as follows by [4]. The (Hurwitz) product of  $(a_n)$  and  $(b_n)$  is given by  $(a_n)(b_n) = (c_n)$ , where

$$\mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{n}} = \sum_{k=0}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{C}_{k}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{a}_{k} \mathbf{b}_{k-\mathbf{n}}.$$

Hence

$$(a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, ...)(b_0, b_1, b_2, b_3, ...) =$$

$$(a_0b_0, a_0b_1 + a_1b_0, a_0b_2 + 2a_1b_1 + a_2b_0, a_0b_3 + 3a_1b_2 + 3a_2b_1 + a_3b_0, ...).$$

Set

$$H(R,n) = \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \cdots & a_n \\ 0 & a_0 & \cdots & a_{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_0 \end{pmatrix} : a_i \in Rfor 0 \le i \le n \\ \end{cases}.$$

We can identify  $H(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{n})$  with the set

$$\{(a_0, a_1, ..., a_n): a_i \in Rfor 0 \le i \le n\}.$$

Then  $H(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{n})$  is a ring, with addition defined componentwise and multiplication given by

$$(a_0, a_1, ..., a_n)(b_0, b_1, ..., b_n) = (c_0, c_1, ..., c_n),$$
  
 $c_0 = a_0 b_0,$ 

$$c_m = \sum_{k=0}^m C_k^m a_k b_{k-m}$$
, where  $1 \le m \le n$ .

Theorem 2.11 Let R be a commutative reduced ring. Then the subring H(R, n) of  $T_n(R)$  is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

**Proof.** Let  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $(b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n) \in H(R, n)$  and assume

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \cdots & a_n \\ 0 & a_0 & \cdots & a_{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_0 & b_1 & \cdots & b_n \\ 0 & b_0 & \cdots & b_{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & b_0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

We clearly get

$$\begin{split} a_0 b_0 &= 0, \\ a_0 b_1 + a_1 b_0 &= 0, \\ C_0^2 a_0 b_2 + C_1^2 a_1 b_1 + C_2^2 a_2 b_0 &= 0, \\ C_0^3 a_0 b_3 + C_1^3 a_1 b_2 + C_2^3 a_2 b_1 + C_3^3 a_3 b_0 &= 0, \\ &\vdots \\ C_0^n a_0 b_n + C_1^n a_1 b_{n-1} + \dots + C_{n-1}^n a_{n-1} b_1 + C_n^n a_n b_0 &= 0. \end{split}$$

Multiplying the second equation by  $b_0$  and the third one by  $b_0^2$  gives  $a_1b_0^2 = 0$  and  $a_2b_0^3 = 0$ , respectively, since R is reduced. After proceeding like this, clearly we can see  $a_kb_0^{k+1} = 0$  for all  $0 \le k \le n$ . So, if we choose  $0 \ne c = b_0^{n+1} \in R$ , then obviously  $a_ic = 0$ , for all  $0 \le i \le n$ . Hence H(R, N) is a subring of  $\mathbb{T}_n(R)$  with McCoy 0-multiplication.

We consider the following ring extension of **R** with an ideal **I**:

$$S = (R,I)[x]/(x^{n+1}) = \{\sum_{i=0}^{n} a_{i}x^{i}, a_{0} \in R, a_{i} \in I, i = 1, ..., n\}.$$

We can identify S with

$$S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ 0 & a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_0 \end{pmatrix} : a_0 \in R, a_i \in I, i \ge 1 \right\}$$

**Theorem 2.12** If a commutative ring  $\mathbb{R}$  is reduced, then the subring  $\mathbb{S}$  of  $\mathbb{T}_n(\mathbb{R})$  is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

**Proof.** We prove the theorem for  $3 \times 3$  matrix and other cases can be done similarly. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & a_2 \\ 0 & a_0 & a_1 \\ 0 & 0 & a_0 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} b_0 & b_1 & b_2 \\ 0 & b_0 & b_1 \\ 0 & 0 & b_0 \end{pmatrix} \in S. Assume that AB = 0. Then we$$

get

 $a_0 b_0 = 0$ ,

$$a_0b_1 + a_1b_0 = 0,$$

$$a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0 = 0.$$

Since R is reduced, easily we can write  $a_1b_0^2 = 0$  and  $a_2b_0^3 = 0$ . If we choose  $0 \neq c = b_0^3 \in \mathbb{R}$ , then we see that S is a ring with McCoy 0-multiplication.

According to Krempa [7], an endomorphism  $\sigma$  of a ring R is said to be rigid if  $a\sigma(a) = 0$  implies that a = 0 for any  $a \in R$ . A ring R is a  $\sigma$ -rigid ring if there exists a rigid endomorphism  $\sigma$  of R.

**Corollary 2.13** If **R** is a  $\sigma$ -rigid ring, then  $S[x;\sigma]/(x^{n+1})$  is a ring with McCoy **0**-multiplication where **S** is a subring of  $\mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

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