

## LEFT ANNIHILATORS CHARACTERIZED BY GPIS

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring with extended centroid  $C$ ,  $U$  the right Utumi quotient ring of  $R$ ,  $S$  a subring of  $U$  containing  $R$  and  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  two right ideals of  $R$ . In the paper we show that  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$  if and only if  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  satisfy the same generalized polynomial identities (GPIS) with coefficients in  $SC$ , where  $l_S(\rho_i)$  denotes the left annihilator of  $\rho_i$  in  $S$ . As a consequence of the result, if  $\rho$  is a right ideal of  $R$  such that  $l_R(\rho) = 0$ , then  $\rho$  and  $U$  satisfy the same GPIS with coefficients in the two-sided Utumi quotient ring of  $R$ .

This paper is motivated by Chuang's paper [3] and Beidar's paper [2]. Recall that a ring  $R$  is said to be a left faithful ring if, for  $a \in R$ ,  $aR = 0$  implies  $a = 0$ . For a left faithful ring  $R$ , the right Utumi quotient ring of  $R$  can be characterized as a ring  $U$  satisfying the following axioms:

- (1)  $R$  is a subring of  $U$ .
- (2) For each  $a \in U$ , there exists a dense right ideal  $\rho$  of  $R$  such that  $a\rho \subseteq R$ .
- (3) If  $a \in U$  and  $a\rho = 0$  for some dense right ideal  $\rho$  of  $R$ , then  $a = 0$ .
- (4) For any dense right ideal  $\rho$  of  $R$  and for any right  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\phi : \rho_R \rightarrow R_R$ , there exists  $a \in U$  such that  $\phi(x) = ax$  for all  $x \in \rho$ .

Let  $R$  be a left faithful ring and  $\rho$  be a dense right ideal of  $R$ . We note that  $\rho$  itself is a left faithful ring. Furthermore,  $\rho$  and  $R$  have the same right Utumi quotient ring. More precisely, denote by  $U(R)$  ( $U(\rho)$  resp.) the right Utumi quotient ring of  $R$  ( $\rho$  resp.). Then there exists a ring isomorphism  $h$  from  $U(\rho)$  onto  $U(R)$  such that  $h(x) = x$  for all  $x \in \rho$ . In [3] Chuang proved the theorem: Let  $R$  be a prime ring,  $U$  its right Utumi quotient ring and  $N_R$  a dense  $R$ -submodule of  $U_R$ . Then  $N$  and  $U$  satisfy the same generalized polynomial identities (GPIS) with coefficients in  $U$ . In this theorem we note that  $N \cap R$  is always a dense right ideal of  $R$ . Since  $N \cap R$  and  $R$  have the same right Utumi quotient ring, Chuang's theorem just says that  $R$  and  $U$  satisfy the same GPIS with coefficients in  $U$ . Also, in an earlier paper [2] Beidar proved that the same result remains true for semiprime rings. For a semiprime ring  $R$  we observe that  $N \cap R$  is a dense right ideal of  $R$  for any dense  $R$ -submodule  $N_R$  of  $U_R$ . Also,  $l_U(N \cap R)$ , the left annihilator of  $N \cap R$

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in  $U$ , is zero. In this paper we shall compare two left annihilators of two right ideals  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  of  $R$  in  $U$  by considering the GPIs satisfied by the two right ideals  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$ . From this we are able to generalize Chuang's and Beidar's results. For instance, if  $R$  is a semiprime ring and  $\rho$  is a right ideal of  $R$  such that  $l_R(\rho) = 0$ , we shall prove that  $\rho$  and  $U$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $Q$ , the two-sided Utumi quotient ring of  $R$ . More explicitly, we prove in this paper the following

**Main Theorem.** *Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring with extended centroid  $C$ ,  $U$  its right Utumi quotient ring,  $S$  a subring of  $U$  containing  $R$  and  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  two right ideals of  $R$ . Then  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$  if and only if  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $SC$ .*

Throughout the paper, rings are always associative but not necessarily with unity. We shall fix some notation. For a semiprime ring  $R$  we denote by  $U$  its right Utumi quotient ring, by  $Q$  its two-sided Utumi quotient ring and by  $C$  the extended centroid of  $R$ .  $U *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  stands for the free product of the  $C$ -algebra  $U$  and  $C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ , the free  $C$ -algebra with indeterminates  $X_1, X_2, \dots$ . For these definitions and their basic properties we refer to [3], [4] and [6]. To prove the Main Theorem we need several lemmas. We begin the proof with the following easy observations.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $R$  be a simple Artinian ring and  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  be two right ideals of  $R$ . Then  $l_R(\rho_1) = l_R(\rho_2)$  if and only if  $\rho_1 = \rho_2$ .*

*Proof.* Since every right ideal of a simple Artinian ring is generated by one idempotent, there are two idempotents  $e$  and  $f$  in  $R$  such that  $\rho_1 = eR$  and  $\rho_2 = fR$ . Assume that  $l_R(\rho_1) = l_R(\rho_2)$ . Then  $1 - e \in l_R(\rho_1)$  and hence  $(1 - e)fR = 0$ . This implies that  $(1 - e)f = 0$ . That is,  $f = ef$ . Now,  $\rho_2 = fR = efR \subseteq \rho_1$ . Similarly,  $\rho_1 \subseteq \rho_2$ . Therefore  $\rho_1 = \rho_2$ . Of course, the converse is trivial. The proof is now complete.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring and  $\rho$  be a right ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\rho$  and  $\rho U$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f(X_1, \dots, X_t) \in U *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  be a GPI satisfied by  $\rho$ . Fix  $y_1, \dots, y_t \in \rho U$ . Write  $y_i = \sum_{j=1}^{n(i)} a_{ij} u_{ij}$ , where  $a_{ij} \in \rho$  and  $u_{ij} \in U$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq t$ . Since  $\rho R \subseteq R$ ,  $f(\sum_{j=1}^{n(1)} a_{1j} Y_{1j}, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^{n(t)} a_{tj} Y_{tj})$  is a GPI for  $R$ , where the  $Y_{ij}$  are distinct indeterminates. By [2],  $f(\sum_{j=1}^{n(1)} a_{1j} Y_{1j}, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^{n(t)} a_{tj} Y_{tj})$  is also a GPI for  $U$ . In particular, set  $Y_{ij} = u_{ij}$  for all  $i, j$ . Then  $f(y_1, \dots, y_t) = 0$  as desired. This proves the lemma.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring and  $\rho$  be a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ . Suppose that  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_t \in U$  satisfy the following condition: if  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_t \in C$  satisfy  $(\alpha_1 a_1 + \dots + \alpha_t a_t)\rho = 0$ , then  $\alpha_i = 0$  for all  $i$ . Then there exists an element  $u \in \rho$  such that  $a_1 u, \dots, a_t u$  are  $C$ -independent unless  $R$  is a PI-ring.*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is a prime ring,  $C$  itself is a field. Define  $T_i \in \text{Hom}_C(\rho C, U)$  by  $T_i(y) = a_i y$  for all  $y \in \rho C$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq t$ . Then  $T_1, \dots, T_t$  are  $C$ -independent. Indeed, let  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_t \in C$  be such that  $\beta_1 T_1 + \dots + \beta_t T_t = 0$ . That is,  $(\beta_1 a_1 + \dots + \beta_t a_t)\rho C = 0$ . By our assumption,  $\beta_1 = \dots = \beta_t = 0$ .

By [3, Lemma 2], either there exists  $u \in \rho$  such that  $a_1u, \dots, a_tu$  are  $C$ -independent, or there exists  $\sum_{i=1}^t \delta_i T_i \neq 0$ , where  $\delta_i \in C$ , which is of finite rank. If the first case occurs, then we are done. Therefore we assume the second situation. This implies that  $\dim_C v\rho C < \infty$  and  $v\rho C \neq 0$ , where  $v = \delta_1 a_1 + \dots + \delta_t a_t$ . By [3, Lemma 1],  $\dim_C RC < \infty$  and hence  $R$  is a  $PI$ -ring. This completes the proof.

Let  $R$  be a prime ring and  $S$  be a subring of  $U$  containing  $R$ . It is well known that  $SC$  is a closed prime algebra over  $C$  [5]. Recall that  $f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  is called *nontrivial* if  $f$  is nonzero. By a result of Martindale [8], if  $R$  satisfies a nontrivial GPI with coefficients in  $RC$  (in fact, in  $U$ ), then  $RC$  is a strongly primitive ring. However, a nontrivial GPI for a right ideal  $\rho$  of  $R$  may only give a *trivial* identity for  $\rho$ . For instance, if there exist two  $C$ -independent elements  $a, b \in U$  and  $\beta \neq 0$  in  $C$  such that  $(b + \beta a)\rho = 0$ , then  $aX_1bX_2 + \beta aX_1aX_2$  is a nontrivial GPI for  $\rho$  but gives a trivial identity for  $\rho$ . Therefore to handle this situation we must give a suitable adaptation for the idea of GPIS satisfied by one-sided ideals. We now follow a notion given by Chuang [3, p. 725]. Let  $B$  be a set of  $C$ -independent elements of  $S$ . By a  $B$ -monomial, we mean a monomial of the form  $u_0 Y_1 u_1 Y_2 \dots Y_n u_n$ , where  $\{u_0, u_1, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq B$  and where  $\{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\} \subseteq \{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ . Thus for each nonzero  $f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  there exists a  $B$  such that  $f$  is a  $C$ -linear combination of  $B$ -monomials. A generalized polynomial  $0 \neq f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  is called a *proper GPI* for a right ideal  $\rho$  of the prime ring  $R$  if  $f$  is of the form  $g(X_1, \dots, X_t)X_{t+1}$ , where  $g \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ , such that  $g$  lies in the  $C$ -span of  $B$ -monomials for some  $B$ , a finite set of  $C$ -independent elements of  $S$ , and furthermore if  $B$  satisfies the following condition:

If  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l \in C$  satisfy  $(\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_l b_l)\rho = 0$ , where  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_l\}$ , then  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_l = 0$ .

We remark that two right ideals  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  of the prime ring  $R$  satisfy the same GPIS with coefficients in  $SC$  if and only if  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  satisfy the same GPIS of the form  $g(X_1, \dots, X_t)X_{t+1}$ , where  $g \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ . Indeed, we need only give the proof of the "if" part. Let  $f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  be a GPI for  $\rho_1$ . Let  $X_1, \dots, X_t$  be all indeterminates occurring in  $f$ . Fix any element  $a \in S$ . Then  $f(X_1, \dots, X_t)aX_{t+1}$  is a GPI for  $\rho_1$ . By our assumption,  $f(X_1, \dots, X_t)aX_{t+1}$  is also a GPI for  $\rho_2$ . Thus  $f(x_1, \dots, x_t)SCx_{t+1} = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_{t+1} \in \rho_2$ . By the primeness of  $SC$ ,  $f(x_1, \dots, x_t) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_t \in \rho_2$ . That is,  $f$  is a GPI for  $\rho_2$ . This proves our remark.

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring,  $S$  a subring of  $U$  containing  $R$  and  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  two right ideals of  $R$  such that  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$ . Suppose that  $\rho_i$  has no proper GPI in  $SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Then  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  satisfy the same GPIS with coefficients in  $SC$ .*

*Proof.* We note first that  $l_{SC}(\rho_1) = l_{SC}(\rho_2)$ . Indeed, if  $y\rho_1 = 0$  where  $y \in SC$ , then there exists a nonzero ideal  $I$  of  $R$  such that  $Iy \subseteq S$ , since  $R \subseteq S \subseteq U$ , and hence  $(Iy)\rho_1 = 0$ , which implies  $Iy\rho_2 = 0$ . Thus  $y\rho_2 = 0$  follows. This proves  $l_{SC}(\rho_1) \subseteq l_{SC}(\rho_2)$ . Thus  $l_{SC}(\rho_1) = l_{SC}(\rho_2)$ .

Let  $0 \neq f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  be a GPI for  $\rho_1$ . Assume for the moment that  $f$  is of the form  $h(X_1, \dots, X_t)X_{t+1}$ , where  $h \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ . Then there is a finite set  $B$  of  $C$ -independent elements of  $S$  such that  $h$  lies

in the  $C$ -span of  $B$ -monomials. Say that  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_t\}$ . We proceed by induction on  $t$ , the number of elements in  $B$ . Since  $\rho_1$  has no proper GPI in  $SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ , we may assume that  $(\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_{t-1} b_{t-1} + \alpha_t b_t)\rho_1 = 0$  for some  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_t \in C$ , not all zero. Without loss of generality we can assume  $\alpha_t = 1$ . Then we have  $(\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_{t-1} b_{t-1} + b_t)\rho_2 = 0$  since  $l_{SC}(\rho_1) = l_{SC}(\rho_2)$ . Also, let  $g$  be the GP obtained from  $h$  by replacing the coefficient  $b_t$  in  $f$  by  $-(\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_{t-1} b_{t-1})$ . Set  $B_0 = \{b_1, \dots, b_{t-1}\}$ . Then  $gX_{l+1}$  is also a GPI for  $\rho_1$  and furthermore  $g$  lies in the  $C$ -span of  $B_0$ -monomials, where  $|B_0| = t - 1$ . Applying the induction hypothesis yields that  $gX_{l+1}$  is a GPI for  $\rho_2$ . Now the fact that  $(\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_{t-1} b_{t-1} + b_t)\rho_2 = 0$  implies that  $f$  is a GPI for  $\rho_2$ . Similarly, by the assumption that  $\rho_2$  has no proper GPI in  $SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  we deduce that every GPI of the form  $h(X_1, \dots, X_l)X_{l+1}$  in  $SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  for  $\rho_2$  is satisfied by  $\rho_1$ . Therefore,  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $SC$  by the remark given before this lemma. The proof of Lemma 4 is complete.

With Lemma 4 in hand we are now able to prove the Main Theorem when  $R$  is a prime ring.

**Lemma 5.** *The Main Theorem holds when  $R$  is a prime ring.*

*Proof.* We may assume that  $\rho_1 \neq 0$  and  $\rho_2 \neq 0$ . By Lemma 4, we may assume that  $\rho_1$  has a proper GPI  $f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ . Write  $f = g(X_1, \dots, X_l)X_{l+1}$ . Thus there exists a finite set  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_t\}$  of  $C$ -independent elements of  $S$  such that  $g$  lies in the  $C$ -span of  $B$ -monomials. Also, we have that if  $(\alpha_1 b_1 + \dots + \alpha_t b_t)\rho_1 = 0$  where  $\alpha_i \in C$ , then  $\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_t = 0$ . We claim that  $R$  satisfies a nontrivial GPI with coefficients in  $U$ . If  $R$  is a PI-ring, the claim holds trivially. Suppose that  $R$  is not a PI-ring. Then by Lemma 3 there exists an element  $u \in \rho_1$  such that  $b_1 u, \dots, b_t u$  are  $C$ -independent. Then  $g(uX_1, \dots, uX_l)uX_{l+1}$  is a nontrivial GPI for  $R$  since  $uR \subseteq \rho_1$ . This proves the claim. By Chuang’s theorem [3],  $R$  and  $S$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ . By Martindale’s theorem [8],  $SC$  is a strongly primitive ring. In particular,  $\text{Soc}(SC)$ , the socle of  $SC$ , is nonzero. Set  $\sigma = \text{Soc}(SC) \neq 0$ . Then  $\sigma$  is a simple ring with minimal right ideals.

Note that  $\rho_1 \sigma$  and  $\rho_1$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ . Indeed, by Lemma 2, a GPI for  $\rho_1$  is satisfied by  $\rho_1 \sigma$ . Conversely, let  $h(X_1, \dots, X_k)$  be a GPI for  $\rho_1 \sigma$  with coefficients in  $U$ . Fix  $k$  elements  $y_1, \dots, y_k \in \rho_1$ . Then  $h(y_1 X_1, \dots, y_k X_1)$  is a GPI for  $\sigma$ . Since  $\sigma_R$  is a dense submodule of  $U_R$ , by [3]  $U$  satisfies  $h(y_1 X_1, \dots, y_k X_1)$ . In particular, set  $X_1 = 1$ . Then  $h(y_1, \dots, y_k) = 0$ . Therefore  $h(X_1, \dots, X_k)$  is a GPI for  $\rho_1$ . This proves that  $\rho_1 \sigma$  and  $\rho_1$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ . Of course,  $\rho_2 \sigma$  and  $\rho_2$  also satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ .

Assume first that  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$ , and let  $f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  be a GPI for  $\rho_1$ . Write  $f = f(X_1, \dots, X_l)$ . Let  $t \in \sigma$ . Then  $tf(X_1 t, \dots, X_l t) \in \sigma *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  is a GPI for  $\rho_1 \sigma$ . Let  $d_1, \dots, d_m$  be the coefficients occurring in  $tf(X_1 t, \dots, X_l t)$ . Note that  $d_i \in \sigma$  for each  $i$ . By Litoff’s theorem [7, Theorem 3, p. 90], there exists an idempotent  $e \in \sigma$  such that  $d_i \in e\sigma e$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Thus  $e\rho_1 \sigma e$  satisfies the GPI  $tf(X_1 t, \dots, X_l t)$ . It follows from the fact  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$  that  $l_\sigma(\rho_1 \sigma) = l_\sigma(\rho_2 \sigma)$  and hence  $l_{e\sigma e}(e\rho_1 \sigma e) = l_{e\sigma e}(e\rho_2 \sigma e)$ . Note that  $e\sigma e$  is now a simple Artinian ring and that  $e\rho_1 \sigma e$  and  $e\rho_2 \sigma e$  are two right ideals of  $e\sigma e$ . Applying Lemma 1, we

have  $e\rho_1\sigma e = e\rho_2\sigma e$ . Now  $e\rho_2\sigma e$  satisfies the GPI  $tf(X_1t, \dots, X_1t)$  and hence  $\rho_2\sigma$  satisfies  $tf(X_1t, \dots, X_1t)$ .

So if we fix  $l$  elements  $x_1, \dots, x_l \in \rho_2\sigma$ , then  $\sigma$  satisfies the GPI  $X_1f(x_1X_1, \dots, x_lX_1)$ . Since  $\sigma_R$  is a dense submodule of  $U_R$ , by [3]  $U$  satisfy  $X_1f(x_1X_1, \dots, x_lX_1)$ . In particular, set  $X_1 = 1$ . Then  $f(x_1, \dots, x_l) = 0$ . Therefore  $\rho_2\sigma$  and hence  $\rho_2$  satisfy  $f(X_1, \dots, X_l)$ . Up to now we have proved that every GPI in  $SC *C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  for  $\rho_1$  is also a GPI for  $\rho_2$ . Thus  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $SC$ .

For the converse, let  $x\rho_1 = 0$  where  $x \in S$ . Then  $\rho_1$  satisfies  $xX_1 \in SC *C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ . By the assumption,  $x\rho_2 = 0$ . Therefore,  $l_S(\rho_1) \subseteq l_S(\rho_2)$ . Similarly,  $l_S(\rho_2) \subseteq l_S(\rho_1)$ , and so  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$ . This completes the proof.

To prove the Main Theorem we must generalize Lemma 5 to the case of semiprime rings. To arrive at this aim we need some results about orthogonal completions for semiprime rings given in [1]. Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring. Recall that a subset  $T \subseteq U$  is called orthogonally complete if  $0 \in T$  and given any set of orthogonal idempotents  $\{e_\omega\} \subseteq C$  and any subset  $\{x_\omega\} \subseteq T$ ,  $\omega \in \Omega$ , there exists  $x \in T$  such that  $e_\omega x = e_\omega x_\omega$  for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ . For any subset  $K \subseteq U$ , denote by  $\widehat{K}$  the orthogonal completion of  $K$  in  $U$ , which is defined as the intersection of all orthogonally complete subsets of  $U$  containing  $K$ . Note that  $\widehat{K}$  itself is an orthogonally complete subset of  $U$ . Now we prove

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring,  $S$  a subring of  $U$  containing  $R$  and  $\rho$  a right ideal of  $R$ . Then the following statements hold.*

- (i)  $\rho$  and  $\widehat{\rho}$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ .
- (ii) For any two right ideals  $\rho_1, \rho_2$  of  $R$ ,  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$  if and only if  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1) = l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ .

*Proof.* For (i), let  $f(X_1, \dots, X_l) \in U *C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  be a GPI for  $\rho$ . To prove that  $f$  is a GPI for  $\widehat{\rho}$  it suffices to assume that  $f$  only involves one indeterminant, say  $f = f(X)$ . For  $x \in \widehat{\rho}$ , by the definition of  $\widehat{\rho}$  we have  $x = \sum_{\omega}^{\perp} e_\omega x_\omega$ , where  $\{e_\omega\}_{\omega \in \Omega}$  is a set of orthogonal idempotents of  $C$  such that  $\sum_{\omega} C e_\omega$  is an essential ideal of  $C$  and where  $x_\omega \in \rho$  for all  $\omega \in \Omega$  [1]. Note that  $f$  contains no constant term. Thus we have

$$e_\omega f(x) = f(e_\omega x) = f(e_\omega x_\omega) = e_\omega f(x_\omega) = 0$$

for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ , since  $e_\omega x = e_\omega x_\omega$  and  $f(x_\omega) = 0$ . This implies  $f(x)(\sum_{\omega} C e_\omega) = 0$ . By [1, Lemma 1]  $U_C$  is a nonsingular  $C$ -module, which implies  $f(x) = 0$ . This proves (i).

For (ii), assume first that  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$ . Let  $x = \sum_{\omega}^{\perp} e_\omega x_\omega \in \widehat{S}$  satisfy  $x\widehat{\rho}_1 = 0$ , where  $\sum_{\omega} C e_\omega$  is an essential ideal of  $C$  and  $x_\omega \in S$  for all  $\omega$ . Then  $e_\omega x\rho_1 = 0$ , that is,  $e_\omega x_\omega\rho_1 = 0$ . Note that  $l_{SC}(\rho_1) = l_{SC}(\rho_2)$ , since  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$ . We have  $e_\omega x_\omega\rho_2 = 0$ . But  $r_U(e_\omega x_\omega)$  is an orthogonally complete subset of  $U$ , which implies  $e_\omega x_\omega\widehat{\rho}_2 = 0$  and hence  $x\widehat{\rho}_2 = 0$ . In other words,  $x \in l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ . Therefore,  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1) \subseteq l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ . Similarly,  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2) \subseteq l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1)$  and hence  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1) = l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ .

Assume next that  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1) = l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ . Since the proof that  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$  is trivial, we omit it.

We are now ready to prove the Main Theorem.

*Proof of the Main Theorem.* Note that the “if” part is trivial. Therefore it suffices to prove the “only if” part. Suppose that  $l_S(\rho_1) = l_S(\rho_2)$ . By Lemma 6,  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1) = l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ . Note that  $\widehat{R}$  is also a semiprime ring and that  $\widehat{S}$  is a subring of  $U$  containing  $\widehat{R}$ . Moreover,  $\widehat{\rho}_1$  and  $\widehat{\rho}_2$  are two right ideals of  $\widehat{R}$ . Denote by  $B$  the complete Boolean algebra of idempotents of  $C$  [1]. Fix a maximal ideal  $\Delta$  of  $B$ . Let  $\phi$  be the canonical homomorphism from  $U$  onto  $U/\Delta U$ . By [1, Theorem 1],  $\phi(\widehat{R})$  is a prime ring with right ideals  $\phi(\widehat{\rho}_1)$  and  $\phi(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ . Moreover,  $\phi(U) = U/\Delta U$  is a right quotient ring of  $\phi(\widehat{R})$  and  $\phi(\widehat{R}) \subseteq \phi(\widehat{S}) \subseteq \phi(U)$ . We claim that  $l_{\phi(\widehat{S})}(\phi(\widehat{\rho}_1)) = l_{\phi(\widehat{S})}(\phi(\widehat{\rho}_2))$ . Let  $\phi(x) \in l_{\phi(\widehat{S})}(\phi(\widehat{\rho}_1))$ , where  $x \in \widehat{S}$ . Then  $x\widehat{\rho}_1 \subseteq \Delta U$ . Now  $x\widehat{\rho}_1$  is an orthogonally complete subset of  $U$  since  $\widehat{\rho}_1$  is. By [1, Lemma 2(3)], there is  $e \in B - \Delta$  such that  $ex\widehat{\rho}_1 = 0$ . But  $ex \in \widehat{S}$  since  $B\widehat{S} \subseteq \widehat{S}$ . By the fact that  $l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_1) = l_{\widehat{S}}(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ , we have  $ex\widehat{\rho}_2 = 0$ , and hence  $\phi(x) \in l_{\phi(\widehat{S})}(\phi(\widehat{\rho}_2))$  by [1, Lemma 2(3)] again. This proves our claim.

Let  $f \in SC *_C C\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$  be a GPI for  $\rho_1$ . By Lemma 6,  $f$  is also a GPI for  $\widehat{\rho}_1$ . Denote by  $f_\phi$  the GP obtained from  $f$  via replacing each coefficient occurring in  $f$  by its image under  $\phi$ . Then  $f_\phi$  has coefficients in  $\phi(\widehat{S}C)$  and  $f_\phi$  is a GPI for  $\phi(\widehat{\rho}_1)$ . Since  $\phi(\widehat{R})$  is a prime ring and  $l_{\phi(\widehat{S})}(\phi(\widehat{\rho}_1)) = l_{\phi(\widehat{S})}(\phi(\widehat{\rho}_2))$ , by Lemma 5  $f_\phi$  is also a GPI for  $\phi(\widehat{\rho}_2)$ . Write  $f = f(X_1, \dots, X_l)$ . Then we have  $f(x_1, \dots, x_l) \in \Delta U$  for all  $x_i \in \widehat{\rho}_2$ . But  $\bigcap\{\Delta U \mid \Delta \text{ is a maximal ideal of } B\} = 0$ ; we obtain  $f(x_1, \dots, x_l) = 0$  for all  $x_i \in \widehat{\rho}_2$ . That is,  $f$  is a GPI for  $\widehat{\rho}_2$  and hence for  $\rho_2$ . This completes the proof of the Main Theorem.

We conclude this paper with two applications of the Main Theorem. Recall that we denote by  $Q$  the two-sided Utumi quotient ring of  $R$ , a semiprime ring.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring and  $\rho$  a right ideal of  $R$  such that  $l_R(\rho) = 0$ . Then  $\rho$  and  $U$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $Q$ .*

*Proof.* We claim that  $l_Q(\rho Q) = 0$ . Indeed, let  $x \in Q$  be such that  $x\rho Q = 0$ . Then by the semiprimeness of  $Q$  we have  $x\rho = 0$ . By the definition of  $Q$ , there exists a dense left ideal  $\lambda$  of  $R$  such that  $\lambda x \subseteq R$ . Thus  $(\lambda x)\rho = 0$  and hence  $\lambda x \subseteq l_R(\rho) = 0$ . This implies  $x = 0$ . So  $l_Q(\rho Q) = 0 = l_Q(Q)$ . By the Main Theorem,  $\rho Q$  and  $Q$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $Q (= QC)$ . But  $Q_R$  is a dense  $R$ -submodule of  $U_R$ ; applying [2, Theorem 2] and Lemma 2 yields that  $\rho$  and  $U$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $Q$ . This completes the proof.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring and  $\rho$  a right ideal of  $R$ . Then, for each positive integer  $m$ ,  $\rho^m$  and  $\rho$  satisfy the same GPIs with coefficients in  $U$ .*

*Proof.* By the Main Theorem, it suffices to prove that  $l_U(\rho) = l_U(\rho^m)$ . The fact that  $l_U(\rho) \subseteq l_U(\rho^m)$  is clear. For the converse, let  $x \in l_U(\rho^m)$ . Then  $x\rho^m = 0$ . That is,  $\rho$  satisfies the GPI  $xX^m$ . By Lemma 2,  $x(\rho U)^m = 0$ . Now this implies  $(x\rho U)^m = 0$ , since  $\rho U x \subseteq \rho U$ . By the semiprimeness of  $U$ ,  $x\rho U = 0$  follows. Therefore  $x\rho = 0$ . This gives  $l_U(\rho^m) = l_U(\rho)$ . The proof is now complete.

*Remark.* In Theorem 1, we cannot conclude that  $\rho$  and  $U$  satisfy the same GPIS with coefficients in  $U$  even if  $R$  is a domain. Indeed, there exists a domain  $R$  but  $U$  is not a domain. Choose  $a \in U - \{0\}$  such that  $r_U(a) \neq 0$ . Set  $\rho = R \cap r_U(a)$ . Then  $\rho$  is a nonzero right ideal of  $R$  such that  $a\rho = 0$ , but  $aU \neq 0$ .

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