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## A simple proof of a theorem on abelian regular right ideals

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## A SIMPLE PROOF OF A THEOREM ON ABELIAN REGULAR RIGHT IDEALS

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We give a simple proof of a theorem of A.V. Andrunakievič and V.A. Andrunakievič [ 1 ] which states that every abelian regular right ideal is a (two-sided) ideal, whose proof makes use of modular maximal right ideals and is somewhat roundabout.

A right ideal  $P$  of a ring  $R$  is called *abelian regular*, if for every  $a \in R$  there exists  $e \in aR$  such that  $a - ea \in P$  and  $ex - xe \in P$  for all  $x \in R$ . In this case, there holds that  $e - e^2 \in P$  and  $eP \subseteq P$ . If  $a \notin P$  then  $ae = a - (a - ea)^{-1}(ea - ae) \in P$  shows that  $a^2 \in P$ . Needless to say, every right ideal containing an abelian regular right ideal is also abelian regular. These facts will be used freely in our proof.

**Theorem.** *Every abelian regular right ideal  $P$  of a ring  $R$  is an ideal.*

*Proof.* It suffices to prove that given  $a \in R \setminus P$ , there exists an ideal  $T \supseteq P$  excluding  $a$ . Choose  $e \in aR$  such that  $a - ea \in P$  and  $ex - xe \in P$  for all  $x \in R$ . Obviously,  $Q = \{x \in R \mid ex \in P\}$  is a right ideal of  $R$  containing  $P$  but excluding  $e$  and  $x - ex \in Q$  for all  $x \in R$ . Given a right ideal  $I \supseteq Q$ , it is easy to see that if  $e$  is in  $I$  then  $I = R$ . Now, by Zorn's lemma, there exists a right ideal  $T \supseteq Q$  which is maximal with respect to excluding  $e$  (or  $a$ ). We prove that  $T$  is an ideal. Suppose, to the contrary, that there exist  $t \in T$  and  $b \in R$  such that  $bt \notin T$ . Then  $e = btb' + t'$  with some  $b' \in R$  and  $t' \in T$ , and  $b = (b - tb'b^2)b'' + t''$  with some  $b'' \in R$  and  $t'' \in T$ . But,  $b - t'' \notin T$  and

$$(b - t'')^2 = b(b - tb'b^2)b'' - t''(b - t'') = \{t'b^2 + (b^2 - eb^2)\}b'' - t''(b - t'') \in T.$$

This contradiction shows that  $T$  is an ideal.

### REFERENCES

- [ 1 ] A.V. ANDRUNAKIEVIČ and V.A. ANDRUNAKIEVIČ: Abelian regular ideals of a ring, Soviet Math. Dokl. 25 (1982), 462–465.

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