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## The Jordan Regular Ring Associated to a Finite JBW-Algebra

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### INTRODUCTION

If  $A$  is a finite von Neumann algebra, then there exists a  $*$ -regular ring  $R$  (in the sense of von Neumann) whose lattice of principal left ideals is isomorphic to the lattice of projections of  $A$  (it is said that  $R$  coordinatizes  $A$ ); this ring was constructed by Murray and von Neumann [14] by enlarging  $A$  to contain certain unbounded operators defined on dense linear subspaces of the Hilbert space on which  $A$  acts. By using an abstract version of the Murray–von Neumann construction, Berberian showed in [4] that a finite  $AW^*$ -algebra  $A$  is always contained in a continuous  $*$ -regular ring  $R$  such that  $R$  has no new projections. Later, Hafner [7] and Pyle [16] showed that the regular ring constructed by Berberian is the maximal ring of quotients of  $A$ .

The analogous problem for Rickart  $*$ -rings was considered by Handelman [9], who constructs, for a finite Rickart  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , a  $*$ -regular ring  $R$  containing  $A$  such that  $R$  has no new projections. Later, Ara and Menal [3] showed that the regular ring constructed by Handelman is the classical ring of quotients of  $A$ .

In the case of Jordan algebras, Ayupov [1] has given an enlargement of a  $JW$ -algebra, similar to the one of Murray and von Neumann for  $W^*$ -algebras, without going into the problem of regularity or ring of quotients in the finite case.

In this paper, following the abstract construction of Berberian, we show that every finite *JBW*-algebra  $A$  is contained in a von Neumann regular Jordan ring  $\hat{A}$  such that  $\hat{A}$  has no new idempotents. Moreover, we show that every finite *JBW*-algebra has the common multiple property (non-associative analogous to the Ore condition) and that  $\hat{A}$  is the (unique) total ring of quotients of  $A$ .

## 1. FINITE *JBW*-ALGEBRAS

Recall that a *JB*-algebra  $A$  is a real Jordan algebra which is also a Banach space with respect to a norm  $\| \cdot \|$  having the following properties:

- (i)  $\|a^2\| = \|a\|^2$ ,
- (ii)  $\|a^2\| \leq \|a^2 + b^2\|$ ,
- (iii)  $\|a \cdot b\| \leq \|a\| \|b\|$ ,  $a, b \in A$ .

When the *JB*-algebra  $A$  has an identity element then  $A$  is said to be a *unital JB-algebra*. We denote the identity by 1. For the general theory of *JB*-algebras, the reader is referred to [2, 8]. The treatment of *JB*-algebras in [8] is mainly based on [2], except that many proofs are altered. The standard reference for the algebraic theory of Jordan algebras is [10].

If  $\varphi$  is a positive operator on a unital *JB*-algebra  $A$ , it is clear that for any positive linear form  $f$ , the mapping  $(x, y) \rightarrow \langle f, \varphi(x \cdot y) \rangle$  is a positive symmetric bilinear mapping. From the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, it follows that  $|\langle f, \varphi(x \cdot 1) \rangle|^2 \leq \langle f, \varphi(x^2) \rangle \cdot \langle f, \varphi(1) \rangle$ . Thus,  $\varphi = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi(1) = 0$ . In particular, since for all elements  $a$  in  $A$ ,  $U_a$  is a positive operator [2, Proposition 2.7], we have  $U_{a_1} \dots U_{a_n} = 0$  iff  $U_{a_1} \dots U_{a_n}(1) = 0$ , with  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  in  $A$ . On the other hand, if  $a, b, c$  are elements in a unital *JB*-algebra  $A$ , it is not difficult to show, using the identity  $[U_x(y)]^2 = U_x U_y(x^2)$  [8, Identity 2.40], that  $U_a U_b(c^2) = 0$  if and only if  $U_c U_b(a^2) = 0$ . Thus, in a unital *JB*-algebra, the following are equivalent: (i)  $U_a U_b U_c = 0$ ; (ii)  $U_a U_b(c^2) = 0$ ; (iii)  $U_c U_b(a^2) = 0$ ; (iv)  $U_c U_b U_a = 0$ . In particular,  $U_a(b^2) = 0$  iff  $U_b(a^2) = 0$ .

From here, using the identity 2.33 in [2], we have the following

**LEMMA 1.1.** *If  $e$  is an idempotent element in a unital *JB*-algebra  $A$ , then for all  $a$  in  $A$  the following conditions are equivalent: (i)  $e \cdot a = 0$ ; (ii)  $e \cdot a^2 = 0$ ; (iii)  $U_e(a^2) = 0$ .*

A *JBW*-algebra  $A$  is a *JB*-algebra which is the dual of a Banach space. In [6; Lemma 1] it is shown that every *JBW*-algebra is unital.

In this paper the following theorem is essential.

**THEOREM 1.2.** *If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements in a unital  $JB$ -algebra (resp.  $JBW$ -algebra)  $A$ , then the closed (resp.  $w^*$ -closed) subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $a, b$  and  $1$  is isometrically isomorphic to a  $JC$ -algebra (resp.  $JW$ -algebra).*

*Proof.* The assertion referring to  $JB$ -algebras is known [20, Proposition 2.1]. Now, if  $A$  is a  $JBW$ -algebra, the subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$  generated by  $a, b$  and  $1$  is (by the Shirshov–Cohn Theorem) a special Jordan algebra; since the product is  $w^*$ -continuous in each variable [18, Lemma 2.2], the  $w^*$ -closure of  $B$  is a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  which satisfies all the  $s$ -identities. Thus, from [2, Lemma 9.4] it is a  $JC$ -algebra and by [18, Corollary 2.4] a  $JW$ -algebra.

Let  $A$  be a  $JBW$ -algebra; it is shown in [2, Proposition 4.9] that the set  $P(A)$  of idempotent elements in  $A$ , with the ordering  $e \leq f$  iff  $e \cdot f = e$  (for idempotent elements this ordering is equivalent to  $e \leq f$  iff  $f - e \in A^2$ ), is a complete, orthomodular, and complemented lattice. We denote  $e \vee f = \sup(e, f)$  and  $e \wedge f = \inf(e, f)$ ,  $e$  and  $f$  in  $P(A)$ .

**LEMMA 1.3.** *Let  $A$  be a  $JBW$ -algebra and consider two idempotent elements  $e, f$  in  $A$ . Then  $e \vee f$  and  $e \wedge f$  are contained in any  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  containing  $e$  and  $f$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $B$  be the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $e$  and  $f$ ;  $B$  is a  $JBW$ -algebra and so  $B$  has an identity element  $p$ . It is straightforward to verify that  $e \vee f = p$ ; hence, if  $C$  is any  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  containing  $e$  and  $f$ , we have  $e \vee f \in C$ . We divide the second part of the proof into three steps:

(i) If  $C$  is a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  containing  $e, f$ , and  $1$  then, since  $e \wedge f = 1 - (1 - e) \vee (1 - f)$ , it is obvious that  $e \wedge f \in C$ .

(ii) If  $C$  contains  $e$  and  $f$ , and is of the form  $U_h(A)$ ,  $h$  idempotent, we have  $e \cdot h = e$ ,  $f \cdot h = f$ , so  $e, f \leq h$ . Thus,  $(e \wedge f) \cdot h = e \wedge f$  and we have  $e \wedge f \in C$ .

(iii) Now, the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$  generated by  $e$  and  $f$  is a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of the  $JBW$ -algebra  $U_p(A)$ , where  $p = e \vee f$  is the identity element. Thus, by (i)  $e \wedge f$  (in  $U_p(A)$ )  $\in B$ , and from (ii) we have  $e \wedge f$  (in  $A$ ) =  $e \wedge f$  (in  $U_p(A)$ )  $\in B$ .

Following [2, p. 39] we say that two idempotents  $e, f$  in a  $JBW$ -algebra  $A$  are *equivalent* and write  $e \sim f$  if there exists a finite family  $s_1 \dots s_n$  of symmetries in  $A$  such that  $U_{s_n} \dots U_{s_1}(e) = f$ . Recall that a lattice  $L$  is called *modular* if  $e \leq f$  implies  $(e \vee f) \wedge g = e \vee (f \wedge g)$ ,  $e, f, g \in L$ . Following [19], an idempotent  $e$  in a  $JBW$ -algebra is called *finite* if  $f \leq e$  and  $f \sim e$  imply  $f = e$ . A  $JWB$ -algebra  $A$  is called *finite* if all idempotents in  $A$  are finite. Likewise, if  $A$  is a  $JWB$ -algebra, by a *center-valued trace* we

shall mean a mapping  $T: A \rightarrow Z(A)$  ( $Z(A)$  denotes the center of  $A$ ) such that:

$T_1: T$  is linear.

$T_2: T(z \cdot a) = z \cdot T(a)$ ,  $a$  in  $A$ ,  $z$  in  $Z(A)$ .

$T_3: a \geq 0$  implies  $T(a) \geq 0$ ,  $a \in A$ .

$T_4: T(U_s(a)) = T(a)$ , for  $a$  in  $A$  and  $s$  a symmetry in  $A$ .

$T_5: T(1) = 1$ .

If  $a > 0$  implies  $T(a) > 0$ , we say that  $T$  is *non-degenerate*. From [15, p. 371] it follows that  $T_4$  is equivalent to

$T_4: T(a \cdot (b \cdot c)) = T((a \cdot b) \cdot c)$  for all elements  $a, b, c$  in  $A$ .

It is not difficult to prove that the usual trace on the exceptional Jordan algebra  $M_3^8$ , with the obvious normalization, is a  $w^*$ -continuous and non-degenerate center-valued trace. (See [17].)

**THEOREM 1.4.** *Let  $A$  be a JBW-algebra. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $A$  is a finite JBW-algebra.
- (ii)  $P(A)$  is a modular lattice.
- (iii)  $A$  has a  $w^*$ -continuous and non-degenerate center-valued trace.
- (iv)  $A$  has a non-degenerate center-valued trace.

For the proof we shall need the following

**LEMMA 1.5.** *Let  $X$  be a non-empty compact set and let  $A$  be a unital JB-algebra. If  $f$  is a continuous function from  $X$  into  $A$ , then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $f$  is a positive element in the JB-algebra  $C(X, A)$ .
- (ii)  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ .

*Proof.* It is obvious that (i) implies (ii). Reciprocally, if  $f$  is an element in  $C(X, A)$  such that  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ , then  $f(x)$  is a square in  $A$ , for all  $x$  in  $X$ . Thus, there exists a unique positive element  $y$  in  $A$  such that  $y^2 = f(x)$ . Hence, we can define a mapping  $g: X \rightarrow A$  such that  $g(x) = y$ . It is obvious that  $g^2 = f$  and  $g \in B(X, A)$  (algebra of bounded functions from  $X$  into  $A$ ); thus,  $f$  is a positive element in  $B(X, A)$ . Since  $C(X, A) \subset B(X, A)$  and an element in a unital JB-algebra is positive if and only if it is positive

in a closed subalgebra in which it is contained (see [2, pp. 14–15]), it follows that  $f$  is a positive element in  $C(X, A)$ .

*Proof of the theorem.* It is clear that (iii) implies (iv) and (iv) implies (i).

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $e, f, g$  be idempotents in  $A$  with  $e \leq g$ ; set  $a = g - e + \frac{1}{2}e$ . Thus,  $\{a^n\} \rightarrow^{w^*} g - e$ . Let  $B$  be the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $a, f$  and  $1$ ; from Theorem 1.1,  $B$  is a  $JW$ -algebra which contains  $g - e$ ; moreover,  $g - \frac{1}{2}e = a \in B$ . Thus,  $g$  and  $e$  are contained in  $B$ . Since it is clear that  $p \sim q$  (in  $B$ ) implies  $p \sim q$  (in  $A$ ), it follows that  $B$  is finite. Hence, by [19, Proposition 14],  $(e \vee f) \wedge g = e \vee (f \wedge g)$  and so  $P(A)$  is a modular lattice.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). Using [18, Theorem 3.9] and [19, Theorem 26] the proof is reduced to proving the existence of a  $w^*$ -continuous and non-degenerate center-valued trace on  $C(X, M_3^8)$  (algebra of continuous functions from a hyperstonean compact space  $X$  into  $M_3^8$ ). Let  $f$  be an element in  $C(X, M_3^8)$ ; if  $t$  is the usual (normalized) trace on  $M_3^8$ , the mapping  $\hat{f}: x \rightarrow t(f(x))$  is a center-valued continuous function from  $X$  into the center of  $M_3^8$ . That is,  $\hat{f}$  is an element in the center of  $C(X, M_3^8)$ ; thus,  $T: f \rightarrow \hat{f}$  is a center-valued mapping defined on  $C(X, M_3^8)$ . It is clear that  $T$  verifies  $T_1, T_2, T_4, T_5$ ;  $T_3$  is an immediate corollary of Lemma 1.5. In order to prove the  $w^*$ -continuity of  $T$  we recall that the Banach space  $C(X, M_3^8)$  is identified in a natural way with the dual of the Banach space  $C(X)_* \otimes_\gamma M_{3^*}^8$ , where  $C(X)_*$  and  $M_{3^*}^8$  denote the preduals of  $C(X)$  and  $M_3^8$ , respectively, and  $\gamma$  denotes the greatest cross norm on the (algebraic) tensor product (see [18, pp. 362 and 375]). Now, it is not difficult to show that, in this identification, our trace  $T$  is just the transpose mapping of the operator  $T_*$  on  $C(X)_* \otimes M_{3^*}^8$  defined by  $T_*(a \otimes b) = a \otimes t_*(b)$ ,  $a \in C(X)_*$ ,  $b \in M_{3^*}^8$ , where  $t_*$  denotes the pretranspose mapping of the usual (normalized) center-valued operator  $t$  on  $M_3^8$ . Therefore  $T$  is  $w^*$ -continuous.

## 2. THE SUPPORT

If  $a$  is an element in a  $JBW$ -algebra  $A$ , the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$  generated by  $a$  is a  $JBW$ -algebra and so  $B$  has an identity element  $e$  and obviously  $e \cdot a = a$ . If  $f$  is an idempotent in  $A$  such that  $f \cdot a = a$ , then  $a$  is contained in the subspace  $A_1^{(f)}$  of the Peirce decomposition of  $A$  relative to  $f$  (see [10, pp. 118–119]).  $A_1^{(f)}$  is a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$ ; thus,  $B$  is contained in  $A_1^{(f)}$  and so  $e \in A_1^{(f)}$ ; thus,  $e \cdot f = e$ ; that is,  $e \leq f$ .

Thus, we have shown that for every element  $a$  in a  $JBW$ -algebra  $A$  there exists a smallest idempotent  $e$  such that  $e \cdot a = a$ ;  $e$  is called the *support* of  $a$ ,

and denoted by  $s(a)$ . It is clear that  $1 - s(a)$  is the largest idempotent  $e$  such that  $e \cdot a = 0$ . From Lemma 1.1 it is trivial that  $s(a) = s(a^2)$  for all  $a \in A$ . Moreover, since the operators  $U_\surd$  are positive we have that if  $a \leq b$  are positive elements, then  $s(a) \leq s(b)$  explain.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *If  $a$  is an element in a JBW-algebra  $A$ , such that  $0 \leq a \leq 1$ , then  $s(a) = w^*\text{-lim} \{1 - (1 - a)^n\}$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $0 \leq a \leq 1$ , it is clear that  $\{1 - (1 - a)^n\}$  is a norm bounded increasing sequence; thus,  $\{1 - (1 - a)^n\}$   $w^*$ -converges to  $y = \sup\{1 - (1 - a)^n\}$  [2, Lemma 4.1]; hence,  $\{(1 - a)^n\} \rightarrow^{w^*} 1 - y$ . From [2, Lemma 4.1] it follows that  $\{(1 - a)^{2n}\} \rightarrow^{w^*} (1 - y)^2$ ; thus,  $(1 - y)^2 = 1 - y$  and  $y$  is an idempotent. On the other hand,  $\{(1 - a) \cdot (1 - a)^n\} = \{(1 - a)^{n+1}\} \rightarrow^{w^*} 1 - y$ ; thus,  $(1 - a) \cdot (1 - y) = 1 - y$  and so  $y \cdot a = a$ . Now, if  $p$  is an idempotent in  $A$  such that  $p \cdot a = a$ , we have  $(1 - p) \cdot a = 0$ , which implies  $(1 - p) \cdot a^n = 0$  for all  $n$  in  $N$ , and so  $[1 - (1 - a)^n] \cdot (1 - p) = 0$  for all  $n$ ; since  $\{1 - (1 - a)^n\} \rightarrow^{w^*} y$  it follows that  $y \cdot p = y$ , and so  $y \leq p$ . This completes the proof.

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *Let  $a, b$  be elements in a finite JBW-algebra  $A$ . Denote by  $T$  the  $w^*$ -continuous and non-degenerate center-valued trace on  $A$ . Then,*

$$T(s(U_a(b^2))) = T(s(U_b(a^2))).$$

*Proof.* Since the trace form is associative,  $T(U_a(b) \cdot c) = T(b \cdot U_a(c))$ . In particular  $T(a^2 \cdot b) = T(U_a(b))$ . On the other hand, from the Shirshov–Cohn Theorem, it follows that  $U_a U_b (U_b(a^2))^{n-1} = (U_a(b^2))^n$  for all  $n$  in  $N$ ,  $a, b$  in  $A$ . Then,  $T((U_b(a^2))^n) = T(U_b(a^2) \cdot (U_b(a^2))^{n-1}) = T(a^2 \cdot U_b(U_b(a^2))^{n-1}) = T(U_a U_b (U_b(a^2))^{n-1}) = T((U_a(b^2))^n)$  for all  $n$  in  $N$ ,  $a, b$  in  $A$ . Moreover, we can assume without loss of generality that  $\|U_a(b^2)\| \leq \|U_b(a^2)\| \leq 1$ . Now, the required equality follows from Proposition 2.1 and the  $w^*$ -continuity of the trace.

### 3. THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RING

Let  $A$  be a finite JBW-algebra. Following Berberian [4], if  $(e_n)$  is a sequence of idempotents in  $A$ ,  $e_n \uparrow$  means that  $e_n \leq e_{n+1}$ . If moreover  $\sup(e_n) = e$ , we write  $e_n \uparrow e$ . In case  $e_n \uparrow 1$  we say that  $(e_n)$  is an SDD (Strongly Dense Domain).

**LEMMA 3.1.** *If  $(e_n), (f_n), \dots, (k_n)$  are SDD's, then  $(e_n \wedge f_n \wedge \dots \wedge k_n)$  is a SDD.*

*Proof.* First, note that if  $e$  and  $f$  are idempotents in a  $JBW$ -algebra  $A$  then, by Theorem 1.2, Lemma 1.3, and [19, Corollary 8], the Parallelogram law  $e \vee f - e \sim f - e \wedge f$  holds. Thus,  $T(e) + T(f) = T(e \vee f) + T(e \wedge f)$ . Now, to prove the Lemma it is sufficient to consider two SDD's  $(e_n), (f_n)$ . Set  $g_n = e_n \wedge f_n$ ,  $g = \sup(g_n)$ ; evidently  $g_n \uparrow g$ ; since  $1 - g \leq 1 - g_n = (1 - e_n) \vee (1 - f_n)$ , we have  $T(1 - g) \leq T(1 - e_n) + T(1 - f_n)$ . Since  $T$  is  $w^*$ -continuous and non-degenerate we have  $g = 1$ .

DEFINITION 3.2. Let  $A$  be a  $JBW$ -algebra and let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence of elements in  $A$ ; a SDD  $(e_n)$  is said to be *admissible* for  $\{x_n\}$  if

$$m \leq n \text{ implies } (x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0.$$

Our purpose is to show that the set  $A_C$  of the sequences  $\{x_n\}$  in  $A$  for which there exists an admissible SDD is a subalgebra of the Jordan algebra of all sequences in  $A$ . It is obvious that all constant sequences are in  $A_C$ .

LEMMA 3.3. If  $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\}$  are in  $A_C$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\{x_n + y_n\}$  and  $\{\lambda x_n\}$  are in  $A_C$ .

*Proof.* It is clear that if  $e$  and  $f$  are idempotents in a unital  $JB$ -algebra  $A$  and  $e \leq f$ , the subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $e, f$ , and  $1$  is  $R1 + Re + Rf$  which, from [2, Lemma 2.11], is strongly associative. Hence, by [5, Satz 3.7], we have  $U_e U_f = U_e$ . From this observation and Lemma 1.1 it follows that if  $f \cdot a = 0$ ,  $e \leq f$ , then  $e \cdot a = 0$ . Thus, if  $(e_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$  and  $(f_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{y_n\}$  then  $(e_n \wedge f_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n + y_n\}$ . The second part of the Lemma is trivial.

The discussion of product requires another concept:

DEFINITION 3.4. If  $x \in A$  and  $e$  is an idempotent in  $A$ , we write

$$x^{-1}(e) = 1 - s(U_x(1 - e)).$$

It is clear that  $x^{-1}(e)$  is the largest idempotent  $f$  such that  $f \cdot U_x(1 - e) = 0$ .

LEMMA 3.5. Let  $A$  be a finite  $JBW$ -algebra. If  $x \in A$  and  $e$  is an idempotent in  $A$ , then

$$T(e) \leq T(x^{-1}(e)).$$

*Proof.*  $T(1 - x^{-1}(e)) = T(s(U_x(1 - e)))$ ; from Proposition 2.2 it follows that  $T(1 - x^{-1}(e)) = T(s(U_{1-e}(x^2)))$ , since it is clear that  $s(U_{1-e}(x^2)) \leq 1 - e$ , we conclude  $T(1 - x^{-1}(e)) \leq T(1 - e)$ , and so  $T(e) \leq T(x^{-1}(e))$ .

LEMMA 3.6. *Let  $(e_n)$  be an admissible SDD for the sequence  $\{x_n\}$ . Then, for any SDD  $(f_n)$ ,  $(e_n \wedge x_n^{-1}(f_n))$  is an SDD also.*

*Proof.* If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements in any Jordan algebra  $J$ , and  $e$  is an idempotent in  $J$ , it is not difficult, using the Peirce decomposition of  $J$  relative to the idempotent  $e$ , to show that if  $a \cdot e = b \cdot e$  then  $U_a(e) = U_b(e)$  (see [10, pp. 118–119]). Now, set  $g_n = e_n \wedge x_n^{-1}(f_n)$ . If  $m \leq n$  we have  $g_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_m}(1 - f_m))$  (Definition 3.4); thus,  $g_m \cdot U_{x_m}(1 - f_m) = 0$  and so  $U_{g_m}(U_{x_m}(1 - f_m)) = 0$ ; hence,  $U_{1-f_m} U_{x_m}(g_m) = 0$  and so  $U_{1-f_n} U_{1-f_m} U_{x_m}(g_m) = 0$ . Since  $f_m \leq f_n$ , we have  $U_{1-f_n} U_{x_m}(g_m) = 0$ . Since  $(e_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$  we have  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$  and so  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot g_m = 0$ . Thus,  $U_{x_m}(g_m) = U_{x_n}(g_m)$ ; hence, we have  $U_{1-f_n} U_{x_n}(g_m) = 0$  and so  $U_{g_m} U_{x_n}(1 - f_n) = 0$ . From [2, Proposition 2.8] it follows that  $g_m \cdot U_{x_n}(1 - f_n) = 0$  and so  $g_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_n}(1 - f_n))$ . That is,  $g_m \leq x_n^{-1}(f_n)$ ; hence,  $g_n \uparrow$ .

Moreover, from Lemma 3.5, we have  $T(f_n) \leq T(x_n^{-1}(f_n))$  for all  $n$ ; indeed,  $1 - g_n = (1 - e_n) \vee (1 - x_n^{-1}(f_n))$ ; thus,  $T(1 - g_n) \leq T(1 - e_n) + T(1 - x_n^{-1}(f_n)) \leq T(1 - e_n) + T(1 - f_n)$ . It follows that  $g_n \uparrow 1$ .

PROPOSITION 3.7. *If  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are in  $A_C$ , then  $\{x_n \cdot y_n\}$  is in  $A_C$ .*

*Proof.* If  $(e_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$  and  $(f_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{y_n\}$ , we shall prove that  $([f_n \wedge y_n^{-1}(e_n)] \wedge [e_n \wedge x_n^{-1}(f_n)])$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n \cdot y_n\}$ . Setting  $k_n = [f_n \wedge y_n^{-1}(e_n)] \wedge [e_n \wedge x_n^{-1}(f_n)]$ , it is clear, by Lemmas 3.6 and 3.1, that  $(k_n)$  is an SDD. Moreover, if  $m \leq n$  we have

- (i)  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $(y_n - y_m) \cdot f_m = 0$ ,
- (iii)  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_m}(1 - f_m))$ ,
- (iv)  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{y_m}(1 - e_m))$ ,
- (v)  $k_m \leq e_m$ ,
- (vi)  $k_m \leq f_m$ .

Since  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$ , we have  $(x_n - x_m)^2 \cdot e_m = 0$ , and so  $(1 - e_m) \cdot (x_n - x_m)^2 = (x_n - x_m)^2$ . Thus,  $U_{1-e_m}((x_n - x_m)^2) = (x_n - x_m)^2$ ; since  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_m}(1 - f_m))$  we have  $k_m \cdot U_{x_m}(1 - f_m) = 0$ ; thus,  $U_{k_m} U_{x_m}(1 - f_m) = 0$  and  $U_{k_m} U_{y_m} U_{1-e_m} = 0$ . So  $U_{k_m} U_{y_m} U_{1-e_m}((x_n - x_m)^2) = 0$ ; hence,  $U_{k_m} U_{y_m}((x_n - x_m)^2) = 0$ . Thus, by [2, Proposition 2.8], we have  $k_m \cdot U_{y_m}((x_n - x_m)^2) = 0$ , and so  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{y_m}((x_n - x_m)^2))$ . In an analogous way, we obtain  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_m}((y_n - y_m)^2))$ . Since  $k_m \leq e_m$ ,  $k_m \leq f_m$ , we can write

- (i)  $k_m \leq 1 - s(x_n - x_m)$ ,
- (ii)  $k_m \leq 1 - s(y_n - y_m)$ ,
- (iii)  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{y_m}((x_n - x_m)^2))$ ,
- (iv)  $k_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_m}((y_n - y_m)^2))$ .

Let  $B$  be the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $x_n - x_m$ ,  $y_m$ , and  $1$ . By Theorem 1.2.,  $B$  is a  $JW$ -algebra which contains  $1 - s(x_n - x_m)$  and  $1 - s(U_{y_m}((x_n - x_m)^2))$  and therefore  $h = (1 - s(x_n - x_m)) \wedge (1 - s(U_{y_m}(x_n - x_m)^2))$  (Lemma 1.3); we have  $h \cdot (x_n - x_m) = 0$  and  $h \cdot U_{y_m}((x_n - x_m)^2) = 0$  which, in  $B$ , are equivalent to  $h(x_n - x_m) = 0$ ,  $hy_m(x_n - x_m) = 0$  where the juxtaposition denotes the associative product; thus,  $h(x_n - x_m)y_m = 0 = hy_m(x_n - x_m)$  and so  $h((x_n - x_m) \cdot y_m) = 0 = ((x_n - x_m) \cdot y_m)h$ . Hence,  $((x_n - x_m) \cdot y_m) \cdot h = 0$ . Since  $k_m \leq h$ , we have  $((x_n - x_m) \cdot y_m) \cdot k_m = 0$ . Similarly, we obtain  $((y_n - y_m) \cdot x_m) \cdot k_m = 0$ ; hence  $((x_n - x_m) \cdot y_m + (y_n - y_m) \cdot x_m) \cdot k_m = 0$ . Since  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot k_m = 0 = (y_n - y_m) \cdot k_m$ , we have  $((x_n - x_m) \cdot (y_n - y_m)) \cdot k_m = 0$ ; therefore,  $((x_n - x_m) \cdot y_m + (y_n - y_m) \cdot x_m + (x_n - x_m) \cdot (y_n - y_m)) \cdot k_m = 0$  and so  $(x_n \cdot y_n - x_m \cdot y_m) \cdot k_m = 0$ . This completes the proof.

**DEFINITION 3.8.** If  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are contained in the Jordan algebra  $A_C$ , we say that  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are *equivalent*, written  $\{x_n\} \equiv \{y_n\}$ , if there exists a SDD  $(g_n)$  such that  $(x_n - y_n) \cdot g_n = 0$  for all  $n$ .

The equivalent is said to be “implemented” via the SDD  $(g_n)$ . Reflexivity and symmetry of equivalence are obvious. Moreover, if  $\{x_n\} \equiv \{y_n\}$  via  $(g_n)$  and  $\{y_n\} \equiv \{z_n\}$  via  $(h_n)$ , then  $\{x_n\} \equiv \{z_n\}$  via  $(g_n \wedge h_n)$ . Thus, the relation defined above is an equivalence relation.

**PROPOSITION 3.9.** *The set  $A_{CO} = \{\{x_n\} \in A_C : \{x_n\} \equiv 0\}$  is an ideal of  $A_C$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear that if  $\{x_n\} \equiv 0$  via  $(h_n)$  and  $\{y_n\} \equiv 0$  via  $(k_n)$ , then  $\{x_n + y_n\} \equiv 0$  via  $(h_n \wedge k_n)$ . It is obvious that if  $\{x_n\} \in A_{CO}$ ,  $\lambda \in R$  then  $\{\lambda x_n\} \in A_{CO}$ . If  $\{x_n\} \equiv 0$  via  $(e_n)$  it is clear that  $(e_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$ ; let  $\{y_n\}$  be an element in  $A_C$  and let  $(f_n)$  be an admissible SDD for  $\{y_n\}$ ; set  $g_n = (f_n \wedge y_n^{-1}(e_n)) \wedge (e_n \wedge x_n^{-1}(f_n))$ ;  $(g_n)$  is a SDD and we have

- (i)  $x_m \cdot e_m = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $(y_n - y_m) \cdot f_m = 0$ ,
- (iii)  $g_m \leq 1 - s(U_{y_m}(1 - e_m))$ ,
- (iv)  $g_m \leq 1 - s(U_{x_m}(1 - f_m))$ ,
- (v)  $g_m \leq e_m$ ,
- (vi)  $g_m \leq f_m$ ,

thus (see the proof of Proposition 3.7) we obtain  $(x_m \cdot y_m) \cdot g_m = 0$  for all  $m$ . This completes the proof.

The quotient Jordan algebra  $A_C/A_{CO}$  is denoted  $\hat{A}$ . We denote the elements of  $\hat{A}$  by capitals letters  $X, Y, \dots$ . If  $x \in A$ , we write  $\bar{x} = \{x\} + A_{CO}$ . The mapping  $x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  is injective. For, if  $(e_n)$  is a SDD such that  $x \cdot e_n = 0$  for all  $n$ , since the product is  $w^*$ -continuous, we have  $x = 0$ . Thus, we have the following.

**THEOREM 3.10.** *Let  $A$  be a finite JBW-algebra. Define  $\hat{A}$  as indicated above. Then,*

- (i)  $\hat{A}$  is a real Jordan algebra with identity element  $\bar{1}$ .
- (ii) The mapping  $x \rightarrow \bar{x}$  is an isomorphism from  $A$  onto a subalgebra  $\bar{A}$  of  $\hat{A}$ .  $\bar{A}$  is said to be the regular Jordan ring associated to  $A$ .

*Remark.*  $\hat{A}$  is called regular for, as we shall see later,  $\hat{A}$  is regular in the sense of von Neumann. In view of the above Theorem we will identify  $A$  with  $\bar{A}$  and therefore the notation  $\bar{x}$ , for  $x$  in  $A$ , will be avoided.

We conclude this section by showing the behaviour of the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebras of  $A$  with respect to the extension constructed above.

**PROPOSITION 3.11.** *Let  $A$  be a finite JBW-algebra and let  $B$  be a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  such that  $1 \in B$ . Then,  $B$  is a finite JBW-algebra and the mapping  $\{x_n\} + B_{CO} \rightarrow \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$  is an isomorphism from  $\hat{B}$  in  $\hat{A}$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear that  $B$  is a finite JBW-algebra and every SDD  $(e_n)$  in  $B$  is also a SDD in  $A$ . Thus,  $\{x_n\} + B_{CO} \rightarrow \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$  is a well-defined mapping; it is obvious that it is a ring homomorphism. Suppose  $\{x_n\} \in B_C$  and  $\{x_n\} \in A_{CO}$ ; then, there exists a SDD  $(k_n)$  (in  $A$ ) such that  $x_n \cdot k_n = 0$  for all  $n$ . Since  $B$  is a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$ , we have  $s(x) \in B$  for all  $x \in B$ . Thus,  $1 - s(x_n) \in B$  for all  $n$ ; set  $g_n = 1 - s(x_n)$ . Denote  $f_m = \inf\{g_n, n \geq m\}$ . It is easy to see that  $k_n \leq f_n \leq g_n$  and so  $(f_n)$  is a SDD (in  $B$ ) such that  $x_n \cdot f_n = 0$  for all  $n$ ; hence,  $\{x_n\} \in B_{CO}$  and the mapping is injective.

*Remark.* In what follows we will consider  $\hat{B} \subset \hat{A}$ .

Let  $C$  be a finite  $W^*$ -algebra; in particular,  $C$  is a finite  $AW^*$ -algebra. Let  $\hat{C}$  be the  $*$ -regular ring associated to  $C$  by Berberian's construction. The set  $\text{Sym}(C)$  of self-adjoint elements in  $C$  is a finite JBW-algebra. Let  $\widehat{\text{Sym}(C)}$  be the Jordan regular ring associated to  $\text{Sym}(C)$ . Then, we obtain the following result:

PROPOSITION 3.12. *If  $C$  is a finite  $W^*$ -algebra and  $\hat{C}$  denotes its associated  $*$ -regular ring, then  $\text{Sym}(\hat{C}) = \widehat{\text{Sym}(C)}$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear that our construction of the Jordan regular ring associated to a finite  $JBW$ -algebra  $A$  is similar, except for notation, to Berberian's construction of the  $*$ -regular ring associated to a finite  $AW^*$ -algebra (note that for a projection  $e$  and a self-adjoint element  $x$  in a  $C^*$ -algebra  $x \cdot e = 0$  is equivalent to  $xe = ex = 0$ ). The Proposition is a consequence of the characterization of self-adjoint elements of the  $*$ -regular ring associated to a finite  $AW^*$ -algebra [4, Lemma 3.2].

#### 4. THE REGULARITY OF THE RING

PROPOSITION 4.1. *If  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$  and the  $x_n$  are invertible for all  $n$ , then  $X$  is invertible and  $X^{-1} = \{x_n^{-1}\} + A_{CO}$ .*

*Proof.* First, note that if  $e$  and  $x$  are elements in a  $JBW$ -algebra  $A$ , where  $e$  is idempotent and  $x$  is not a zero divisor (that is,  $U_x$  is injective), then  $s(U_e(x^2)) = e$ ; for, it is clear that  $e \cdot U_e(x^2) = U_e(x^2)$  and moreover if  $f$  is an idempotent such that  $f \cdot U_e(x^2) = U_e(x^2)$ , then  $(1-f) \cdot U_e(x^2) = 0$ , and so  $U_{1-f} U_e(x^2) = 0$ . Thus,  $U_x U_e(1-f) = 0$  and so  $U_e(1-f) = 0$ ; hence,  $e \cdot (1-f) = 0$ . That is,  $e \leq f$ .

Now, let  $(e_n)$  be an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$ . Set  $f_n = s(U_{x_n}(e_n))$ . If  $m \leq n$ , we have  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$ , so  $U_{x_m}(e_m) = U_{x_n}(e_m) \leq U_{x_n}(e_n)$ ; it follows that  $f_n \uparrow$ . Moreover, by Proposition 2.2,  $T(f_n) = T(s(U_{x_n}(e_n))) = T(s(U_{x_n}(x_n^2))) = T(e_n)$ ; so  $f_n \uparrow 1$ .

If  $m \leq n$ , set  $e_0 = 1 - s(x_n - x_m)$ . By Theorem 1.2, the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra  $B$  of  $A$  generated by  $x_n, x_m$ , and 1 is a  $JW$ -algebra which contains  $e_0$ ; moreover, from [2, Proposition 2.4] it follows that  $x_n^{-1}$  and  $x_m^{-1}$  lie in  $B$ , in which it is not difficult to show that  $(x_n^{-1} - x_m^{-1}) \cdot s(U_{x_m}(e_0)) = 0$ . Since  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$  we have  $e_m \leq e_0$ ; so  $U_{x_m}(e_m) \leq U_{x_m}(e_0)$ . Thus,  $s(U_{x_m}(e_m)) \leq s(U_{x_m}(e_0))$  and so  $(x_n^{-1} - x_m^{-1}) \cdot f_m = 0$ . Hence,  $(f_n)$  is an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n^{-1}\}$ . It is obvious that  $X^{-1} = \{x_n^{-1}\} + A_{CO}$ .

PROPOSITION 4.2. *If  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$ , and  $\|x_n\| \leq M$  for all  $n$ , then  $X$  lies in  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x$  be a  $w^*$ -limit point of the sequence  $\{x_n\}$ . Let  $(e_n)$  be an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$ ; for a fixed  $m$ , we have  $(x_n - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$  if  $n \leq m$ . Thus,  $(x - x_m) \cdot e_m = 0$ . Since  $m$  is arbitrary, we have  $\{x\} \equiv \{x_n\}$  and so  $\{x_n\} + A_{CO} = \{x\} + A_{CO}$ .

*Remark 4.3.* It is clear that for any SDD  $(h_n)$  we have  $\{h_n\} + A_{CO} = 1 + A_{CO}$ ; thus, if  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$ , then  $X = U_1(X) = \{U_{h_n}(x_n)\} + A_{CO}$ . Hence, if  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$  and  $\|U_{h_n}(X_n)\| \leq M$  for all  $n$  and some SDD  $(h_n)$ , then  $X$  lies in  $A$ .

**PROPOSITION 4.4.** *If  $X \in \hat{A}$ , then*

- (i)  $1 + X^2$  is invertible in  $\hat{A}$ ,
- (ii)  $z = (1 + X^2)^{-1}$  lies in  $A$ ,
- (iii)  $y = X \cdot (1 + X^2)^{-1}$  lies in  $A$ ,
- (iv)  $X = y \cdot z^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* If  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$ , then  $1 + X^2 = \{1 + x_n^2\} + A_{CO}$ . Now, our result follows from [2, Proposition 2.3] and Propositions 4.1 and 4.2.

*Remark.* Assertion (iv) in the above Proposition leads us to believe that the regular Jordan ring  $\hat{A}$  associated to a finite JBW-algebra  $A$  may be the total ring of quotients of  $A$ . This will be proved in the following section.

**PROPOSITION 4.5.** *If  $a$  is an element in a finite JBW-algebra  $A$ , then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $s(a) = 1$ ,
- (ii)  $a$  is invertible in  $\hat{A}$ ,
- (iii)  $a$  is not a zero divisor in  $A$ .

*Proof.* It is obvious that (ii) implies (iii). Likewise, (iii) implies (i), since  $1 - s(a)$  is in  $\text{Ker } U_a$ . Now, denote by  $B$  the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $1$  and  $a$ ; then,  $B$  is the self-adjoint part of the  $B_{\mathbb{C}}$  (complexification of  $B$ ) which is an associative and commutative finite  $W^*$ -algebra. Corollary 7.5 of [4] and Propositions 3.11 and 3.12 complete the proof.

**COROLLARY 4.6.** *If  $A$  is a finite JBW-algebra and  $B$  is a  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  containing the identity element, then  $b \in B \cap \text{inv}(\hat{A})$  implies  $b^{-1} \in \hat{B}$ .*

**THEOREM 4.7.** *If  $A$  is a finite JBW-algebra,  $\hat{A}$  is regular (in the sense of von Neumann).*

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be an element in  $\hat{A}$ ; set  $X = y \cdot z^{-1}$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  as in Proposition 4.4. Let  $B$  be the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $y$ ,  $z$  and  $1$ . Then,  $B$  is associative. Since  $z \in B \cap \text{Inv}(\hat{A})$ , Corollary 4.6 implies  $z^{-1} \in \hat{B}$ . So  $X = y \cdot z^{-1} \in \hat{B}$ . From Proposition 3.12 and [4, Corollary 7.1] we have that  $X$  is regular.

We conclude this section by showing that  $\hat{A}$  has no new idempotents. We shall need two lemmas.

LEMMA 4.8. *If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements in a unital JB-algebra  $A$  (resp. JBW-algebra), then the set  $H = \{c \in A: U_a U_b(c^2) = 0\}$  is a closed (resp.  $w^*$ -closed) quadratic ideal in  $A$ .*

*Proof.* It is not difficult to show that  $H$  is a quadratic ideal. Moreover, it is clear that for any positive linear form  $f$  on  $A$ , the mapping  $(x, y) \rightarrow \langle f, U_a U_b(x \cdot y) \rangle$  is a positive, symmetric bilinear mapping; thus, the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality gives  $c \in H$  if and only if  $U_a U_b(c \cdot d) = 0$  for all  $d \in A$ . Then, the continuity (resp.  $w^*$ -continuity) of the product completes the proof.

Using the same techniques it is easy to prove the following:

LEMMA 4.9. *Let  $F$  be a positive operator on a unital JB-algebra  $A$ . Let  $a, b$  be elements in  $A$ ,  $b$  positive. Then, if  $F(U_a(b)) = 0$  we have  $F(a \cdot b) = 0$ .*

PROPOSITION 4.10. *For every  $X$  in  $\hat{A}$ , there exist a (unique) idempotent  $f$  in  $A$  such that*

- (i)  $f \cdot X = X$ ,
- (ii)  $U_Y(X^2) = 0$  if and only if  $Y \cdot f = 0$ ,  $Y \in \hat{A}$ .

*Proof.* (i) Set  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$  and let  $(e_n)$  be an admissible SDD for  $\{x_n\}$ . Set  $f_n = s(U_{x_n}(e_n))$ ; we have  $f_n \uparrow f$ . Set  $h_n = 1 - (f - f_n)$ ; it is clear that  $(h_n)$  is an admissible SDD for the sequence  $\{f_n\}$ . Set  $F = \{f_n\} + A_{CO}$ ; it is trivial that  $F^2 = F$ . Setting  $1 = \{e_n\} + A_{CO}$ , we have  $F \cdot X = U_{F,1}(X) = \{U_{h_n, e_n}(x_n)\} + A_{CO}$ . For every  $n$ , the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra  $B_n$  of  $A$  generated by  $x_n$ ,  $e_n$ , and  $1$  is a JW-algebra and  $f_n \in B_n$ . It is not difficult to prove that  $U_{h_n, e_n}(x_n) = x_n \cdot e_n$ . Thus,  $F \cdot X = \{x_n \cdot e_n\} + A_{CO} = (\{x_n\} + A_{CO}) \cdot (\{e_n\} + A_{CO}) = X \cdot 1 = X$ . Moreover, we have  $\{f_n\} \equiv \{f\}$  (via  $(h_n)$ ). Hence,  $F = \{f\} + A_{CO}$ .

(ii) Set  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$  as in (i). Let  $Y = \{y_n\} + A_{CO}$  be such that  $U_Y(X^2) = 0$ ; there exists a SDD  $(k_n)$  such that  $k_n \cdot U_{y_n}(x_n^2) = 0$  for all  $n$ ; thus,  $U_{k_n} U_{y_n}(x_n^2) = 0$  and so  $U_{k_n} U_{y_n} U_{x_n} = 0$ ; thus,  $U_{k_n} U_{y_n} U_{x_n} U_{e_n}(x_n^2) = 0$  and so  $U_{k_n} U_{y_n}(U_{x_n}(e_n))^2 = 0$ . From Lemma 4.8, we have  $U_{k_n} U_{y_n}(s(U_{x_n}(e_n)))^2 = 0$ . That is,  $U_{k_n} U_{y_n}(f_n) = 0$ . Hence,  $U_{k_n}(y_n \cdot f_n) = 0$  by Lemma 4.9. Since  $\{k_n\} + A_{CO} = 1 + A_{CO}$ , then  $Y \cdot f = \{y_n \cdot f_n\} + A_{CO} = U_1(Y \cdot f) = \{U_{k_n}(y_n \cdot f_n)\} + A_{CO} = 0$ .

Conversely, let  $Y \in \hat{A}$  such that  $Y \cdot f = 0$ . Then,  $Y$  is in the subspace  $\hat{A}_0$  of the Peirce decomposition of the Jordan algebra  $\hat{A}$  relative to the idempotent  $f$ ; since  $X \in \hat{A}_1$ , and  $\hat{A}_0, \hat{A}_1$  are orthogonal subalgebras of  $\hat{A}$ , we

have  $X^2 \in \hat{A}_1$ ,  $Y \in \hat{A}_0$  and so  $U_Y(X^2) = 0$ . The uniqueness of  $f$  is clear, for if  $g \in A$  is another idempotent with the same properties as  $f$ , we have  $(1-g) \cdot X = 0$ , which implies  $(1-g) \cdot X^2 = 0$ , and so  $U_{1-g}(X^2) = 0$ ; thus,  $(1-g) \cdot f = 0$ . Analogously, we have  $(1-f) \cdot g = 0$ . Thus,  $f = g$ .

**THEOREM 4.11.** *Let  $A$  be a finite JBW-algebra. Let  $\hat{A}$  be the regular Jordan ring associated to  $A$ . Then,  $\hat{A}$  has no new idempotents.*

*Proof.* Let  $E$  be an idempotent in  $\hat{A}$ . From Proposition 4.9, there exists a (unique) idempotent  $e \in A$  such that  $E \cdot e = E$  and  $U_Y(E) = 0$  if and only if  $Y \cdot e = 0$ . Since  $U_{1-E}(E) = 0$ , we have  $(1-E) \cdot e = 0$ ; thus,  $e = E \cdot e = E$ .

## 5. CHARACTERIZATION OF $\hat{A}$

**DEFINITION 5.1.** *Let  $A$  be a Jordan ring with identity element. If  $\hat{A}$  is a Jordan ring containing  $A$  and with the same identity element as  $A$ ,  $\hat{A}$  is said to be the total ring of quotients of  $A$  if:*

- (i) *Every non-zero divisor  $s$  in  $A$  is invertible in  $\hat{A}$ .*
- (ii) *Every morphism  $f$  from  $A$  into a Jordan ring  $B$ , having the property that  $f(s)$  is invertible in  $B$  whenever  $s$  is not a zero divisor in  $A$ , extends in a unique way to a morphism from  $\hat{A}$  into  $B$ .*

Recall that a Jordan ring  $A$  is said to have the *common multiple property* if for any  $a, s \in A$ ,  $a \neq 0$ , and  $s$  not a zero divisor, there exist  $a', s' \in A$ ,  $s'$  not a zero divisor, such that  $U_a(s') = U_{a'}(s) \neq 0$ . (See [13, p. 155].)

Recall that for associative rings, this corresponds to the Ore condition, which is sufficient for an associative ring to have a total ring of quotients. However, it is unknown in general whether a Jordan ring with the common multiple property has a ring of quotients. (There is a paper by N. Jacobson, K. McCrimmon, and M. Parvathi [11] on localization of Jordan algebras. Also, there is a forthcoming article by E. Zel'manov on Goldie theory.)

Now, our purpose is to show that the Jordan regular ring  $\hat{A}$  associated to a finite JBW-algebra  $A$  is the total Jordan ring of quotients of  $A$ . In fact, we shall prove the following

**THEOREM 5.2.** *Let  $A$  be a finite JBW-algebra. Let  $\hat{A}$  denote the Jordan regular ring associated to  $A$ . Then:*

- (i) *Every element  $X$  in  $\hat{A}$  is of the form  $X = U_{s^{-1}}(a)$  with  $a, s \in A$ , and  $s$  is not a zero divisor in  $A$ . Moreover, the subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $a$  and  $s$  is strongly associative.*

- (ii)  $A$  has the common multiple property.
- (iii)  $\hat{A}$  is the (unique) total Jordan ring of quotients of  $A$ .

To prove the theorem we shall need three lemmas.

LEMMA 5.3. *If  $M$  is a unital  $C^*$ -algebra and  $u, v \in \text{Sym}(M)$ , then  $1 + vu^2v$  is invertible and moreover  $\|uv(1 + vu^2v)^{-1}vu\| \leq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $1 + vu^2v = 1 + (vu)(vu)^*$ , it is clear that  $1 + vu^2v$  is invertible. Likewise,  $1 + uv^2u$  is invertible also. Moreover, it is not difficult to show that  $uv(1 + vu^2v)^{-1}vu = (1 + uv^2u)^{-1}uv^2u$ . Since  $\text{Sym}(M)$  is a unital  $JB$ -algebra, from [2, p. 18] it follows that  $\|uv(1 + vu^2v)^{-1}vu\| \leq 1$ .

LEMMA 5.4. *Let  $A$  be a finite  $JBW$ -algebra. Let  $\hat{A}$  denote the Jordan regular ring associated to  $A$ . If  $b \in A$ ,  $X \in \hat{A}$ , then*

- (i)  $1 + U_b(X^2)$  is invertible in  $\hat{A}$ ,
- (ii)  $(1 + U_b(X^2))^{-1}$  lies in  $A$ ,
- (iii)  $U_x U_b((1 + U_b(X^2))^{-1})$  lies in  $A$ .

*Proof.* (i) Follows from [2, p. 17] and Proposition 4.1.

(ii) Follows from [2, p. 18] and Proposition 4.2.

(iii) If  $X = \{x_n\} + A_{CO}$ , then  $U_x U_b((1 + U_b(X^2))^{-1}) = \{U_{x_n} U_b((1 + U_b(x_n^2))^{-1})\} + A_{CO}$ . For every  $n$ , let  $B_n$  be the  $w^*$ -closed subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $x_n, b$ , and 1;  $B_n$  is a  $JW$ -algebra (Theorem 1.2) and, in  $B_n$ ,  $U_{x_n}((1 + U_b(x_n^2))^{-1}) = x_n b(1 + bx_n^2 b)^{-1} b x_n$ . From Lemma 5.3 and Proposition 4.2 it follows that  $U_x U_b((1 + U_b(X^2))^{-1}) \in A$ .

Recall that a subalgebra of a Jordan algebra with identity element is called a *full subalgebra* if it contains the identity element and the inverses of all its invertible elements. A Jordan algebra  $J$ , with identity element, is said to be *fully generated* by a subalgebra  $B$  if  $J$  is the smallest full subalgebra of  $J$  containing  $B$ .

LEMMA 5.5. *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be Jordan algebras with identity element and let  $f$  be a morphism from  $A$  into  $B$ , such that  $B$  is fully generated by  $f(A)$ . If  $a$  and  $b$  operators commute in  $A$  then  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  operators commute in  $B$ .*

*Therefore, if  $C$  is a strongly associative subalgebra of  $A$ , then  $f(C)$  is a strongly associative subalgebra of  $B$ .*

*Proof.* For every element  $x$  in  $A$ , we have  $[a, x, b] = 0$ ; thus,  $[f(a), f(x), f(b)] = 0$ . That is,  $f(A)$  is contained in the kernel of the derivation  $y \rightarrow [f(a), y, f(b)]$ , which is a full subalgebra of  $B$  [10, p. 54].

*Proof of the Theorem.* (i) If  $X \in \hat{A}$ , set  $s = (1 + X^2)^{-1} \in A$ ,  $z = X \cdot (1 + X^2)^{-1} \in A$ . It is obvious that  $s$  and  $z$  are in the full subalgebra of  $\hat{A}$  generated by  $X$ , which is strongly associative from a result by Jacobson (see [12]), which states that if  $J$  is a Jordan algebra with identity element, then the full subalgebra of  $J$  generated by a strongly associative subalgebra  $B$  of  $J$  is strongly associative also. (It follows that for every element  $j$  in  $J$ , there is a strongly associative full subalgebra of  $J$  containing  $j$ .) Thus,  $X = s^{-1} \cdot z = U_{s^{-1}}(a)$  with  $a = s \cdot z$  and it is clear that the subalgebra of  $A$  generated by  $s$  and  $a$  is strongly associative.

(ii) Let  $a, s$  be elements in  $A$  such that  $a \neq 0$  and  $s$  is not a zero divisor. By Proposition 4.5,  $s$  is invertible in  $\hat{A}$ . Setting  $a' = U_{s^{-1}} U_a((1 + U_a(s^{-2}))^{-1})$ ,  $s' = (1 + U_a(s^2))^{-1}$  we have  $s, a' \in A$  (Lemma 5.4). It is obvious that  $s'$  is not a zero divisor and we have  $U_s(a') = U_a(s') \neq 0$ , for if  $U_a(s') = 0$ , since  $s'$  is a positive element, we have  $U_a(h^2) = 0$ , where  $h$  denotes the positive square root of  $s'$  (note that  $h$  is not a zero divisor also); hence,  $U_h(a^2) = 0$  and so  $a = 0$ . Contradiction.

(iii) Let  $B$  be a Jordan ring with identity element, and let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a morphism of  $A$  into  $B$ , having the property that  $f(s)$  is invertible in  $B$  whenever  $s$  is not a zero divisor in  $A$ . It is clear that if there exists an extension  $g$  of  $f$  to  $\hat{A}$  it should be of the form  $g(U_{s^{-1}}(a)) = U_{f(s)}^{-1}(f(a))$ . We will prove that  $g$  is a well-defined mapping: If  $U_{s^{-1}}(a) = U_{s'^{-1}}(a')$ , there exist  $s_1, s'_1 \in A$ ,  $s_1$  is not a zero divisor, such that  $U_{s_1}(s) = U_{s'_1}(s')$ ;  $s$  and  $s_1$  are invertible in  $\hat{A}$ ; thus,  $U_{s_1}(s_1)$  is invertible and so  $U_{s'_1}(s'_1)$  is invertible also. Hence,  $s'_1$  is invertible in  $\hat{A}$ . Thus,  $s, s_1, s', s'_1$  are all invertible in  $\hat{A}$ . Using the Fundamental Identity [10, p. 52] we have

$$\begin{aligned} U_{s^{-1}}(a) &= U_{U_{s_1}(s)}^{-1}(U_{s_1}(a)) \\ U_{s'^{-1}}(a') &= U_{U_{s'_1}(s')}^{-1}(U_{s'_1}(a')) = U_{U_{s_1}(s)}^{-1}(U_{s_1}(a')) \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$U_{U_{s_1}(s)}^{-1}(U_{s_1}(a)) = U_{U_{s_1}(s)}^{-1}(U_{s_1}(a'))$$

and so

$$U_{s_1}(a) = U_{s_1}(a')$$

thus

$$U_{f(s)} U_{f(s_1)}(f(a)) = U_{f(s')} U_{f(s'_1)}(f(a'))$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} U_{U_{f(s)}(f(s_1))}^{-1}(U_{f(s)} U_{f(s_1)}(f(a))) &= U_{U_{f(s)}(f(s_1))}^{-1}(U_{f(s')} U_{f(s_1)}(f(a'))) \\ &= U_{U_{f(s')} (f(s_1))}^{-1}(U_{f(s')} U_{f(s_1)}(f(a'))). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$U_{f(s)}^{-1}(f(a)) = U_{f(s')}^{-1}(f(a')),$$

Using the same techniques it is easy to see that  $g(X + Y) = g(X) + g(Y)$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $\hat{A}$ . To complete the proof, it remains to show that  $g(X^2) = (g(X))^2$  for all  $X$  in  $\hat{A}$ . Set  $X = U_{s^{-1}}(a)$ , where  $a$  and  $s$  generate a strongly associative subalgebra  $C$  of  $A$ . We can assume, without loss of generality, that  $B$  is fully generated by  $f(A)$ . Setting  $m = f(s)$ ,  $n = f(a)$ , we have  $g(X^2) = U_{m^{-2}}(n^2)$ ,  $(g(X))^2 = (U_{m^{-1}}(n))^2$  with  $m, n \in f(C)$ , which is a strongly associative subalgebra of  $B$  by Lemma 5.3. Let  $D$  be the full subalgebra of  $B$  generated by  $f(C)$ ;  $D$  is a strongly associative subalgebra and we have  $m, n, m^{-1} \in D$ . Thus,  $(g(X))^2 = (U_{m^{-1}}(n))^2 = U_{m^{-2}}(n^2) = g(X^2)$  and the proof is complete.

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