

# HEREDITARY SEMI-PRIMARY RINGS AND TRI-ANGULAR MATRIX RINGS

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To the memory of Professor TADASI NAKAYAMA

It is well known that the semi-simple rings with minimum conditions coincide with the rings of global homological dimension zero and that the hereditary rings coincide with the rings of global dimension one. Eilenberg, Jans, Nagao and Nakayama gave some properties of hereditary rings in [4] and [11], which relate to global dimension of factor rings<sup>0)</sup>. As an example of non-commutative hereditary ring we know a tri-angular matrix ring over a semi-simple ring.

Let  $A$  be a ring with radical  $N$ . If  $N$  is nilpotent and  $A/N$  satisfies the minimum conditions, then we call  $A$  a semi-primary ring.

The purpose of this paper is to give a visible form of hereditary semi-primary rings which is similar to the fact that a simple ring with minimum condition is isomorphic to a matrix ring over a division ring.

In §2 we shall define a generalized tri-angular matrix ring over semi-simple rings and give properties of such a ring, which is a generalization of [4], Theorem 8 and [11], Proposition 7.

In §3 we shall show that every hereditary semi-primary ring is isomorphic to a generalized tri-angular matrix ring over semi-simple rings and we show, conversely, every generalized tri-angular matrix ring is a homomorphic image of an hereditary semi-primary ring by modifying slightly the method in [11], §2.

As an application of results in §§1-3, we show in §4 that if  $A$  is an hereditary semi-primary ring, then so is  $eAe$  for any idempotent  $e$  and  $A$  con-

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<sup>0)</sup> Added in Proof.

Chase generalized those results to a generalized triangular matrix ring in [2] and Nakano also studied such a ring in [4]. Some results in this paper will overlap with them.

tains a minimal faithful left ideal which is contained in any faithful  $A$ -projective module as a direct summand.

We consider, in §5, an hereditary ring with minimum conditions, which is semi-primary. However, we note that we have two ways in such a ring to obtain a relation between hereditary rings and generalized tri-angular matrix rings; namely by using the nilpotency of the radical and the length of composition series of indecomposable left ideals. In general there are no relations between them, however we show that two ways coincide under some assumptions.

We always assume that a ring  $A$  has the unit element and any  $A$ -module is unitary. Furthermore, any ring is semi-primary except in §1.

**1. basic rings**

Let  $A$  be a ring with unit element  $1$  and  $N$  is the radical of  $A$ . In this section we always assume that every idempotent element in  $A/N$  is lifted from those elements in  $A$ , e.g.  $A$  satisfies the minimum conditions or  $N$  is nil and so on. Furthermore, we assume that  $A/N$  is a semi-simple ring with minimum conditions. In such a situation we have

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^{n(i)} Ae_{i,j}$$

where the  $Ae_{i,j}$ 's are indecomposable left ideals in  $A$ ,  $e_i^2 = e_i$  and  $Ae_{i,j} \approx Ae_{i,k}$ ,  $Ae_{i,j} \not\approx Ae_{i',k}$  if  $i \neq i'$ . We put  $e_i = e_{i,1}$  and  $e = \sum_i e_i$ . Then  $\tau_A(Ae) = A$ , (see the definition of trace ideal in [1]). Furthermore, it is clear that  $\text{Hom}_A^l(Ae, Ae) = eAe$ . Since  $\tau_A(Ae) = A$ , we obtain from [1], Theorem A. 2.

**LEMMA 1.**  *$Ae$  is a finitely generated  $eAe$ -projective module and  $A = \text{Hom}_{eAe}^r(Ae, Ae)$ .*

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $e$  be as above.  $A$  is a semi-primary ring such that  $N^t = (0)$  if and only if so is  $eAe$  and  $N'^t = (0)$ , where  $N'$  is the radical of  $eAe$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $N' = eNe$ ,  $eAe$  satisfies the above condition if so does  $A$ . We assume that  $\Gamma = eAe$  is a semi-primary ring with  $N'^t = (0)$ . From an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow AeN' \rightarrow Ae \rightarrow Ae/AeN' \rightarrow 0$  we obtain the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, AeN') \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, Ae) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, Ae/AeN') = \text{Hom}_{\Gamma/N'}(Ae/AeN', Ae/AeN') \rightarrow 0$ , since  $Ae$  is  $\Gamma$ -projective.  $Ae/AeN'$  is a finitely generated  $\Gamma/N'$ -module by Lemma 1 and hence,  $\text{Hom}_{\Gamma/N'}(Ae/AeN', Ae/AeN')$  is a semi-simple ring with minimum

conditions. Therefore,  $\text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, AeN')$  contains the radical  $N$  of  $A = \text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, Ae)$ . However  $(\text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, AeN'))^t \subseteq \text{Hom}_\Gamma(Ae, AeN'^t) = (0)$ . Hence  $A$  is a semi-primary ring such that  $N^t = (0)$ .

PROPOSITION 2. *Let  $e$  be as above. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{l.gl.dim } A &= \text{l.gl.dim } eAe, \\ \text{r.gl.dim } A &= \text{r.gl.dim } eAe. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Since  $Ae$  is right  $eAe$ -projective, we obtain  $\text{l.gl.dim } A \geq \text{l.gl.dim } eAe$  by [5], Theorem 7. On the other hand  $\text{l.gl.dim } eAe \geq \text{l.gl.dim } A$  by [7], Lemma 1.2. Replacing  $Ae$  by  $eA$ , we have the second half.

COROLLARY 1.  *$A$  is left hereditary if and only if so is  $eAe$ . Furthermore,  $eAe/N'$  is a directsum of division rings.*

Remark 1. In Proposition 2 we only need that  $\tau_\Delta(Ae) = A$ .

Remark 2. If we consider an hereditary semi-primary ring, we may restrict ourselves to the case where the factor ring with respect to its radical is a direct sum of division rings from the above results.

2. Generalized tri-angular matrix rings

From now on we always consider a semi-primary ring  $A$  and denote its radical by  $N(A)$ . In the next section we shall study an hereditary semi-primary ring and show that it is isomorphic to a generalized tri-angular matrix ring over semi-simple rings (see the below). Thus, we study, in this section, some properties of such a ring.

Let  $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n$  be rings and  $M_{i,j}$  a left  $R_i$ - and right  $R_j$ -module for  $i > j$  and  $M_{i,i} = R_i$ . We consider a family of bilinear  $R_i - R_j$  homomorphisms.

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{i,j}^l &: M_{i,l} \otimes_{R_l} M_{l,k} \rightarrow M_{i,k} \\ \varphi_{i,t}^t &: M_{i,t} \otimes_{R_t} R_t \approx M_{i,t} \\ \varphi_{i,t}^i &: R_i \otimes_{R_i} M_{i,t} \approx M_{i,t} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

and a family of diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_{i,j} \otimes_{R_j} M_{j,l} \otimes_{R_l} M_{l,k} & \xrightarrow{I_{i,j} \otimes \varphi_{j,k}^l} & M_{i,j} \otimes_{R_j} M_{j,k} \\ \downarrow \varphi_{i,l}^j \otimes I_{l,k} & & \downarrow \varphi_{i,k}^j \\ M_{i,l} \otimes_{R_l} M_{l,k} & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{i,k}^l} & M_{i,k} \end{array} \tag{2}$$

where  $I$  means the identity mapping.

Next, we consider the following sets

$$T_n(R_i ; M_{i,j}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} r_{1,1} & & & 0 \\ m_{2,1} & r_{2,2} & & \\ \cdots & & \ddots & \\ \cdots & & & \\ m_{n,1} & \cdots & m_{n,n-1} & r_{n,n} \end{pmatrix} r_{i,i} \in R_i, m_{i,j} \in M_{i,j} \right\}.$$

We can make it a ring as follows:

$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned} (m_{i,j}) \pm (m'_{i,j}) &= (m_{i,j} \pm m'_{i,j}) \\ (m_{i,j}) \cdot (m'_{i,j}) &= (\sum \varphi_{i,j}^l(m_{i,l} \otimes m'_{i,j})). \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that this product is associative if and only if the diagrams of (2) are commutative.

In this case, we call it a *generalized tri-angular matrix ring* over  $R_i$ , and we denote it briefly by *g.t.a. matrix ring* over  $R_i$ .  $M_{i,k}M_{k,j}$  means the image of  $M_{i,k} \otimes M_{k,j}$  by  $\varphi_{i,j}^k$ .

We are only interested, in this paper, in a case where all  $R_i$  are semi-primary. Then a g.t.a. matrix ring over  $R_i$  is also semi-primary.

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $A$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_i ; M_{i,j})$ . If  $A$  is hereditary, then every  $R_i$ -submodule in  $M_{i,j}$  is  $R_i$ -projective, and hence, all  $R_i$  are hereditary.*

*Proof.* Let  $M'_{i,j}$  be an  $R_i$ -submodule in  $M_{i,j}$ , or a left ideal in  $R$ .

$$\text{Let } L_0 = \left\{ i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & 0 \\ \vdots & m_{i,j} & \vdots & \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}, m_{i,j} \in M'_{i,j} \right\},$$

$$L = AL_0 \text{ and } \mathfrak{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & \\ M_{i,1} \cdots M_{i,i-1} & 0 & & \\ M_{i+1,1} \cdots & R_{i+1} & 0 & \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \\ M_{n,1} \cdots & & & R_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\mathfrak{A}$  is a two-sided ideal in  $A$ . Since  $L$  is  $A$ -projective,  $L/\mathfrak{A}L$  is  $A/\mathfrak{A}$ -projective. From types of  $L/\mathfrak{A}L$  and  $A/\mathfrak{A}$ , we know that  $M'_{i,j}$  is  $R_i$ -projective. Especially we obtain that every left ideal in  $R_i$  is  $R_i$ -projective. Hence,  $R_i$  is hereditary.

By replacing  $A$  and  $L$  by



if  $L_i$  is  $A_i$ -projective for all  $i$ . For the sake of simpleness to explain, we consider a case of  $i = 1$ . We denote  $L_1, A_1$  by  $L, A$ . Then

$$\bar{L} = L/NL = \begin{pmatrix} M_{1,1}^* \\ M_{2,1}^* \\ \vdots \\ M_{n,1}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $M_{i,1}^* = N_i/N_i^2$ ,  $M_{i,1}^* = M_{i,1}/(M_{i,1}N_1 + \dots + N_iM_{i,1})$ .

Let  $\{f_k^{(j)}\}$  be a set of non-isomorphic primitive idempotent elements in  $R_j$ . We put  $\tilde{f}_k^{(j)} = T_n(0, \dots, 0, f_k^{(j)}, \dots, 0; 0)$ . Since  $M_{i,1}^*$  is an  $\bar{R}_i = R_i/N_i$ -module,  $M_{i,1}^* = \sum_t \oplus L_t^{(i)}$ ;  $L_t^{(i)} = \bar{R}_i y_t^{(i)} \approx \bar{R}_i f_{l(t)}^{(i)}$ ,  $y_t^{(i)} \in M_{i,1}$ . From the idea of minimal projective resolution (cf. [3]), we know that  $L$  is  $A$ -projective if and only if

$$(4) \quad L = \sum_i \sum_t \oplus A \tilde{y}_t^{(i)}, \text{ where } \tilde{y}_t^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ i y_t^{(i)} \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \text{ and}$$

$$(5) \quad A \tilde{y}_t^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ R_i y_t^{(i)} \\ M_{i+1,i} y_t^{(i)} \\ M_{n,i} y_t^{(i)} \end{pmatrix} \approx A \tilde{f}_{l(t)}^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ R_i f_{l(t)}^{(i)} \\ M_{i+1,i} f_{l(t)}^{(i)} \\ M_{n,i} f_{l(t)}^{(i)} \end{pmatrix}$$

(natural isomorphism).

Let  $M_{i,1}^{**} = \sum_t R_i y_t^{(i)} \subseteq M_{i,1}$ . We assume that  $A$  is hereditary. Then we obtain  $M_{i,1} = P_i \oplus (M_{i,1}N_1 + \dots + M_{i,i-1}M_{i-1,1})$  for some  $R_i$ -module  $P_i$  from Lemma 3. Hence  $M_{i,1}N_1 + \dots + M_{i,i-1}M_{i-1,1} + N_iM_{i,1} = N_iP_i \oplus (M_{i,1}N_1 + \dots + M_{i,i-1}M_{i-1,1})$ . Therefore, we may assume that  $y_t^{(i)} \in P_i$ . Then  $P_i = M_{i,1}^{**} = M_{i,1}$  since  $N_i$  is nilpotent. Now, (4) is equivalent to facts that  $\bar{M}_{i,1} = \sum_t \oplus R_i y_t^{(i)}$  and that  $\sum_t M_{i,i} y_t^{(i)}$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} M_{l,i} \bar{M}_{i,1} + \bar{M}_{l,1}$  are direct sums, respectively. The above arguments are true by replacing 1 by any  $h$ . Furthermore, we obtain from (2)

$$(6) \quad M_{k,i} M_{i,j} M_{j,h} \subseteq M_{k,j} M_{j,h} \text{ for all } k \geq i \geq j \geq h.$$

Since  $M_{k,i} \otimes M_{i,j} = M_{k,i} \otimes \overline{M}_{i,j} \oplus M_{k,i} \otimes (\sum_{t=j}^{i-1} M_{i,t} M_{t,j})$ , we obtain from (6)

$$M_{k,i} M_{i,j} \subseteq M_{k,i} \overline{M}_{i,j} + \sum_{t=j}^{i-1} M_{k,t} M_{t,j} \subseteq M_{k,i} \overline{M}_{i,j} + M_{k,i-1} \overline{M}_{i-1,j} + \sum_{t=j}^{i-2} M_{k,t} M_{t,j} \subseteq \sum_{s=j+1}^i M_{k,s} M_{s,j} + M_{k,j} N_j.$$

Therefore,

$$(7) \quad M_{k,j} N_j + M_{k,j+1} M_{j+1,j} + \dots + M_{k,k-1} M_{k-1,j} \subseteq \sum_{s=j+1}^{k-1} M_{k,s} \overline{M}_{s,j} + M_{k,j} N_j.$$

Hence  $M_{k,j} = \sum \oplus M_{k,s} \overline{M}_{s,j} \oplus M_{k,j} N_j \oplus \overline{M}_{k,j}$  from the above observation. Which shows d), a) and c) by Lemmas 2 and 3. Furthermore, from (5) we obtain  $f_{l(i)}^{(1)} y_t^{(1)} = y_t^{(1)}$ . Hence (4) and (5) implies  $\varphi_{i,1}^j$  is monomorphic on  $M_{i,j} \otimes \overline{M}_{j,1}$ . Using this argument we shall show that  $\varphi_{i,k}^j$  is monomorphic for all  $i \geq j \geq k$ . Let  $\Gamma = T_{n-j+1}(R_j, \dots, R_n; M_{l,s})$  and  $L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ M_{j,k} \\ M_{n,k} \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is hereditary by

lemma 4, we know from the above argument that  $\varphi_{i,k}^j$  is monomorphic on  $M_{i,j} \otimes \overline{M}_{j,k}$ . However,  $\overline{M}_{j,k} = M_{j,k}$  in this case, and hence,  $\varphi_{i,k}^j$  is monomorphic on  $M_{i,j} \otimes M_{j,k}$ .

Conversely we assume that a)-d) are satisfied. From a) we have  $\sum_t \oplus R_i y_t^{(1)} = N_1$ . From a), c) and the remark after (5), we obtain  $M_{i,1}^{**} = \overline{M}_{i,1} = \sum_t \oplus R_i y_t^{(i)}$ . Since  $\varphi_{i,1}^j$  is monomorphic on  $M_{l,i} \otimes \overline{M}_{i,1}$  by b), we have (5) from d). Furthermore, d) and a) imply (4).

**COROLLARY 2.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring over semi-simple rings. If  $\varphi_{i,k}^j$  is isomorphic, then  $\Lambda$  is hereditary.*

*Proof.* From the assumption, we have  $\overline{M}_{i,i-1} = M_{i,i-1}$  for all  $i$  and  $\overline{M}_{i,j} = (0)$  for all  $i > j + 1$ . Hence  $\Lambda$  satisfies a)-d).

*Remark 3.* An usual tri-angular matrix ring over a semi-simple ring  $R$  is a special case of Corollary 2.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $R_i$  be semi-primary rings and  $M_{i,j}$   $R_i - R_j$  modules. Let  $A_i = T_{n-i+1}(R_i, \dots, R_n; M_{l,j})$ . Then  $gl.dim A_{i+1} \leq gl.dim A_i \leq gl.dim A_{i+1} + gl.dim R_i + 1$ .*

*Proof.* From Lemma 4, we obtain  $gl.dim A_{i+1} \leq gl.dim A_i$ . We denote  $A_i, A_{i+1}$  by  $A, \Gamma$ . Then  $N = N(A) = T_{n-i+1}(N_i, \dots, N_n; M_{i,j})$ , where  $N_i = N(R_i)$ .

$N = L_i \oplus N(\Gamma)$  as a left  $A$ -module, where  $L_i$  is the same as in the proof of Theorem 1. From Lemma 4 we have  $\text{gl.dim } A = 1 + \text{l.dim}_\Delta N = 1 + \sup (\text{l.dim}_\Delta L_i, \text{l.dim}_\Gamma N(\Gamma))$ . If we use the same notations as in the proof of Theorem 1, then

$$0 \rightarrow \varphi^{-1}(0) \rightarrow \sum_{j=i}^n \sum_s Af_s^{(j)} = \sum \oplus P_0^j \rightarrow L_i \rightarrow 0$$

is exact, where  $P_0^j = \sum_s Af_s^{(j)}$ . We consider  $P^{(i)} = \sum_s \oplus Af_s^{(i)} \xrightarrow{\varphi^{(i)}} A \begin{pmatrix} N_i \\ 0 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow 0$ . Then

$\varphi^{(i)-1}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} K_i \\ N'_{i+1,i} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ N'_{n,i} \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $0 \rightarrow K_i \rightarrow \sum_s \oplus R_i f_s^{(i)} \rightarrow N_i \rightarrow 0$  is exact and  $N'_{j,i}$  is an

$R_j$ -module. Hence we can see directly that  $\varphi^{-1}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} K_i \\ N_{i+1,i} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ N_{n,i} \end{pmatrix}$ ;  $N_{j,i}$  is an

$R_j$ -module. If we repeat this argument on  $K_i$  we have a minimal  $A$ -projective resolution of  $L_i$ :

$$\rightarrow \sum \oplus P_k^j \xrightarrow{d_k} \dots \rightarrow \sum \oplus P_1^j \xrightarrow{d_1} \sum \oplus P_0^j \xrightarrow{d_0} L_i \rightarrow 0$$

and the first row of each  $P^i$  forms a minimal  $R_i$ -projective resolution of  $N_i$ . Hence if  $\text{gl.dim } R_i = m$ , then  $d_{m-1}^{-1}(0)$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module. Hence  $\text{l.dim}_\Delta d_{m-1}^{-1}(0) \leq \text{gl.dim } \Gamma$  by Lemma 4. Therefore,  $\text{l.dim}_\Delta N \leq \text{gl.dim } R + \text{gl.dim } \Gamma$ . Thus, we obtain  $\text{gl.dim } A \leq \text{gl.dim } R_i + \text{gl.dim } \Gamma + 1$ .

**COROLLARY 3.** *We assume that all  $R_i$  are semi-simple rings in the above. Then  $\text{gl.dim } A_{i+1} \leq \text{gl.dim } A_i \leq 1 + \text{gl.dim } A_{i+1}$  and  $\text{gl.dim } A \leq n - 1$ .*

Let  $A$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_i ; M_{i,j})$  and  $e_i$  be as in Lemma 4. For an element  $a$  in a two-sided ideals  $\mathfrak{A}$  in  $A$   $e_i a e_j \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Hence  $\mathfrak{A} = T_n(S_i ; N_{i,j})$ , where  $S_i$  is an ideal in  $R_i$  and  $N_{i,j}$  is an  $R_i - R_j$  module in  $M_{i,j}$ . Hence we obtain from Corollary 3.

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $A$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_i ; M_{i,j})$  over semi-simple*

rings  $R_i$ . Then for any two-sided ideal  $A$  in  $\Lambda$  we have

$$\text{gl.dim } \Lambda/\mathfrak{A} \leq n - 1.$$

Furthermore, we assume that all  $R_i$  are simple rings and  $\mathfrak{A} + N/N \approx \sum_{i=1}^s \oplus R_i$ . Then  $\text{gl.dim } \Lambda/\mathfrak{A} \leq n - s - 1$ , where  $N$  is the radical of  $\Lambda$ .

### 3. Hereditary semi-primary rings

In this section we shall determine a type of hereditary semi-primary rings. Let  $\Lambda$  be such a ring and  $N$  the radical. By virtue of Remark 2, we shall first restrict ourselves to the case where  $\Lambda/N$  is a direct sum of division rings. Then we obtain  $1 = \sum e_i$ , where  $\{e_i\}$  is a set of non-isomorphic primitive idempotent elements in  $\Lambda$ . Since  $N^t = (0)$  for some  $t$ , we have an integer  $s$  for  $e_i$  such that  $N^s e_i \neq (0)$ ,  $N^{s+1} e_i = (0)$ . We denote such an integer  $s$  by  $n(e_i)$ . Then we can rearrange  $e_i$  as follows:  $n(e_i) \geq n(e_{i+1})$  for all  $i$ .

We quote here a well known results by [3] and [12].

LEMMA 5. Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring. Then every  $\Lambda$ -projective module is isomorphic to  $\sum \oplus (\Lambda e_i)^{s_i^{(1)}}$ .

LEMMA 6. Let  $\Lambda$  be as above. If  $e$  is an idempotent element in  $\Lambda$  such that  $n(e)$  is minimal among  $n(e'_i)$ , where  $e'$  runs through all primitive idempotent elements in  $\Lambda$ . Then  $n(e) = 0$ .

Proof. If  $Ne \neq (0)$ , then  $Ne = \sum \oplus (\Lambda e_i)^{s_i}$  by Lemma 5. Hence  $n(e) > n(e_i)$ , which is a contradiction.

LEMMA 7. Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring such that  $\Lambda/N \approx \sum \oplus \Delta_i$ ;  $\Delta_i$  division ring. Then  $e_i N e_j = (0)$  for  $i \leq j$  and  $e_i \Lambda e_i \approx \Delta_i$ .

Proof. From Lemma 6 we know that  $Ne_n = (0)$ . Therefore,  $e_i N e_n = (0)$  for all  $i$ . We assume that  $e_i N e_j = (0)$  for  $i \leq j$  and  $j > k$ . Since  $Ne_k$  is  $\Lambda$ -projective, we have from Lemma 5 and the assumption  $n(e_i) \geq n(e_{i+1})$

$$Ne_k \approx \sum_{i>k} \oplus (\Lambda e_i)^{s_i}.$$

Hence,  $e_i N e_k \approx \sum \oplus (e_i \Lambda e_i)^{s_i} = \sum \oplus (e_i N e_i)^{s_i} = (0)$  for  $i \leq k$  from the above assumption. Therefore,  $e_i N e_j = (0)$  for all  $i \leq j$ . Since  $e_i N e_i = (0)$ ,  $\Delta_i \approx e_i / e_i N e_i = e_i \Lambda e_i$ .

<sup>1)</sup>  $M^n$  means a directsum of  $n$  copies of  $M$ .

**THEOREM 4'.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring such that  $\Lambda/N \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \oplus \Delta_i$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is isomorphic to a g.t.a. matrix ring over  $\Delta_i$ , where  $N$  is the radical of  $\Lambda$  and the  $\Delta_i$ 's are division rings, ([2] and [14]).*

*Proof.* Since  $1 = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i$ ,  $\Lambda = \sum_{i,j} \oplus e_i \Lambda e_j$  and  $e_i \Lambda e_j = (0)$  if  $i < j$ . If we put  $M_{i,j} = e_i \Lambda e_j$  and  $\varphi_{i,k}^j$  is a product of  $M_{i,j}$  and  $M_{j,k}$ , then  $\Lambda = T_n(\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n; M_{i,j})$  by Lemma 7.

We shall generalize the above theorem.

Let  $\Lambda = T_n(R_i; M_{i,j})$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring over rings  $R_i$ . Let

$$\mathfrak{M}_{i,j} = \left( \begin{array}{c} \overbrace{M_{i,j} \cdots M_{i,j}}^{s_j} \\ \vdots \\ M_{i,j} \cdots M_{i,j} \end{array} \right)_{s_i} \equiv M_{i,j}(s_i \times s_j).$$

Then we can define a natural operation of elements in  $(R_i)_{s_i}$  (resp.  $(R_j)_{s_j}$ ) from the left side (resp. right side) on  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j}$ . We put  $\Gamma = T_n((R_i)_{s_i}, \dots, (R_n)_{s_n}; \mathfrak{M}_{i,j})$ , then  $\Gamma$  is also a g.t.a. matrix rings over  $(R_i)_{s_i}$  with naturally extended bi-linear mapping  $\phi_{i,k}^j : ((x_t, p)) \otimes_{(R_p)_{s_p}} ((y_r, q)) \rightarrow ((\sum \varphi_{i,k}^j(x_t, p \otimes y_p, q)), x_t, p \in M_{i,j}, y_r, q \in M_{j,k}$ .

Let  $e_{l,m}^{(i)}$  be the matrix units in  $(R_i)_{s_i}$  and  $E_i = T_n(0, \dots, 0, e_{1,1}, 0 \cdots 0; 0)$ . If we put  $E = \sum E_i$  then  $\tau_\Gamma(\Gamma E) = \Gamma$  and  $E \Gamma E \approx \Lambda$ . Hence we have from Proposition 2

$$\text{gl.dim } \Lambda = \text{gl.dim } \Gamma.$$

We call  $\Gamma$  an induced g.i.a. matrix ring from  $\Lambda$ .

**THEOREM 4''.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring. Then  $\Lambda$  is isomorphic to an induced g.t.a. matrix ring  $T(R_i; \mathfrak{M}_{i,j})$  over simple rings  $R_i$  from a g.t.a. matrix ring as in Theorem 4'.  $\phi_{i,k}^j$  is monomorphic for all  $i \geq j \geq k$  and  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j+1} \overline{\mathfrak{M}}_{j+1,j} + \cdots + \mathfrak{M}_{i,i-1} \overline{\mathfrak{M}}_{i-1,j}$  is a directsum in  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j}$  as a left  $R_i$ -module, where  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j} = \overline{\mathfrak{M}}_{i,j} \oplus \sum_{t=j+1}^{i-1} \mathfrak{M}_{i,t} \overline{\mathfrak{M}}_{t,j}$  as a left  $R_i$ -module.*

*Proof.* Let  $\Lambda/N = \sum \oplus R_i$  and  $e = \sum e_i$  as in § 1. Then  $\Lambda = \text{Hom}_{e \Delta e}(\Lambda e, \Lambda e)$  and  $e \Lambda e$  is an hereditary semi-primary ring by Propositions 1 and 2. Furthermore,  $\Lambda e$  is a finitely generated  $e \Lambda e$ -projective module, and hence,

$$\Lambda e_i \approx \sum \oplus (f_i \Gamma)^{s_i},$$

where  $\Gamma = eAe$ , and  $\{f_i\}$  is a set of non-isomorphic primitive idempotent elements in  $\Gamma$  and all  $s_i$  are finite. We may assume  $n(f_i) \geq n(f_{i+1})$  for all  $i$ . Hence it is clear that  $A = T_n((f_1\Gamma f_1)_{s_1}, \dots, (f_n\Gamma f_n)_{s_n}; (f_i\Gamma f_j)_{(s_i \times s_j)})$ . The second part is clear from Theorem 1.

We shall modify slightly the above theorem.

**LEMMA 8.** *If  $n(e_i) = n(e_{i+1}) = \dots = n(e_{i+s})$ , then  $e_k A e_p = (0)$  for  $k \leq i + s$ ,  $i \leq p \leq i + s - 1$  and  $k \neq p$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $Ne_p = \sum \oplus (\Lambda e_l)^{q_l}$  for  $i \leq p \leq i + s$  from the assumption,  $e_k Ne_p = \sum_{l \geq i+s+1} \oplus (e_k \Lambda e_l)^{q_l}$ . Hence if  $k \leq i + s$ ,  $e_k \Lambda e_l = (0)$  by Lemma 7.

**LEMMA 9.**  $n(e_{i+1}) \leq n(e_i) \leq n(e_{i+1}) + 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t = n(e_{i+1})$ .  $Ne_i = \sum_{j \geq i+1} \oplus (\Lambda e_j)^{s_j}$ . Then  $N^{t+2}e_i = \sum_{j \geq i+1} (N^{t+1}e_j)^{s_j} = (0)$ . Hence  $n(e_i) \leq t + 1$ .

First we assume that  $A$  is an hereditary semi-primary ring such that  $A/N = \sum \oplus \Delta_i$ . We assume  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ ,  $N^n = (0)$ . Then it is clear that  $n(e_i) = n - 1$ . If we classify  $e_i$ 's by a relation  $e \sim e' \iff n(e) = n(e')$ , then we have  $(n - 1)$  classes by Lemma 9. Furthermore, if  $e_i, \dots, e_{i+t-1}$  are in a class then we put  $R_i = e_i \Lambda e_i \oplus \dots \oplus e_{i+t-1} \Lambda e_{i+t-1}$ . Then  $A = T_n(R_i; \mathfrak{M}_{i,j})$ , where

$$(8) \quad \mathfrak{M}_{i,j} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} M_{i,j} M_{i,j+1} \dots M_{i,j+t-1} \\ M_{i+1,j} \dots M_{i+1,j+t-1} \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ M_{i+t-1,j} \dots M_{i+t-1,j+t-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $N = \mathfrak{M}_{n,n-1} \mathfrak{M}_{n-1,n-2} \dots \mathfrak{M}_{2,1} \neq (0)$ . Therefore,  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j} \supseteq \mathfrak{M}_{i,i-1} \mathfrak{M}_{i-1,i-2} \dots \mathfrak{M}_{j+1,j} \neq (0)$ . Hence we have in general.

**THEOREM 4''''.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring such that  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ ,  $N^n = (0)$ . Then  $A$  is isomorphic to an induced g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_1, \dots, R_n; \mathfrak{M}_{i,j})$  over semi-simple rings such that all  $M_{i,j} \neq (0)$ . Furthermore,  $T_{n-i+1}(R_i, \dots, R_n; \mathfrak{M}_{i,j})$  is also an hereditary semi-primary ring with radical  $N_i$  such that  $N_i^{n-i} \neq (0)$ ,  $N_i^{n-i+1} = (0)$ .*

*Remark 4.* The expression of  $A$  in Theorem 4'''' is not unique. For example,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & & & \\ 0 & \Delta & & 0 \\ \Delta & 0 & \Delta & \\ \Delta & \Delta & \Delta & \Delta \end{pmatrix}$$

Then  $\Lambda$  is hereditary by Corollary 2. However we have two expressions as Theorem 4''':

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} \Delta & & & & & \\ \hline 0 & \Delta & & & & \\ \hline \Delta & 0 & \Delta & & & \\ \hline \Delta & \Delta & \Delta & \Delta & & \\ \hline & & & & & 0 \end{array} \right) \text{ and } \left( \begin{array}{c|cc|c} \Delta & & & \\ \hline 0 & \Delta & & \\ \hline \Delta & 0 & \Delta & \\ \hline \Delta & \Delta & \Delta & \Delta \\ \hline & & & 0 \end{array} \right).$$

The latter is as in Theorem 4''.

**COROLLARY 4.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be as above. Then for any two-sided ideal  $\mathfrak{A}$  in  $\Lambda$*   
 $\text{gl. dim } \Lambda/\mathfrak{A} \leq n - 1.$

We shall give one more remark for this expression.

From Theorem 4'', we do not lose a generality if we consider a case of  $\Lambda/N = \sum \oplus \Delta_i$ . If  $n(e_i) = n(e_{i+1}) = \dots = n(e_{i+t}) > n(e_{i+t-1}) = \dots = n(e_{i+t+t'}) > \dots$  then for any  $j$  such that  $i \leq j \leq i+t$  we have  $Ne_j = \Lambda e_s \oplus \dots$ , where  $i+t+1 \leq s \leq i+t+t'$ . Hence  $e_s Ne_j \neq (0)$ . Therefore, if  $M_{i,j}$  is as in (8), then each column of  $M_{i,i-1}$  is not zero. Since  $M_{i,j} \supseteq M_{i,i-1} M_{i-1,i-2} \dots M_{j+1,j}$ , each column of  $M_{i,j}$  is not zero. Conversely, in an expression in Theorem 4''', if we assume that each column of  $M_{i,i-1}$  is not zero, then each unit element  $e$  of simple components of  $R_i$  has the same  $n(e)$  and converse. Under such an assumption we have a unique expression up to isomorphism.

We call such a representation of hereditary ring a *left normal representation as a g.t.a. matrix ring*.

If we start from properties of  $eN$  instead of  $Ne$ , we have the similar arguments as above.

By  $n'(e)$  we denote an integer such that  $eN^{n'} \neq (0)$ ,  $eN^{n'+1} = (0)$ . In general, there are no relations between  $n(e)$  and  $n'(e)$ . For instance

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta & & 0 \\ \Delta & \Delta & \\ 0 & 0 & \Delta \\ \Delta & \Delta & \Delta \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Then } n(e_3) = 1 \text{ and } n'(e_3) = 0.$$

However from the above observation we have

**PROPOSITION 3.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring such that  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ ,  $N^n = (0)$ . Then for any idempotent element  $e$   $n(e) = n - n'(e)$  if and only if  $\Lambda$  has a right and left normal representation as a g.t.a. matrix ring.*

Finally we give a characterization of a g.t.a. matrix ring over semi-simple rings. We recall the definition of connected sequence of primitive idempotents, (cf. [11], §1. We do not need an assumption  $N^2 = (0)$ ).

A sequence  $(e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n)$  of primitive idempotents in  $A$  is called connected if  $e_{i+1}Ne_i \neq (0)$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$  and we denote the maximal length of connected sequence by  $l(A)$ .

PROPOSITION 4. *Let  $A$  be semi-primary. Then  $\text{gl.dim } A/N^2 = l(A) = l(A/N^2)$  and  $N^{l(A)+1} = (0)$ .*

Proof. It is clear that  $l(A) \geq l(A/N^2)$ . If  $eNf \neq (0)$  and  $eNf \subseteq N^2$ , then we may assume  $eNf \subseteq N^s$ ,  $eNf \not\subseteq N^{s+1}$ . Then  $eNf = eN^s f$ . Hence, there exist primitive idempotents  $e_0 = f, e_1, \dots, e_s = e$  such that  $e_{i+1}Ne_i \not\subseteq N^2$ . Hence,  $(f, e_1, \dots, e_{s-1}, e)$  is a connected sequence in  $A$  and  $A/N^2$ . Therefore,  $l(A) \leq l(A/N^2)$ . We know  $\text{gl.dim } A/N^2 = l(A/N^2)$  by [11], Proposition 2.

THEOREM 5. *Let  $A$  be a semi-primary ring with radical  $N$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- 1)  $A$  is a g.t.a. matrix ring over semi-simple rings.
- 2)  $l(A) < \infty$ .
- 3)  $\text{gl.dim } A/N^2 < \infty$ .
- 4)  $A$  is a homomorphic image of an hereditary semi-primary ring  $\Omega$  such that  $l(A) = l(\Omega)$ . (cf. [2], Theorem 4.1 and [11], Theorem 5).

Proof. 1)  $\rightarrow$  2). Let  $A = T_n(R_i; M_{i,j})$ ;  $R_i$  semi-simple rings and  $\Gamma = T_n(R_i; 0)$ . Then  $A = \Gamma \oplus N$ . Since we can replace idempotents in a connected sequence by isomorphic ones, we may assume that idempotents in a sequence are in  $\Gamma$ . Then  $e_{i+1}Ne_i \neq (0)$  implies  $\rho(i) < \rho(i + 1)$ , where  $e_i \in R_{\rho(i)}$ . Hence, every length of connected sequence does not exceed  $n$ .

2)  $\rightarrow$  3). It is clear from Proposition 4.

3)  $\rightarrow$  4). Let  $E_1, \dots, E_n$  be mutually orthogonal idempotents in  $A$  such that  $E_i A E_i / E_i N E_i$  is a simple component of  $A/N$ . Since  $l(A) < \infty$ ,  $E_i N E_i = (0)$ . Let  $\Gamma = \sum \oplus E_i A E_i \subset A$ . We use a similar argument to [11], §2. Put  $\Omega = \Gamma \oplus N \oplus N \otimes_{\Gamma} N \oplus \dots \oplus \underbrace{N \otimes_{\Gamma} N \otimes_{\Gamma} \dots \otimes_{\Gamma} N}_{n} \oplus \dots$ . By the natural multiplication  $\Omega$  becomes a ring. If  $N \otimes_{\Gamma} N \otimes_{\Gamma} \dots \otimes_{\Gamma} N \neq (0)$ , then there exist idempotents  $e_i, f_i$  in

$\Gamma$  and  $n_i$  in  $N$  such that  $e_s n_s f_s \otimes \cdots \otimes e_1 n_1 f_1 \neq 0$ . Hence,  $e_i N f_i \neq (0)$  and  $f_{i+1} e_i \neq 0$  for all  $i$ , which means  $f_{i+1} \approx e_i$  and  $f_{i+1} N f_{i+1} \neq (0)$ . Therefore,  $N \otimes \cdots \otimes N \neq (0)$ . It is clear that  $N(\mathcal{Q}) = N \oplus N \otimes N \oplus \cdots = \Omega \otimes_{\Gamma} N$ . We have a natural epimorphism  $\varphi$  of  $\mathcal{Q}$  to  $A$  by setting  $\varphi(r + n_1 + n_2 \otimes n_3 + \cdots) = r + n_1 + n_2 n_3 + \cdots$ . From the construction of  $\mathcal{Q}$  we know that  $\mathcal{Q}$  is hereditary and  $l(\mathcal{Q}) \geq l(A)$ . However  $N(\mathcal{Q})^{l(\mathcal{Q})+1} = (0)$ . Hence,  $l(\mathcal{Q}) \leq l(A)$  by the following proposition 5.

4)  $\rightarrow$  1). It is clear from Theorem 4''.

*Remark 5.* From Proposition 4 and Theorems 2 and 5 we obtain  $l(A) = \text{gl.dim } A/N^2 \geq \text{gl.dim } A/\mathfrak{A}$  for any twoside ideal  $\mathfrak{A}$  of  $A$ .

**4. Applications.**

In this section we shall give some properties of hereditary semi-primary rings as applications of results in § § 1-3.

From Theorems 4, 4'' and 4''' we have

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring with nilpotency  $n$  of the radical. Then for any two-sided ideal  $\mathfrak{A}$  in  $A$*

$$\text{gl.dim } A/\mathfrak{A} \leq n - 1.$$

*Furthermore, if  $A/N$  is a directsum of  $m$  simple rings and  $N + \mathfrak{A}/N$  is a directsum of  $s$  simple rings, then*

$$\text{gl.dim } A/\mathfrak{A} \leq m - s + 1.$$

(cf. [4], Theorem 8 and [11], Proposition 7).

The following proposition shows that the first inequality in the theorem is best, which was given in [4], Corollary 11.

**PROPOSITION 5.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring. Then  $l(A) = l(A/N^2) = \text{gl.dim } A/N^2$  is equal to (the nilpotency of  $N$ ) - 1.*

*Proof.* From Theorem 4''' we know  $l(A) + 1 =$  the nilpotency of  $N$ .

**PROPOSITION 6.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring. If  $A/N$  is a simple ring, then so is  $A$ .*

**PROPOSITION 7.** *The center of an hereditary semi-primary ring  $A$  is a directsum of fields. Especially  $A$  is indecomposable if and only if its center is a field.*

*Proof.* We may assume that  $A$  is isomorphic to a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_i : M_{i,j})$  over simple rings  $R_i$ . It is clear that each component of center  $C$  of  $A$  is contained in the center of  $R_i$ . We denote the center of  $R_i$  by  $C_i$ . For  $M_{i,j} \neq (0)$  we put  $L_{i,j} = \{c \mid c \in C_i, \text{ there exists a unique element } c'(c) \in C_j \text{ such that } cm = mc'(c) \text{ for all } m \in M_{i,j}\}$ , and  $R_{j,i} = \{c' \mid c' \in C_j, \text{ there exists a unique element } c(c') \in C_i \text{ such that } mc' = c(c')m \text{ for all } m \in M_{i,j}\}$ . It is clear that  $L_{i,j}$  and  $R_{j,i}$  are fields and are isomorphic each other. We consider a path from the index 1 to  $i$ ;  $i_1 = 1, i_2, \dots, i_r = i$  such that  $M_{i_k, i_{k+1}} \neq (0)$  or  $M_{i_{k+1}, i_k} \neq (0)$  for all  $k$ . By  $I$  we denote all indexes which is connected to 1 by the above path. Then  $A = A_I \oplus A_{I^c}$  where  $A_I$  consists of all elements in  $A$  whose  $(i, j)$ -components are zero for  $i, j \in I^c$ . If  $A$  is indecomposable, then every index is connected to 1. Therefore, in this case we know from the above observation that  $C$  is isomorphic to a subfield of  $\bigcap_i R_{1, i_k}$ . Hence in general  $C$  is a directsum of fields.

**PROPOSITION 8.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring. We assume  $A$  is indecomposable and  $K$  is the center of  $A$ .  $A \otimes_K L$  is hereditary and semi-primary for all extension field  $L$  of  $K$  if and only if  $A/N$  is separable over  $K$ , ( $K$ -dim  $A/N = 0$ ).*

*Proof.* By Theorem 4''  $A$  is isomorphic to a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_i ; M_{i,j})$  over simple rings  $R_i$ . If  $A \otimes_K L$  is hereditary, then  $R_i \otimes_K L$  is hereditary by Lemma 2, since  $A \otimes_K L = T_n(R_i \otimes_K L ; M_{i,j} \otimes_K L)$ . Since  $A \otimes_K L$  is semi-primary, so is  $R_i \otimes_K L$ . Let  $C_i$  be the center of  $R_i$ . Then  $C_i \otimes_K L$  is the center of  $R_i \otimes_K L$ . Hence  $C_i \otimes_K L$  is a directsum of fields by Proposition 7. Therefore,  $R_i \otimes_K L$  is a semi-simple ring with minimum conditions for any  $L$  by [10], p. 114, Theorem 1. Thus, we obtain from [6], Theorem 1 that  $[R_i : K] < \infty$ . Since  $C_i$  is separable over  $K$ , so is  $R_i$ . Conversely, if  $A/N$  is separable over  $K$ , then  $[A/N : K] < \infty$  by [13], Theorem 1. Hence,  $N \otimes_K L$  is the radical of  $A \otimes_K L$ . Since  $N$  is  $A$ -projective,  $N \otimes_K L$  is  $A \otimes_K L$ -projective. Therefore,  $A \otimes_K L$  is semi-primary and hereditary.

**LEMMA 10.** *Let  $A$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(\Delta_k ; M_{i,j})$  and  $\Gamma = T_n(\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_n ; M_{k,j} = (0) \text{ if } k \text{ or } j = i)$ . If  $A$  is hereditary then so is  $\Gamma$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $e = T_n(0, \dots, 1_i, 0 \dots ; 0)$  and  $E = 1 - e$ . Then  $\Gamma = EAE$ .  $EA$

$= EAE \oplus EAe$ .  $EAe$  is a left ideal of  $\Gamma' = T_{n-i+1}(\Delta_i, \dots, \Delta_n; M_{k,j})$ . Hence,  $EAE$  is  $\Gamma'$ -projective. Furthermore, by Lemma 3 we obtain  $0 = \text{l.dim}_{\Gamma'} EAe = \text{l.dim}_{\Gamma''} EAe = \text{l.dim}_{\Gamma} EAe$ , where  $\Gamma'' = T_{n-i}(\Delta_{i+1}, \dots, \Delta_n; M_{k,j})$ . Therefore,  $EAE$  is  $\Gamma$ -projective. Since  $N(\Gamma) = ENE$ ,  $ENE$  is  $\Gamma$ -projective.

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring and  $M$  a finitely generated projective  $A$ -module. Then  $\text{Hom}_\Delta(M, M)$  is hereditary and semi-primary and so is  $eAe$  for any idempotent element  $e$  in  $A$ .*

*Proof.*  $M \approx \sum_{j=1}^k \oplus (Ae_{i(j)})^{s_j}$ . Hence,  $\text{Hom}_\Delta(M, M) = T_k(e_{i(j)}Ae_{i(j)})s_j; e_{i(k)}Ae_{i(p)}(s_k \times s_p)$ , which is an induced g.t.a. matrix ring from  $\Gamma = T_k(e_{i(j)}Ae_{i(j)}; e_{i(p)}Ae_{i(q)})$ . From Lemma 10 we know  $\Gamma$  is hereditary and semi-primary. Hence, so is  $A$  and  $eAe = \text{Hom}_\Delta(Ae, Ae)$  is hereditary.

**PROPOSITION 9.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring and  $M$  a projective left  $A$ -module. Then the annihilator ideal  $\mathfrak{A}$  of  $M$  in  $A$  is a direct summand of  $A$  as a left module and  $A/\mathfrak{A}$  is hereditary.*

*Proof.* We may assume that  $A/N$  is a directsum of division rings. Since  $M \approx \sum_{i=1}^t (Ae_i)^{s_i}$ ,  $\mathfrak{A}$  is equal to the annihilator ideal of  $\sum_{i=1}^t Ae_i$ . If we denote the annihilator ideal of  $Ae_i$  in  $A$  by  $\mathfrak{A}_i$ , then  $\mathfrak{A} = \bigcap_i \mathfrak{A}_i$ . Let  $A = T_n(\Delta_i; M_{i,j})$  and  $e_i = T_n(0, 1_{\rho(i)}, 0; 0)$ . Then  $Ae_i = T_n(0, \dots, \Delta_{\rho(i)}, 0; M'_{k,l} = (0)$  for  $l \neq \rho(i)$ ,  $M'_{k,\rho(i)} = M_{k,\rho(i)}$ . It is clear that  $\mathfrak{A}_i e_k = Ae_k$  if  $M_{k,\rho(i)} = (0)$  and  $\mathfrak{A}_i e_k = (0)$  if  $M_{k,\rho(i)} \neq (0)$ . Hence,  $\mathfrak{A}_i = \sum_s Ae_{i(s)}$ . Therefore,  $\mathfrak{A} = \sum_{s=1}^p Ae_{i(s)}$ . We note that  $M_{l(p),k} = (0)$  if  $k \neq$  some  $l(q)$ . Hence,  $A/\mathfrak{A} = eAe$  for some idempotent element  $e$ . Therefore,  $A/\mathfrak{A}$  is hereditary from Theorem 7.

**PROPOSITION 10.** *Let  $A$  be as above. Then there exists a minimal faithful left ideal  $L$  and every faithful left  $A$ -projective module contains an isomorphic image of  $L$  as a direct summand.*

*Proof.* Let  $A/N \approx \sum_i \oplus \Delta_i$  and  $T_n(R_i; \mathfrak{M}_{i,j})$  a g.t.a. matrix ring as a normal right representation, namely  $R_i = \sum_{k=\rho(i)}^{\rho(i+1)-1} \oplus \Delta_k$ ,  $M_{p,q}$  is a  $\Delta_p - \Delta_q$  module and  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j}$  is as in (8) and furthermore, each row of  $\mathfrak{M}_{i,j}$  is non-zero. From this assumption we can see as above that  $AE_1 = L$  is a faithful left ideal in  $A$  where  $E_1 = T_n(1_1, 0; 0)$ . Let  $M$  be a faithful projective  $A$ -module. Since  $M \approx \sum_i \oplus (Ae_i)^{s_i}$  and  $e_i M \neq (0)$  for primitive idempotent  $e_i$  in  $AE_1$ ,  $M \approx AE_1 \oplus M'$ .

**COROLLARY 5.** *Every hereditary semi-primary ring is a subdirectsum of finite many of hereditary rings in the endomorphism ring of vector space over a division ring.*

*Proof.* Let  $L$  be a minimal faithful left ideal and  $L = Ae_1 \oplus \dots \oplus Ae_t$ . Then it is clear that  $Ae_i (i = 1, \dots, t)$  is a right module over a simple ring ( $\Delta_i$ -module in the above). Hence, we have the corollary from Proposition 9.

As a related problem to Corollary 5, we consider hereditary rings in the endomorphism ring of finitely generated module  $M$  over a division ring  $\Delta$ . Let  $A$  be such a ring and  $N = N(A)$ . Then we have a chain of  $A$ -module :  $M \supset NM \supset \dots \supset N^{t-1}M \supset N^tM = (0)$ . We put  $\tilde{A} = \{x \in \text{Hom}_\Delta(M, M), xN^iM \subseteq N^iM \text{ for all } i\}$ .  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2 \oplus \dots \oplus M_t$  as a  $\Delta$ -module such that  $N^iM = M_{i+1} \oplus \dots \oplus M_t$ . Then it is clear that  $\tilde{A} = T_t(\Delta_{n_1}, \dots, \Delta_{n_t}; \Delta(n_i \times n_j))$  where  $[M_i : \Delta] = n_i$ , and  $N(\tilde{A})^t = (0)$ ,  $N(\tilde{A})^{t-1} \neq (0)$ .

**LEMMA 11.**  $\Delta(p \times q) \otimes_{\Delta_q} (q \times s) \approx \Delta(p \times s)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $e_i = i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1, 0 \cdot \cdot \cdot 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $\Delta(p \times q)$ . Then  $\Delta(p \times q) = \sum \oplus e_i \Delta_q$ . Hence

$$\Delta(p \times q) \otimes_{\Delta_q} \Delta(q \times s) = \sum e_i \otimes \Delta(q \times s). \text{ It is clear that } e_i \otimes \Delta(q \times s) \approx i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \Delta \cdot \cdot \cdot \Delta \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

From this lemma and Corollary 2 we know that  $\tilde{A}$  is hereditary.

**PROPOSITION 11.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring in a simple ring  $\Delta_n$  with nilpotency  $t$  of  $N$  and we assume that  $A$  has the unit element of  $\Delta_n$ . Then there exists a maximal hereditary semi-primary ring in  $\Delta_n$  with nilpotency  $t$  which contains  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\tilde{A}$  be as above,  $\Gamma$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring containing  $\tilde{A}$  and let its radical  $N'$  have the nilpotency  $t$ . We may assume  $\Gamma = \tilde{\Gamma}$ . We consider a chain;  $M \supset N'M \supset \dots \supset N^{t-1}M \supset (0)$ . It is clear that this chain is a composition series as a  $\Gamma$ -module. Furthermore, this is a chain as a  $\tilde{A}$ -module and  $M$  has a composition series of length  $t$  as a  $\tilde{A}$ -module. Hence,  $N'M \supseteq NM$ ,  $N^pM \supseteq NN^pM \supseteq N^2M \cdot \cdot \cdot$ . Hence  $N^iM = N^{t-i}M$ . Therefore,  $\tilde{\Gamma} = \tilde{A}$ .

**PROPOSITION 12.** *Let  $\Delta_n$  be a simple algebra over a field  $K$  and  $A$  an hereditary algebra with  $[A : K] < \infty$ . We assume that  $A$  contains the unit element of  $\Delta_n$  and its radical has the nilpotency  $t$ .  $A$  is a maximal hereditary ring with nilpotency*

$t$  in  $\Delta_n$  if and only if  $A/N \approx \sum_{i=1}^t \oplus \Delta_{n_i}$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^t n_i = n$ .

*Proof.* The “only if” part is clear from Proposition 11. We prove the “if” part. From the assumption and Theorem 4'''  $A = T_t(R_i ; M_{i,j})$ ;  $T_i$  is a simple algebra and  $M_{i,j} \neq (0)$ . Let  $1 = e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_t$ , where  $e_i$  is the unit element in  $R_i$ . Further  $e_i = \sum_{j=1}^{n(i)} e_{i,j}$  is a decomposition of  $e_i$  into the mutual orthogonal primitive idempotents in  $\Delta_n$ . Then we may assume that those  $e_{i,j}$ s are a subset of matrix units in  $\Delta_n$ .  $e_i A e_i (\approx \Delta_{n_i}) \subseteq e_i \Delta_n e_i = \Delta_{n(i)}$ . Hence,  $n_i \leq n(i)$ . However since  $\sum n_i = n$ ,  $n_i = n(i)$  for all  $i$ . Therefore,  $e_i A e_i = e_i \Delta_n e_i$  since  $[A : K] < \infty$ . Furthermore,  $e_i \Delta_n e_j = e_i \Delta_n e_i M_{i,j} e_j \Delta_n e_j = M_{i,j}$ , since  $M_{i,j} \neq (0)$ .

**5 Hereditary rings with minimum conditions**

In this section we shall study hereditary rings with left or right minimum conditions. Such a ring is also semi-primary. Hence, all results in §§ 2 and 3 are valid for this ring. However, we give another approach to those results.

First we consider  $A$  such that  $A/N = \sum \oplus \Delta_i$ . Let  $1 = \sum e_i$  as in § 3. For any idempotent element  $e$  we define  $l(e)$  as follows:  $l(e)$  = the composition length of  $Ae$  as a left ideal. We can arrange  $\{e_i\}$  as  $l(e_i) \geq l(e_{i+1})$  for all  $i$ . Then we have similar results for  $l(e_i)$  to  $n(e_i)$ . From Lemma 5, we have Lemma 7 for  $l(e_i)$  and etc.

LEMMA 12. Let  $A$  be a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(\Delta_i ; M_{i,j})$  over division rings  $\Delta_i$ . Then  $l(e_i) = \sum_{j=i+1}^n [M_{j,i} : \Delta_j]$ , where  $e_i = T_n(0, \dots, \overset{i}{1}, 0, \dots ; 0)$ .

Thus, we have from Theorem 4'''

THEOREM 8.  $A$  is an hereditary ring with left minimum condition if and only if  $A$  is isomorphic to a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(R_i ; M_{i,j})$  over semi-simple rings  $R_i$ , which satisfies the conditions in Theorem 4'' and  $M_{i,j}$  is a finitely generated  $R_i$ -module for all  $i > j$ .

We note we do not have a relation as Lemma 8 for  $l(e_i)$  and that there are no relations between  $l(e_i)$  and  $n(e_i)$  in general.

PROPOSITION 13. Let  $A$  be an hereditary g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(\Delta_i ; M_{i,j})$  over division rings. Let  $t_k = [\bar{M}_{j,k} : \Delta_j]$ . Then  $l(e_i) = 1 + \sum_{k>i} t_k l(e_k)$ , where  $\bar{M}_{j,k} = M_{j,k} / \sum_l M_{j,l} M_{l,k}$ .

*Proof.*

$$Ne_i/N^2e_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \overline{M}_{i+1,i} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \overline{M}_{n,1} \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\overline{M}_{j,i}$  is a left  $\Delta_j$ -module. Hence, since  $Ne_i$  is  $\Lambda$ -projective,  $Ne_i = \sum \oplus (\Lambda e_k)^{t_k}$  and  $Ne_i$  is a maximal  $\Lambda_i$ -module in  $\Lambda e_i$ ,  $l(e_i) = \sum t_k l(e_k) + 1$ .

**PROPOSITION 14.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary semi-primary ring such that  $\Lambda/N = \sum_{i=1}^n \oplus \Delta_i$ . Then  $N^n = (0)$ . Furthermore,  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$  if and only if  $e_{i+1}\Lambda e_i \neq (0)$  for all  $i$ . In this case 1)  $e_i\Lambda e_j \neq (0)$  for all  $i \geq j$ . 2)  $[e_i\Lambda e_j : \Delta_i] \geq [e_i\Lambda e_j : \Delta_i]$ ,  $[e_i\Lambda e_j : \Delta_j] \geq [e_i\Lambda e_j : \Delta_j]$  (resp.  $[e_i\Lambda e_j : \Delta_j] \geq [e_{i'}\Lambda e_j : \Delta_j]$ ,  $[e_i\Lambda e_j : \Delta_i] \geq [e_{i'}\Lambda e_j : \Delta_i]$ ) if  $j' \geq j$  (resp.  $i \geq i'$ ). 3)  $l(e_i) > l(e_{i+1})$ . 4) If  $\Lambda$  satisfies the left minimum condition, then  $l(e) > l(e')$  is equivalent to  $n(e) > n(e')$ .*

*Proof.* We put  $M_{i,j} = e_i\Lambda e_j$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n(\Delta_i ; M_{i,j})$ . Hence  $N^n = (0)$ .  $N^{n-1} = M_{n,n-1}M_{n-1,n-2} \cdots M_{2,1}$ . Since  $\varphi_{i,k}^j$  is monomorphic by Theorem 1,  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$  if and only if  $e_{i+1}\Lambda e_i = M_{i+1,i} \neq (0)$  for all  $i$ . We assume that all  $M_{i+1,i} \neq (0)$ . Then  $M_{i,j} \supseteq M_{i,i-1}M_{i-1,i-2} \cdots M_{j+1,j} \neq (0)$ . 2) If  $j' \geq j$ , then  $M_{i,j} \supseteq M_{i,j}M_{j',j}$ . Hence  $[M_{i,j} : \Delta_i] \geq [M_{i,j'} : \Delta_i]$  and  $[M_{i,j} : \Delta_j] \geq [M_{i,j'} : \Delta_j]$  since  $\varphi$  is monomorphic. 3) By Lemma 12 and 2) we obtain  $l(e_i) = \sum_{j=i+1}^n [M_{j,i} : \Delta_j] > \sum_{j=i+2}^n [M_{j,i+1} : \Delta_j] = l(e_{i+1})$ . 4) is clear from definition of  $l(\ )$  and  $n(\ )$ .

**PROPOSITION 15.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be as in Proposition 13. If  $N^{n-1}$  is a non-zero irreducible left  $\Lambda$ -module, then  $\Delta_i$  is monomorphic to  $\Delta_{i+1}$  and  $\Lambda$  satisfies the left minimum condition.*

*Proof.*  $N^{n-1} = M_{n,n-1} \cdots M_{2,1}$ . Since  $\Lambda e_n = e_n\Lambda e_n = \Delta_n$ ,  $N^{n-1}$  is an irreducible  $\Delta_n$ -module and hence,  $[N^{n-1} : \Delta_n] = 1$ . Furthermore,  $N^{n-1}$  contains an isomorphic image of  $M_{n,n-1} \cdots M_{i+1,i}$  as a left  $\Lambda$ -module. Hence  $[M_{i+1,i} : \Delta_{i+1}] = 1$ , say  $M_{i+1,i} = \Delta_{i+1}m_{i+1}$ . Since  $M_{i+1,i}$  is a right  $\Delta_i$ -module,  $\delta m_{i+1} = m_{i+1}\delta'$  for some  $\delta' \in \Delta_i$ . It is clear that a mapping  $\delta \rightarrow \delta'$  is a monomorphism of  $\Delta_{i+1}$  to  $\Delta_i$ .

**LEMMA 13.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be an hereditary g.t.a. matrix ring over  $\Delta_i$  such that  $[M_{i,j} : \Delta_i] = [M_{i,j} : \Delta_j] = 1$  for all  $i, j$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is isomorphic to a usual tri-angular matrix ring over  $\Delta$ , where  $\Delta \approx \Delta_i$ .*

*Proof.* First we choose a generator  $m_{i,i-1}$  of  $M_{i,i-1}$  for  $i = 2, \dots, n$ ;  $M_{i,i-1} = m_{i,i-1}A_{i-1}$ . We define a generator  $m_{i,j}$  of  $M_{i,j}$  as follows:  $m_{i,j} = m_{i,i-1} \cdots m_{j+1,j}$ . Since  $A$  is hereditary,  $m_{i,j} \neq 0$ . It is clear from the definition of  $m_{i,j}$ ,  $m_{i,j}m_{j,k} = m_{i,k}$ . As in the proof of Proposition 15 we obtain an isomorphism  $\alpha_{i,j}$  of  $A_i$  to  $A_j$  such that  $xm_{i,j} = m_{i,j}x^{\alpha_{i,j}}$  for  $x \in A_i$ . Since  $m_{i,j}m_{j,k} = m_{i,k}$ , we have  $\alpha_{i,j}\alpha_{j,k} = \alpha_{i,k}$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be a usual tri-angular matrix ring  $T_n(A; A)$  over  $A$ . We define a mapping  $\Phi$  of  $\Gamma$  to  $A$  as follows: for an element  $\gamma = T(\gamma_{i,j})$   $\Phi(\gamma) = T_n(\gamma_{i,j}^{\alpha_{i,j}} m_{i,j})$ , where  $m_{i,i} = 1_i$ . Then we can easily check, by noting the above observation, that  $\Phi$  is isomorphic.

**THEOREM 9.** *Let  $A$  be an hereditary ring such that  $A/N$  is a directsum of  $n$  division rings. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- 1)  $A$  is a usual tri-angular matrix ring over a division ring.
- 2)  $A$  is a general uniserial ring and  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ .
- 3)  $[e_n A e_1 : e_1 A e_1] = [e_n A e_1 : e_n A e_n] = 1$  and  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ .
- 4)  $l(e_1), r(e_n) \leq n$ , and  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ .
- 5)  $n(e_1) = l(e_1) = r(e_n)$  and  $N^{n-1} \neq (0)$ .

Where  $N$  is the radical of  $A$  and  $\{e_i\}$  is the set of non-isomorphic primitive idempotent elements as the beginning of this section, and  $r(e)$  is the composition length of  $eA$  as a right  $A$ -module.

*Proof.* From the assumption and Theorem 4'', we know that  $A = T_n(A_i; M_{i,j})$ , where the  $A_i$ 's are division rings.

1)  $\rightarrow$  2) is clear.

2)  $\rightarrow$  3). Since  $Ae_i$  has a unique composition series, we obtain that  $[M_{i,j} : A_i] = 1$  (resp.  $[M_{i,j} : A_j] = 1$ ) for all  $i \geq j$ .

3)  $\rightarrow$  4). By Proposition 14 we have  $[M_{i,j} : A_i] \leq [M_{n,1} : A_n] = 1$ . Hence  $l(e_1), r(e_n) \leq n$ .

4)  $\rightarrow$  5). 4) implies clearly that  $l(e_i) = n - i + 1$  for all  $i$  and hence  $[M_{i,j} : A_i] = 1$ . Therefore,  $n(e_i) = l(e_i)$ .

5)  $\rightarrow$  1). Since  $n(e_i) = n(e_{i+1}) + 1$  by Lemma 8,  $n(e_1), r(e_n) = n$ . Therefore,  $[M_{i,j} : A_i] = [M_{i,j} : A_j] = 1$  as above. Hence, we have 1) from Lemma 12.

*Remark 7.* In Theorem 9 if we replace the assumption " $A/N$  is a directsum of  $n$  division rings" by simple rings, then Theorem 9 is true provided we replace 1) by 1') :  $A$  is a g.t.a. matrix ring  $T_n((A)_{s_i}; M_{i,j} = (s_i \times s_j)$ -matrices over  $A$ ).

**Appendix.**

Let  $R$  be a discrete rank one valuation ring with quotient field  $K$  and  $\sum = K_n$ . We know, by [8], Theorem 6.2, all types of hereditary orders over  $R$  in  $\sum$ . We shall give another proof by a similar argument to § 4.

By standard argument (cf. [8], § 1) we may assume that  $R$  is complete. In this case we can use Lemma 5. Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a unique maximal ideal in  $R$  and  $\{e_i\}$  the set of primitive idempotent elements as in § 1. Then  $eAe$  is an hereditary order in  $e\sum e$ , where  $e = \sum_i e_i$  and  $eAe/eNe$  is a directsum of division rings.

First, we assume that  $A = eAe$  and  $\sum = e\sum e$ . Since  $\sum e_i$  is an irreducible left ideal in  $\sum$  by [1], Proposition 2.8, we may assume that  $e_i$  is a matrix unit  $e_{i,j}$  in  $\sum$ . Furthermore, we may assume that  $A$  is contained in a maximal order  $\Omega = R_n$ . By [8], Lemma 3.2 we know that  $N(\Omega) = \mathfrak{p}\Omega \leq N$ . Let  $\bar{A} = A/N(\Omega)$ .

**LEMMA A.** *If  $Ne_i \approx Ae_j$ , then 1)  $e_{j,i} \in A$ ,  $Ne_i = Ae_{j,i}$ ,  $Ne_i/\mathfrak{p}\Omega e_i$  is  $A/\mathfrak{p}\Omega$ -projective and  $l(\bar{e}_i) = 1 + l(\bar{e}_j)$  or 2)  $Ne_i = A\mathfrak{p}e_{j,i}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi : Ae_j \rightarrow Ne_i$  be an isomorphism.  $\varphi(e_j) = ne_i = e_jne_i$  for some  $n \in N$ . Since  $\mathfrak{p} \in N$ , there exists  $\lambda$  in  $A$  such that  $\lambda e_jne_i = \mathfrak{p}e_i = e_i\lambda e_jne_i$ . Hence,  $\mathfrak{p} = e_i\lambda e_jne_i$ . Therefore, 1)  $e_i\lambda e_j = \mathfrak{p}\epsilon e_{i,j}$  and  $e_jne_i = \epsilon'e_{j,i}$  or 2)  $e_i\lambda e_j = \epsilon$ , and  $e_jne_i = \mathfrak{p}\epsilon'e_{j,i}$ , where  $\epsilon, \epsilon'$  are unit elements in  $R$ . Case 1).  $Ne_i = Ae_jne_i = Ae_{ji}$  and  $\varphi(\mathfrak{p}\Omega e_j) = \mathfrak{p}\Omega e_{j,i} = \mathfrak{p}\Omega e_i$ . Hence,  $Ne_i/\mathfrak{p}\Omega e_i \approx A/\mathfrak{p}\Omega \bar{e}_j$ . Since  $\bar{A}\bar{e}_i$  is irreducible,  $l(\bar{e}_i) = l(\bar{e}_j) + 1$ .

**LEMMA B.**  *$A/\mathfrak{p}\Omega$  is an hereditary ring with minimum conditions.*

*Proof.* Since  $N = \sum Ne_i$ ,  $N/\mathfrak{p}\Omega = \sum \oplus N/\mathfrak{p}\Omega \bar{e}_i$  is  $A/\mathfrak{p}\Omega$ -projective by Lemma A and a fact that  $Ne_i$  is indecomposable.

**LEMMA C.** *We assume  $l(\bar{e}_i) \geq l(\bar{e}_{i+1})$  for all  $i$ , then  $l(\bar{e}_i) > l(\bar{e}_{i+1})$ .*

*Proof.* We assume that  $l(\bar{e}_n) < l(\bar{e}_{n-1}) < \dots < l(\bar{e}_{i+1})$ . Since for  $n < j \leq i + 1$   $Ne_j \approx Ae_{j+1}$  by Lemma A. Hence  $e_{j+1}Ne_j \approx e_{j+1}Ae_{j+1}$ . Therefore,  $\bar{e}\bar{A}\bar{e} = T_{n-i}(R/\mathfrak{p} ; M_{i,j} = R/\mathfrak{p})$  by Theorem 4' and the assumption  $\Omega \supseteq A$ , where  $e = \sum_{k=i+1}^n e_k$ . If  $l(\bar{e}_{i+1}) = l(\bar{e}_i)$ , then  $Ne_i \approx Ae_{i+2}$  by Lemma A. Hence,  $\bar{e}'\bar{A}\bar{e}' = T_{n-i+1}(R/\mathfrak{p} ; M_{i+1,i} = (0), M_{k,l} = R/\mathfrak{p}$  for  $(k, l) \neq (i + 1, i)$ ), where  $e' = e_i + e$ . Therefore,  $N$  has the same components on  $i^{th}$  and  $i + 1^{th}$  columns. Since  $A = \text{Hom}_\Delta(N, N)$  by [7],

Theorem 6.1,  $A \ni e_{i+1,i}, e_{i,i+1}$ , which is a contradiction.

From this lemma we have that  $e_i A e_j = R$  for  $i \geq j$ . Therefore, we have

**THEOREM.** *Let  $R$  be a discret rank one valuation ring with quotient field  $K$ . An hereditary order over  $R$  in  $K_n$  is isomorphic to*

$$\begin{pmatrix} R & \mathfrak{p} & \mathfrak{p} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ R & R & \mathfrak{p} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ R & R & R \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a unique maximal ideal in  $R$ .

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