

## PRIME IDEALS IN STRONGLY GRADED RINGS BY POLYCYCLIC-BY-FINITE GROUPS II

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**1. Introduction.** Let  $G$  be any group with identity  $e$  and let  $R = \sum \bigoplus_{x \in G} R_x$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring. In the case  $G$  is a finite group and  $R$  is a crossed product of  $G$  over its base ring  $R_e$ ,  $G$ -prime, Lorenz and Passman proved that the number of the minimal prime ideals of  $R$  and the nilpotency of the prime radical of  $R$  are both less than or equal to  $|G|$ , the order of  $G$ . These results were extended to the case of graded rings by Cohen and Montgomery (cf. [P], Theorems 16.2 and 17.7). They also obtained the relationship between the prime ideals of  $R$  and of  $R_e$  which are the classical properties known as *Lying over*, *Going up*, *Going down* and *Incomparability*.

It is a natural question to see how these results are carried over to the case  $G$  is a polycyclic-by-finite group. In this paper, we will give the affirmative answer to the question above under an additional with  $R_e$  right Noetherian. More precisely ; if  $R_e$  is  $G$ -prime, then the number of minimal prime ideals of  $R$  and the nilpotency of the prime radical is less than or equal to  $|\Delta^+(G)|$ , where  $\Delta^+(G)$  is the unique maximal finite normal subgroup of  $G$  (cf. Theorem 3.6).

Let  $P$  and  $\wp$  be prime ideals of  $R$  and  $R_e$ , respectively. Then we say that  $P$  lies over  $\wp$  if  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x = P \cap R_e$  and  $\wp$  is minimal over  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x$ . If  $G$  is a finite group, then the second condition is superfluous, and this condition is equivalent to “*lying over*” in [P]. In Theorems 3.8 and 3.10, we will give the classical properties known as *Lying over*, *Going down*, *Going up* and *Incomparability*. These theorems will be proved in §3 after giving, in §2, some properties of the prime radicals and minimal prime ideals. If  $G$  is a finite group, then Passman and Lorenz proved two different types of Going up theorem and Going down theorem, respectively. But if  $G$  is infinite, then one of them does not hold, respectively, in general. An easy example will be offered immediately after Theorem 3.10.

**2. Preliminaries.** Let  $G$  be a group and let  $R = \sum \bigoplus_{x \in G} R_x$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring. Then we defined an action of  $G$  on a subset  $S$  of  $R$  via  $S^x = R_x \rightarrow SR_x$ . A subset  $S$  is called  $G$ -stable if  $S^x \subseteq S$  for any  $x \in G$ . The subgroup  $\{x \in G \mid S^x = S\}$  is called the *stabilizer* of  $S$  in  $G$ . An ideal  $I$  of  $R_e$  is called  $G$ -prime if  $I$  is  $G$ -stable and if  $AB \subseteq I$  implies that either  $A \subseteq I$  or  $B \subseteq I$  for any  $G$ -stable ideals  $A$  and  $B$  of  $R_e$ .  $R_e$  is called  $G$ -prime if  $0$  is a  $G$ -prime ideal.

For example, if  $P \subseteq R$  is a prime ideal, then  $P \cap R_e$  is  $G$ -prime. Note that if  $R_e$  is right Noetherian, then any  $G$ -stable ideal  $A$  of  $R_e$  is  $G$ -invariant, i.e.,  $A^x = A$  for all  $x \in G$ .

If  $R_e$  is a semi-prime right Goldie ring, then the set  $C_e = C_{R_e}(0)$  is a regular right Ore set of  $R$  by Proposition 1.4 of [N.N.V], where  $C_{R_e}(A) = \{c \in R_e \mid c \text{ is regular mod } A\}$  for any ideal of  $A$  of  $R_e$ . The right quotient ring  $Q^g = Q^g(R)$  with respect to  $C_e$  is also a strongly  $G$ -graded ring and we can write  $Q^g = \sum \bigoplus_{x \in G} R_x Q_e$ , where  $Q_e$  is a right quotient ring of  $R_e$  with respect to  $C_e$ , and  $Q_e$  is a semi-simple Artinian ring. In this section, we shall give, more or less known, some relations between  $R$  and  $Q^g$ , which are needed to prove the main theorems in §3.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $R$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring, and let  $R_e$  be a  $G$ -prime right Goldie ring. Then*

- (1)  $R_e$  is semi-prime.
- (2) There exists a minimal prime ideal  $\wp$  of  $R_e$  (unique up to  $G$ -conjugation) with  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x = 0$ , and  $\{\wp^x \mid x \in G\}$  is the set of minimal primes of  $R_e$ . In particular, the stabilizer  $\{x \in G \mid \wp^x = \wp\}$  of  $\wp$  in  $G$  has a finite index in  $G$ .
- (3)  $Q_e$ , the quotient ring of  $R_e$ , is  $G$ -simple, i.e.,  $Q_e$  has no proper  $G$ -stable ideals.

*Proof.* (1) By Theorem 1.35 of [C.H], the prime radical  $N_e$  of  $R_e$  is nilpotent. Since  $N_e$  is  $G$ -stable, it must be zero and so  $R_e$  is semi-prime.

(2) By Lemma 1.16 of [C.H], there are a finite number of minimal prime ideals  $\wp_1, \wp_2, \dots, \wp_n$  of  $R_e$  with  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n \wp_i = 0$ . It is clear that  $\wp_i^x$  is also minimal prime for any  $x \in G$ . Put  $\wp_i^* = \bigcap_x \wp_i^x$ . Then  $\wp_i^*$  are  $G$ -stable and  $\wp_1^* \cdot \wp_2^* \cdots \wp_n^* = 0$ . So we have  $\wp_i^* = 0$  for some  $i$ . Hence for any  $\wp_j$ , there exists  $x \in G$  with  $\wp_j^x \subseteq \wp_i^*$  and so  $\wp_j^x = \wp_i^*$ . Thus  $\{\wp_i^x \mid x \in G\}$  is the full set of minimal prime ideals of  $R_e$ . Further, the mapping  $x \mapsto \bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \wp_1 & \wp_2 & \cdots & \wp_n \\ \wp_1^x & \wp_2^x & \cdots & \wp_n^x \end{pmatrix}$  induces a homomorphism from  $G$  into the symmetric group on  $n$  symbols and so the stabilizer of  $\wp$  in  $G$  is of finite index in  $G$ .

(3) Let  $A'$  be a  $G$ -stable ideal of  $Q_e$ . Then the left annihilator  $B' = \ell_{Q_e}(A')$  of  $A'$  in  $Q_e$  is also  $G$ -stable such that  $0 = B'A' \supseteq BA$ , where  $B = B' \cap R_e$  and  $A = A' \cap R_e$ . Since  $B$  and  $A$  are also  $G$ -stable, either  $B = 0$  or  $A = 0$ . Hence either  $B' = BQ_e = 0$  or  $A' = AQ_e = 0$  and so  $Q_e$  is  $G$ -simple.

In the following, we suppose that  $R_e$  is a  $G$ -prime right Goldie ring and that  $G$  is a polycyclic-by-finite group. Then, by Theorem 3.7 of [P] and Lemma 2.1,  $Q^g$

is Noetherian. Moreover,  $R$  has an Artinian classical right quotient ring by Corollary 1.8 of [N.N.V]. Let  $N$  be the prime radical of  $R$ . Then there exist a finite number of minimal prime ideals  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  of  $R$  with  $N = P_1 \cap \dots \cap P_n$  (cf. Lemma 1.16 of [C.H]).

**Lemma 2.2.** (1) *If  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  are the minimal prime ideals of  $R$ , then  $P_1Q^g, P_2Q^g, \dots, P_nQ^g$  are the minimal prime ideals of  $Q^g$ .*

(2) *Let  $N$  be the prime radical of  $R$ . Then  $NQ^g$  is the prime radical of  $Q^g$ .*

*Proof.* (1) First we shall prove that  $P_i = P_iQ^g \cap R$ . Let  $r$  be any element in  $P_iQ^g \cap R$ . Then  $rc \in P_i$  for some  $c \in C_e \subseteq C_R(0)$ . Hence  $r \in P_i$ , because of  $C_R(0) = C_R(N) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n C_R(P_i)$  by Small's theorem. Hence  $P_i = P_iQ^g \cap R$  and so  $P_iQ^g$  is also prime. Further, if  $P_iQ^g \supseteq P'$ , a minimal prime ideal of  $Q^g$ , then  $P_i \supseteq P' \cap R$ , a prime ideal of  $R$ , hence  $P_i = P' \cap R$  and so  $P_iQ^g = (P' \cap R)Q^g = P'$ . Finally, if  $P'$  is a minimal prime ideal of  $Q^g$ , then  $P' \cap R$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  so that it contains a  $P_i$  for some  $i$ , and so,  $P' = (P' \cap R)Q^g \supseteq P_iQ^g$ , hence  $P' = P_iQ$ .

(2) Let  $N'$  be the prime radical of  $Q^g$ . Then

$$N' \cap R = \bigcap_{i=1}^n P_iQ^g \cap R = \bigcap \{P_iQ^g \cap R\} = \bigcap P_i = N$$

shows that  $N' = NQ^g$ .

**3. Prime ideals of strongly  $G$ -graded rings with  $G$ -prime base rings.**

Throughout this section,  $R = \sum \oplus_{x \in G} R_x$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring whose base ring  $R_e$  is a  $G$ -prime right Goldie ring and let  $G$  be a polycyclic-by-finite group. Following [P],  $\Delta^+(G) = \{x \in G \mid |G : C_G(x)| < \infty \text{ and } x \text{ is finite order}\}$ , is a finite normal subgroup of  $G$  (cf. Lemma 5.1 of [P]). Set  $S = R(\Delta^+(G)) = \sum \oplus_{y \in \Delta^+(G)} R_y$ . Then  $S$  is a  $G$ -stable subring of  $R$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{A}$  the prime radical of  $S$ . Since  $S$  is also a right Goldie ring,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a finite intersection of minimal prime ideals  $\mathcal{Q}_1, \mathcal{Q}_2, \dots, \mathcal{Q}_m$  of  $S$  and is  $G$ -stable. Hence  $\mathcal{A} = \bigcap_{i=1}^m \mathcal{P}_i^*$ , where  $\mathcal{P}_i^* = \bigcap_{x \in G} \mathcal{Q}_i^x$  are  $G$ -stable ideals of  $S$ . Renumbering these  $\mathcal{P}_i^*$ 's, if necessary, we write the distinct  $\mathcal{P}_i^*$ 's as  $\mathcal{P}_1^*, \mathcal{P}_2^*, \dots, \mathcal{P}_k^*$ .

**Lemma 3.1.**  *$\mathcal{P}_1^*, \dots, \mathcal{P}_k^*$  are the minimal  $G$ -prime ideals of  $S$  and  $\mathcal{P}_i^* \cap R_e = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $G$ -stable ideals of  $S$  whth  $AB \subseteq \mathcal{P}_i^*$ . Then  $AB \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_i$ , and so, either  $A \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_i$  or  $B \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_i$ , hence either  $A \subseteq \bigcap_{x \in G} \mathcal{Q}_i^x = \mathcal{P}_i^*$  or  $B \subseteq \bigcap_{x \in G} \mathcal{Q}_i^x = \mathcal{P}_i^*$ . Thus  $\mathcal{P}_i^*$  are  $G$ -prime. If  $I$  is a  $G$ -prime ideal of  $S$  with  $\mathcal{P}_i^* \subseteq I$

$I$ , then  $I$  contains some  $\mathcal{P}_i^*$ , because  $0 = (\mathcal{N}^*)^\ell \supseteq (\mathcal{P}_1^* \cdots \mathcal{P}_k^*)^\ell$ , and so  $\mathcal{P}_i^* = I = \mathcal{P}_i^*$ , showing  $\mathcal{P}_i^* = I$ . Hence  $\mathcal{P}_i^*$  is a minimal  $G$ -prime ideal of  $S$ . Conversely, let  $I$  be a minimal  $G$ -prime ideal of  $S$ . Then, as above,  $I \supseteq 0 = (\mathcal{P}_1^* \cdots \mathcal{P}_k^*)^\ell$ . Hence  $I \supseteq \mathcal{P}_i^*$  for some  $i$  and so  $I = \mathcal{P}_i^*$ . Further, let  $J = \mathcal{P}_i^* \cap R_e$ . Then  $J$  is a  $G$ -stable ideal of  $R_e$ . Hence  $JQ_e$  is also  $G$ -stable and we get either  $JQ_e = 0$  or  $JQ_e = Q_e$  since  $Q_e$  is  $G$ -simple. If  $JQ_e = Q_e$ , then  $J$  contains a regular element  $c$  in  $R_e$ . It is clear that  $c$  is a regular element in  $S$  and so it belongs to  $C_s(\mathcal{P}_i^*)$  by Small's Theorem, because  $\mathcal{N} = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \mathcal{P}_i^*$ , hence  $c = c \cdot 1 \in \mathcal{P}_i^*$  implies that  $1 \in \mathcal{P}_i^*$ , a contradiction. Thus we get that  $J = 0$ .

Conversely,

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $G$ -prime ideal of  $S$  with  $\mathcal{P} \cap R_e = 0$ , then  $\mathcal{P}$  is minimal  $G$ -prime.*

*Proof.* We will show that  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_i^*$  for some  $i$ . On the contrary, we suppose that  $\mathcal{P} \not\subseteq \mathcal{P}_i^*$  for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Then  $\mathcal{P} \not\subseteq \mathcal{Q}_i$  for all  $i$ . In fact, if  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_i$  for some  $i$ , then  $\mathcal{P}^x = \mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{Q}_i^x$  for all  $x \in G$ , and so,  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \bigcap_x \mathcal{Q}_i^x = \mathcal{P}_i^*$ , a contradiction. Hence it follows  $\mathcal{P}Q^g(\Delta^+(G)) \not\subseteq \mathcal{Q}_iQ^g(\Delta^+(G))$  for all  $i$  by Lemma 2.2, and  $\mathcal{Q}_iQ^g(\Delta^+(G))$  are the maximal ideals of  $Q^g(\Delta^+(G))$  since  $Q^g(\Delta^+(G))$  is an Artinian ring. Hence  $\mathcal{P}Q^g(\Delta^+(G)) = Q^g(\Delta^+(G))$  and so  $\mathcal{P}$  contains a regular element, which implies that  $\mathcal{P} \cap R_e \neq 0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{P}_i^*$  for some  $i$  and so  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_i^*$ .

Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  and let  $\pi$  be the canonical mapping from  $G$  to  $G/H$ . Then  $R$  is considered as a strongly  $G/H$ -graded ring whose base ring is  $R(H) = \sum \bigoplus_{h \in H} R_h$ ;  $R = R(H)(G/H) = \sum \bigoplus_{\pi(x) \in G/H} R(H)_{\pi(x)}$ , where  $R(H)_{\pi(x)} = \sum \bigoplus_{h \in H} R_{hx}$ . Under this notation, if  $\mathcal{P}$  is a  $G$ -stable ideal of  $R(H)$ , then  $R/\mathcal{P}R = \{R(H)/\mathcal{P}\}(G/H)$ , i.e., a strongly  $G/H$ -graded ring whose base ring is  $R(H)/\mathcal{P}$ .

The following was obtained in [R] in the case of the group rings (cf. Corollary 22 of [R]).

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $P$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then  $P$  is minimal prime if and only if*

- (1)  $P = (P \cap S)R$  with  $P \cap S$ ,  $G$ -prime,

and

- (2)  $P \cap R_e = 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be a minimal prime ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\mathcal{P} = P \cap S$  is a  $G$ -prime

ideal of  $S$ . Hence  $R/\mathcal{P}R = (S/\mathcal{P})(G/\Delta'(G))$  is a prime ring by the Proposition 8.3 of [P]. Hence  $\mathcal{P}R$  is a prime ideal  $\subseteq P$ , and so,  $\mathcal{P}R = P$ . Further, if  $P \cap R_e \neq 0$ , then  $P \cap R_e$  is a  $G$ -stable ideal of  $R_e$ , and so  $(P \cap R_e)Q_e = Q_e$ . Thus  $PQ^g = Q^g$ , which contradicts to Lemma 2.2. Hence  $P \cap R_e = 0$ . Conversely, if  $\mathcal{P} = P \cap S$  is  $G$ -prime, then by the above proof  $\mathcal{P}R$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ . Hence  $P$  is prime. If  $P \supseteq Q$ , a prime ideal, then  $Q \cap S$  is  $G$ -prime with  $Q \cap R_e = 0$ . So  $Q \cap S$  and  $P \cap S$  are both minimal  $G$ -prime by Lemma 3.2. Hence  $Q \cap S = P \cap S$  and so  $P = Q$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $N$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be the prime radical of  $R$  and  $S$  respectively. Then  $N = \mathcal{N}R$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $G$ -stable,  $\mathcal{N}R$  is a nilpotent ideal of  $R$ . Further, since  $S/\mathcal{N}$  is semi-prime,  $R/\mathcal{N}R = (S/\mathcal{N})(G/\Delta'(G))$  is also semi-prime by Proposition 8.3 of [P], and so,  $\mathcal{N}R$  is a semi-prime ideal, hence  $\mathcal{N}R = N$ .

The following Lemma is the graded-ring version of Passman's Theorem 14.7 of [P]. The proof is quite similar to that of the Theorem.

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $G$  be a polycyclic-by-finite group and let  $R = R(G)$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring with  $R_e$  a right Noetherian  $G$ -prime ring. Suppose that  $\mathcal{E}$  is a minimal prime ideal of  $R_e$ ,  $N = \text{Ann}(\mathcal{E})$ , and  $H$  is the stabilizer of  $\mathcal{E}$  in  $G$ . Then the mappings*

$$P \mapsto P_H$$

and

$$L \mapsto L^{!G}$$

determine a one-to-one correspondence between prime ideals  $P$  of  $R$  with  $P \cap R_e = 0$  and prime ideals  $L$  of  $R(H)$  with  $L \cap R_e = \mathcal{E}$ . Here

$$P_H = \{r \in R(H) \mid Nr \subseteq P\}$$

and

$$L^{!G} = \bigcap_{x \in G} \{LR(G)\}^x.$$

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $R$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring whose base ring  $R_e$  is  $G$ -prime right Noetherian,  $G$  be a polycyclic-by-finite group and  $\{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_k\}$  be the set of minimal prime ideals of  $R$ . Then*

$$(1) \quad k \leq |\Delta'(G)|.$$

*Further, let  $N$  be the prime radical of  $R$ . Then*

$$(2) \quad N^{|\mathcal{A}^+(G)|} = 0.$$

*Proof.* First, we assume that  $R_e$  is prime. Then  $Q_e$  is simple Artinian. So  $Q^g(\mathcal{A}^+(G)) = Q_e * \mathcal{A}^+(G)$ , a crossed product of  $\mathcal{A}^+(G)$  over  $Q_e$  by Corollary I.3.25 of [N.V]. Hence the number of minimal prime ideals of  $S$  is at most  $|\mathcal{A}^+(G)|$  by Theorem 16.2 of [P] and Lemma 2.2. Hence  $k \leq |\mathcal{A}^+(G)|$  by Lemmas 3.1, 3.2 and Proposition 3.3. As in Lemma 3.4, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the prime radical of  $S$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}Q^g(\mathcal{A}^+(G))$  is the prime radical of  $Q^g(\mathcal{A}^+(G))$  by Lemma 2.2. Hence  $(\mathcal{A}Q^g)^{|\mathcal{A}^+(G)|} = 0$  by Theorem 16.2 of [P] and so  $\mathcal{A}^{|\mathcal{A}^+(G)|} = 0$ . Thus  $N^{|\mathcal{A}^+(G)|} = 0$ , because of  $N = \mathcal{A}R$  by Lemma 3.4.

Suppose that  $R_e$  is  $G$ -prime but not prime. Then there exists a minimal prime ideal  $\wp$  of  $R_e$  such that  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x = 0$  and the stabilizer  $H$  of  $\wp$  is a subgroup of finite index by Lemma 2.1. Hence  $\mathcal{A}^+(H) \subseteq \mathcal{A}^+(G)$  and  $H$  is also polycyclic-by-finite. We consider the ring  $\bar{R} = \bar{R}(H) = R(H)/\wp R(H)$ . Since  $\wp$  is  $H$ -stable,  $\bar{R}$  is a strongly  $H$ -graded ring with  $\bar{R}_e = R_e/\wp$  prime right Noetherian. Hence by the above, there exist  $m \leq |\mathcal{A}^+(H)|$  ( $\leq |\mathcal{A}^+(G)|$ ) minimal prime ideals  $\bar{L}_1, \dots, \bar{L}_m$  of  $\bar{R}$  with  $\bar{L}_i \cap \bar{R}_e = \bar{0}$ . We write the ideals  $L_i \supseteq \wp$  of  $R(H)$  such that the canonical image of  $L_i$  is  $\bar{L}_i$  for any  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . Then  $L_i$  are prime ideals with  $L_i \cap R_e = \wp$ . Hence  $(L_i)^{|G|}, \dots, (L_m)^{|G|}$  are prime ideals of  $R(G)$  with  $(L_i)^{|G|} \cap R_e = 0$  by Lemma 3.5. So it suffices to prove that they are the minimal prime ideals of  $R$ . To prove that  $(L_i)^{|G|}$  is minimal, let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  with  $P \subseteq (L_i)^{|G|}$ , then  $P \cap R_e = 0$  and so,  $P_{|H} \subseteq \{(L_i)^{|G|}\}_{|H} = L_i$  by Lemma 3.5. Hence  $\overline{P_{|H}} \subseteq \bar{L}_i$ . Since  $P_{|H}$  is prime,  $\overline{P_{|H}} = \bar{L}_i$ , and so,  $P_{|H} = L_i$ . Again by Lemma 3.5, we have  $P = L_i^{|G|}$ . Conversely, let  $P$  be a minimal prime ideal of  $R$ , then  $P \cap R_e = 0$  by Proposition 3.3. By Lemma 3.5, there exists a prime ideal of  $R(H)$  with  $P_{|H} = L$ . It follows that  $\bar{L} \supseteq \bar{L}_i$  for some  $i$  and so  $P_{|H} \supseteq L_i$ . Thus we have  $P \supseteq (L_i)^{|G|}$  and so  $P = (L_i)^{|G|}$ .

Finally, we show that  $N^{|\mathcal{A}^+(H)|} = 0$ . Let  $J = L_1 \cap \dots \cap L_m$ . Then  $\bar{J}$  is the prime radical of  $\bar{R}$  and so, by first case,  $\bar{J}^{|\mathcal{A}^+(H)|} = \bar{0}$ , i.e.,  $J^{|\mathcal{A}^+(H)|} \subseteq \wp R(H)$ . Since the prime radical  $N = \bigcap_i (L_i)^{|G|} = (\bigcap_i L_i)^{|G|} = J^{|G|}$ , we have  $N^{|\mathcal{A}^+(H)|} = (J^{|G|})^{|\mathcal{A}^+(H)|} \subseteq (J^{|\mathcal{A}^+(H)|})^{|G|} \subseteq (\wp R(H))^{|G|} = 0$  (note that  $A^{|G|} \cap B^{|G|} = (A \cap B)^{|G|}$  and  $A^{|G|} B^{|G|} \subseteq (AB)^{|G|}$  for any ideals  $A$  and  $B$  of  $R(H)$ ). Cf. Lemma 16.1 of [P].

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}^+(G)$  be a  $p$ -group and  $R_e$  be a  $G$ -prime ring of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Then there exists a unique minimal prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$  which is nilpotent.*

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $R_e$  is prime. Then  $Q^g(\mathcal{A}^+(G)) = Q_e * \mathcal{A}^+(G)$  and  $Q_e$  is of characteristic  $p$ . Hence by Proposition 16.4 of [P], there exists a unique

minimal prime ideal  $\mathcal{P}'$  of  $Q^g(\Delta^+(G))$  which is nilpotent. Then  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}' \cap R(\Delta^+(G))$  is a unique minimal prime ideal which is nilpotent and  $G$ -stable by Lemma 2.2. Hence, by Lemma 3.4,  $R(G)$  is a unique minimal prime ideal of  $R(G)$  which is nilpotent. Finally, we suppose that  $R_e$  is  $G$ -prime but not prime. Then there exists a minimal prime ideal  $\wp \subseteq R_e$  and  $\bar{R}_e = R/\wp$  is prime and the stabilizer  $H$  of  $\wp$  in  $G$  has a finite index in  $G$  and so  $\Delta^+(H) \subseteq \Delta^+(G)$  is a  $p$ -group. Hence there exists a unique minimal prime ideal  $\bar{L}$  of  $\bar{R}$  which is nilpotent. Then by the argument in the proof of Theorem 3.6  $L^G$  is a unique minimal prime ideal of  $R(G)$  which is nilpotent.

Next we will investigate the relationship between the prime ideals of  $R_e$  and  $R$  which are the classical properties known as *Lying over*, *Going up*, *Going down* and *Incomparability*. In the case  $G$  is a finite group, these were obtained by Lorenz and Passman (cf. Theorems 16.6, 16.9 and 17.9 of [P]). Let  $P$  and  $\wp$  be prime ideals of  $R$  and  $R_e$ , respectively. Then we say that  $P$  lies over  $\wp$  if  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x = P \cap R_e$  and  $\wp$  is a minimal prime ideal over  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x$ . If  $G$  is a finite group, then the second condition is superfluous. Note that if  $P$  lies over  $\wp$ , then  $P = \mathcal{P}R$ , where  $\mathcal{P} = P \cap S$ , because  $\mathcal{P}R$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  by Proposition 8.3 of [P].

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $R$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring whose base ring  $R_e$  is right Noetherian and let  $G$  be a polycyclic-by-finite group. Then*

- (1) (*Cutting down*) *Let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ . Then there exists a prime ideal  $\wp$  of  $R_e$ , unique up to  $G$ -conjugation, such that  $\wp$  is minimal over  $P \cap R_e$  and  $\bigcap \wp^x = P \cap R_e$ .*
- (2) (*Lying over*) *Let  $\wp$  be a prime ideal of  $R_e$ , then there exist prime ideals  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$  of  $R$  with  $n \leq |\Delta^+(G)|$  such that  $P_i$  lies over  $\wp$ .*
- (3) (*Incomparability*) *Let  $\wp_1 \subseteq \wp_2$  be prime ideals of  $R_e$ , and let  $P_1 \subseteq P_2$  be prime ideals lying over  $\wp_1$  and  $\wp_2$ , respectively. If  $P_1 \neq P_2$ , then  $\wp_1 \neq \wp_2$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Since  $P \cap R_e$  is  $G$ -prime,  $\bar{R}_e = R_e/(P \cap R_e)$  is a  $G$ -prime ring, and so,  $\bar{R}_e$  has a minimal prime ideal  $\bar{\wp}$  with  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \bar{\wp}^x = \bar{0}$ , by Lemma 2.1. Then  $\wp$ , the ideal of  $R_e$  whose canonical image in  $\bar{R}_e$  equals to  $\bar{\wp}$ , is a prime ideal which is minimal over  $P \cap R_e$  and  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x = P \cap R_e$ .

(2) Since  $\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x$  is a  $G$ -prime ideal of  $R_e$ ,

$$\bar{R} = R/(\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x)R$$

satisfies the condition in Theorem 3.6, hence there exist the minimal prime ideals  $\bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_n$  with  $n \leq |\Delta^+(G)|$  and  $\bar{P}_i \cap \bar{R}_e = \bar{0}$  for all  $i$ . Hence  $P_i$ , the ideal of  $R$  whose canonical image in  $\bar{R}$  equals  $\bar{P}_i$  clearly lies over  $\wp$  for each  $i$ .

Furthermore,  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  are incomparable since  $\bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_n$  are minimal primes. Hence (3) follows immediately.

**Lemma 3.9.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $R$  be a ring such that  $R$  is the sum  $\sum_{x \in G} R_x$  of  $(R_e, R_e)$ -bisubmodules  $R_x$  with  $R_x \cdot R_y = R_{xy}$  for all  $x, y \in G$ . If  $I$  is an essential ideal of  $R_e$ , i.e.,  $I$  intersects nontrivially all nonzero ideals of  $R_e$  then there exists a nonzero ideal  $J$  of  $R$  with  $0 \neq J \cap R_e \subseteq I$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a maximal complement of  $R_e$  in  $R$  so that  $R_e \oplus M$  is essential in  $R$ , hence  $I \oplus M$  is essential in  $R$ . For each  $x, y \in G$ , we set  $L_{x,y} = R_x(I \oplus M)R_y$ . Then  $L_{x,y}$  is essential in  $R$ . In fact, let  $U$  be a nonzero  $(R_e, R_e)$ -bisubmodule of  $R$ , then  $R_{x^{-1}}UR_{y^{-1}} \neq 0$ , and so,  $(I \oplus M) \cap R_{x^{-1}}UR_{y^{-1}} \neq 0$ , hence  $L_{x,y} \cap U \neq 0$ . We write  $J = \bigcap_{x,y \in G} L_{x,y}$ . Then it is clear that  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$  and that  $J$  is an essential as  $(R_e, R_e)$ -bimodule, because  $G$  is finite. Hence  $J \cap R_e \neq 0$ . Further, if  $r \in J \cap R_e \subseteq I \oplus M$ , then  $r = i + m$ ,  $i \in I$ ,  $m \in M$ , but  $r - i = m \in R_e \cap M = 0$  and so,  $J \cap R_e \subseteq I$ .

**Theorem 3.10.** *Let  $R$  be a strongly  $G$ -graded ring whose base ring  $R_e$  is right Noetherian and let  $G$  be a polycyclic-by-finite group. Then*

- (1) (Going up) *Let  $\wp_1$  and  $\wp$  be prime ideals of  $R_e$  with  $\wp_1 \supseteq \wp$  and let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  lying over  $\wp$ . Then there exists a prime ideal  $P_1$  of  $R$  such that  $P_1$  lies over  $\wp_1$  and  $P_1 \supseteq P$ .*
- (2) (Going down) *Let  $\wp_1$  and  $\wp$  be prime ideals of  $R_e$  with  $\wp \supseteq \wp_1$  and let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  lying over  $\wp$ . Then there exists a prime ideal  $P_1$  of  $R$  such that  $P_1$  lies over  $\wp_1$  and  $P \supseteq P_1$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Let  $\mathcal{P} = P \cap S$ ,  $G$ -prime. Then  $\mathcal{P} \cap R_e = \bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}_1$  be the maximal element of the set  $\{A : \text{ideal of } S \mid A \cap R_e \subseteq \wp_1 \text{ and } A \supseteq \mathcal{P}\}$ . Then it is easily checked that  $\mathcal{P}_1$  is a prime ideal of  $S$  since  $\wp_1$  is prime. First, we will prove that  $\wp_1$  is a minimal prime ideal over  $\mathcal{P}_1 \cap R_e$ . Let  $\bar{S} = S/\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\pi : S \rightarrow \bar{S}$  be the canonical mapping. Then the set  $\{\bar{R}_x = \pi(R_x) \mid x \in \Delta^+(G)\}$  satisfies the condition of Lemma 3.9 with  $\bar{R}_e = R_e/(\mathcal{P}_1 \cap R_e)$ . If  $\bar{I}$  is an ideal of  $\bar{S}$  with  $\bar{I} \cap \bar{R}_e \subseteq \bar{\wp}_1$ , then  $I \cap R_e \subseteq \wp_1 + \mathcal{P}_1$ , where  $I$  is inverse image of  $\bar{I}$  in  $S$ . Let  $r = z + p$  be any element in  $I \cap R_e$ , where  $z \in \wp_1$  and  $p \in \mathcal{P}_1$ . Then  $p = r - z \in R_e \cap \mathcal{P}_1 \subseteq \wp_1$ . Hence  $I \cap R_e \subseteq \wp_1$  and so, by the choice of  $\mathcal{P}_1$ ,  $I = \mathcal{P}_1$ , i.e.,  $\bar{I} = \bar{0}$ . Thus, by Lemma 3.9,  $\bar{\wp}_1$  is not essential. So there exists a nonzero ideal  $\bar{J}$  of  $\bar{R}_e$  with  $\bar{\wp}_1 \cap \bar{J} = \bar{0}$ . Since  $\bar{R}_e$  is semi-prime, there exists a minimal prime ideal  $\bar{\wp}'$  with  $\bar{\wp}' \not\supseteq \bar{J}$ . Thus  $\bar{\wp}' \supseteq \bar{\wp}_1$  implies that  $\bar{\wp}' = \bar{\wp}_1$ . Hence  $\wp_1$  is a minimal prime ideal over  $\mathcal{P}_1 \cap R_e$  and so  $\bigcap_{y \in \Delta^+(G)} \wp^y = \mathcal{P}_1 \cap R_e$ . Put  $P_1 =$

$(\bigcap_{x \in G} \mathcal{P}_1^x)R$ . Then  $P_1$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  by Proposition 8.3 of [P] and  $P_1 \supseteq P$ , because  $\bigcap \mathcal{P}_1^x \supseteq \mathcal{P}$  and  $P = \mathcal{P}R$ . Furthermore,  $P_1 \cap S = \bigcap_{x \in G} \mathcal{P}_1^x$ ,  $G$ -prime with  $P_1 = (P_1 \cap S)R$  and  $P_1 \cap R_e = \bigcap \mathcal{P}_1^x \cap R_e = \bigcap (\mathcal{P}_1 \cap R_e)^x = \bigcap (\bigcap \mathcal{P}_1^x)^x = \bigcap \mathcal{P}_1^x$ . Hence  $P_1$  is a minimal prime ideal over  $(\bigcap \mathcal{P}_1^x)R$  by Proposition 3.3 and therefore  $P_1$  lies over  $\wp_1$  with  $P_1 \supseteq P$ .

(2) By Theorem 3.8 there exist a finite number of prime ideals  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_r$  of  $R$  lying over  $\wp_1$ . Then, it is clear from Proposition 3.3 that  $P_i$ 's are the full set of minimal prime ideals over  $(\bigcap \mathcal{P}_1^x)R$ . Therefore for some integer  $n$ ,

$$(P_1 \cap P_2 \cdots \cap P_r)^n \subseteq (\bigcap_{x \in G} \mathcal{P}_1^x)R \subseteq (\bigcap_{x \in G} \wp^x)R \subseteq P,$$

and so  $P_i \subseteq P$  for some  $i$ .

**Remark 3.11.** Another types of Going up and Going down Theorems of prime ideals do not hold; for example, let  $K$  be a field,  $G$  be an infinite cyclic group  $\langle x \rangle$ , and  $R$  be the group ring  $K[G]$ . Then consider two prime ideals  $P = (x-1) \neq 0$ . Obviously  $0$  is a prime ideal over the ideal  $0$  of  $K = R_e$  but  $P$  does not lie over any ideal of  $R_e$ .

To give a counter example for another *Going down* theorem, let  $D$  be a commutative unique factorization domain and let  $S = D[x]$ , the polynomial ring over  $D$  in an indeterminate  $x$ . For any prime element  $p$  of  $D$ , put  $\wp = pS + xS$ , a prime ideal of  $S$ . Let  $f(y) = xy + p \in S[y]$ , the polynomial ring over  $S$  in an indeterminate  $y$ . Then by Eisenstein's theorem,  $f(y)$  is a prime element in  $S[y]$  with  $f(y)S \cap S = 0$ . Now let  $G$  be the infinite cyclic group generated by  $y$  and let  $R$  be the group ring  $S[G]$  with  $R_e = S$ . Then  $P = \wp[G]$  and  $P_1 = f(y)R$  are both prime ideals of  $R$  satisfying;  $P \neq P_1$ ,  $P \cap R_e = \wp$  and  $P_1 \cap R_e = 0$ . Hence  $P$  lies over  $\wp$  but  $P_1$  does not lie over  $0$ , because  $0$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ .

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