

# On weakly Arf rings

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based on the works jointly with

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# 1 Introduction

In 1971, J. Lipman proved:

For a one-dimensional complete Noetherian local domain  $A$  with an algebraically closed residue field of characteristic 0, if  $A$  is saturated, then  $A$  has minimal multiplicity.

The proof based on the fact that

if  $A$  is saturated, then  $A$  is **an Arf ring**.

## Definition 1.1 (Lipman)

Let  $A$  be a CM semi-local ring with  $\dim A = 1$ . Then  $A$  is called *an Arf ring*, if the following hold:

- (1) Every integrally closed *open* ideal has a principal reduction.
- (2) If  $x, y, z \in A$  s.t.

$$x \text{ is a NZD on } A \text{ and } \frac{y}{x}, \frac{z}{x} \in \bar{A},$$

then  $yz/x \in A$ .

## Question 1.2

**What happens if we remove the condition (1)?**

## Definition 1.3

A commutative ring  $A$  is said to be *weakly Arf*, provided

$yz/x \in A$ , whenever  $x, y, z \in A$  s.t.  $x \in A$  is a NZD,  $y/x, z/x \in \bar{A}$ .

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## 2 Basic properties

Throughout this talk

- $A$  a Noetherian ring
- $W(A)$  the set of NZDs on  $A$
- $\mathcal{F}_A$  the set of ideals in  $A$  which contain a NZD on  $A$ .

For  $I \in \mathcal{F}_A$ , there is a filtration:

$$A \subseteq I : I \subseteq I^2 : I^2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq I^n : I^n \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \bar{A}.$$

Define

$$A' = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} [I^n : I^n]$$

which is a module-finite extension over  $A$  and  $A \subseteq \underline{A'} \subseteq \bar{A}$ .

- If  $a \in I$  is a reduction of  $I$ , i.e.,  $I^{r+1} = aI^r$  for  $\exists r \geq 0$ , then

$$A^I = A \left[ \frac{I}{a} \right] = \frac{I^r}{a^r} \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{I}{a} = \left\{ \frac{x}{a} \mid x \in I \right\} \subseteq Q(A).$$

Hence  $A^I = I^n : I^n$  for  $\forall n \geq r$ .

- $\text{red}_{(a)}(I) = \min\{r \geq 0 \mid I^{r+1} = aI^r\} = \min\{n \geq 0 \mid A^I = I^n : I^n\}$
- $I \in \mathcal{F}_A$  is *stable* in  $A \iff A^I = I : I$   
 $\iff I^2 = aI$  for  $\exists a \in I$ .

## Theorem 2.1 (Lipman)

Let  $A$  be a CM semi-local ring with  $\dim A = 1$ . Then TFAE.

- (1)  $A$  is an Arf ring.
- (2) Every integrally closed ideal  $I \in \mathcal{F}_A$  is stable.

When  $A$  is a CM local ring with  $\dim A = 1$ ,

if  $A$  is an Arf ring, then  $A$  has minimal multiplicity.

Set  $\Lambda(A) = \{\overline{(x)} \mid x \in W(A)\}$ .

## Theorem 2.2

$A$  is a weakly Arf ring if and only if every  $I \in \Lambda(A)$  is stable.



### Proposition 2.3

Let  $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of rings. Suppose  $aB \cap A = aA$  and  $\varphi(a) \in W(B)$  for  $\forall a \in W(A)$ . If  $B$  is weakly Arf, then so is  $A$ .

### Corollary 2.4

- (1) Let  $B$  be an integral domain,  $A \subseteq B$  a subring of  $B$  s.t.  $A$  is a direct summand of  $B$ . If  $B$  is a weakly Arf ring, then so is  $A$ .
- (2) If  $B = A[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]$  ( $n > 0$ ) is weakly Arf, then so is  $A$ .
- (3) Let  $\varphi : A \rightarrow B$  be the faithfully flat homomorphism of rings. If  $B$  is a weakly Arf ring, then so is  $A$ .

## Proposition 2.5

Let  $(A, \mathfrak{m})$  be a Noetherian local ring with  $\dim A = 1$ . Then  $A$  is a weakly Arf ring if and only if so is  $\widehat{A}$ .

Let  $R = \mathbb{C}[[t^4, t^5, t^6, s]] \subseteq \mathbb{C}[[t, s]]$ . Choose a UFD  $A$  s.t.  $R \cong \widehat{A}$ .

Then  $A$  is a weakly Arf ring. If  $\widehat{A}$  is weakly Arf, then

$$S = \mathbb{C}[[t^4, t^5, t^6]] \rightarrow R \cong \widehat{A}$$

ensures that  $S$  is weakly Arf, whence  $S$  is Arf. This is impossible.

Hence  $\widehat{A}$  is not weakly Arf.

## Theorem 2.6

Suppose that

- $A$  is an integral domain,
- $A$  satisfies  $(S_2)$ , and
- $A$  contains an infinite field.

Then  $A$  is weakly Arf if and only if so is  $A[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]$  for  $\forall n \geq 1$ .

Let  $A = k[Y]/(Y^n)$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) and  $B = A[X]$ . Then  $A$  is weakly Arf and

$$B \text{ is a weakly Arf ring} \iff n \leq 2.$$

## Theorem 2.7

Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring,  $M$  a finitely generated *torsion-free*  $R$ -module. Then TFAE.

- (1)  $A = R \ltimes M$  is a weakly Arf ring.
- (2)  $R$  is a weakly Arf ring and  $M$  is an  $\overline{R}$ -module.

## Theorem 2.8

Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m}), (S, \mathfrak{n})$  be Noetherian local rings with  $k = R/\mathfrak{m} = S/\mathfrak{n}$ . Suppose that  $\text{depth } R > 0$  and  $\text{depth } S > 0$ . Then TFAE.

- (1)  $A = R \times_k S$  is a weakly Arf ring.
- (2)  $R$  and  $S$  are weakly Arf rings.

## 3 Blow-ups

For  $n \geq 0$ , we set

$$A_n = \begin{cases} A & \text{if } n = 0 \\ A_{n-1}^{J(A_{n-1})} & \text{if } n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

where  $J(A_{n-1})$  stands for the Jacobson radical of  $A_{n-1}$ .

### Theorem 3.1 (Lipman)

Let  $A$  be a CM semi-local ring with  $\dim A = 1$ . Then TFAE.

- (1)  $A$  is an Arf ring.
- (2)  $(A_n)_M$  has minimal multiplicity for  $\forall n \geq 0, \forall M \in \text{Max } A_n$ .

Recall  $\Lambda(A) = \{\overline{(x)} \mid x \in W(A)\}$ .

Define

- $\Gamma(A) = \{I \in \Lambda(A) \mid I \neq A\}$  and
- $\text{Max } \Lambda(A)$  the set of all the maximal elements in  $\Gamma(A)$  with respect to inclusion.

Then

- $A = Q(A) \iff \text{Max } \Lambda(A) = \emptyset$
- $A = \overline{A} \iff \text{If } M \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A), \text{ then } \mu_A(M) = 1.$

Hence, there exists  $M \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A)$  s.t.  $\mu_A(M) \geq 2$ , provided  $A \neq \overline{A}$ .

## Definition 3.2

Define

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_0 &= A \\
 A_1 &= \begin{cases} \bar{A} & \text{if } A = \bar{A} \\ A^M & \text{if } A \neq \bar{A}, \exists M \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A) \text{ s.t. } \mu_A(M) \geq 2. \end{cases} \\
 A_n &= (A_{n-1})_1 \quad \text{for } n \geq 2.
 \end{aligned}$$

We then have a chain of rings

$$A = A_0 \subseteq A_1 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq A_n \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \bar{A}.$$

## Theorem 3.3

Consider the following conditions.

- (1)  $A$  is a weakly Arf ring.
- (2) For  $\forall M \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A)$ ,  $M : M$  is a weakly Arf ring and  $M$  is stable.
- (3) For every chain  $A = A_0 \subseteq A_1 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq A_n \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \bar{A}$ , and for  $\forall n \geq 0$ ,  $A_n$  is a weakly Arf ring.
- (4) For every chain  $A = A_0 \subseteq A_1 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq A_n \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \bar{A}$ , and for  $\forall n \geq 0$  and  $\forall N \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A_n)$ ,  $N$  is stable.

Then (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) hold. If  $\dim A = 1$ , or  $A$  is locally quasi-unmixed, (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) holds.

For a Noetherian local ring  $R$ ,

$$R \text{ is quasi-unmixed} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \dim \hat{R}/Q = \dim R \text{ for } \forall Q \in \text{Min } \hat{R}.$$



Let  $0 < a_1, a_2, \dots, a_\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$  ( $\ell > 0$ ) s.t.  $\gcd(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_\ell) = 1$ . Set

- $H = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_\ell \rangle$
- $A = k[H] = k[t^{a_1}, t^{a_2}, \dots, t^{a_\ell}] \subseteq S = k[t] = \bar{A}$
- $e = \min(H \setminus \{0\})$
- $A_+ = tS \cap A$ .

Then

- $A_+ = \overline{(t^e)} \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A)$ , and  $\mu_A(A_+) = 1 \iff e = 1$ .
- For  $\forall I \in \text{Max } \Lambda(A)$ ,  $I = A_+$ , or  $\mu_A(I) = 1$ .

Therefore, if  $A \neq \bar{A}$ , i.e.,  $\mu_A(A_+) \geq 2$ , then

$$A_1 = A^{A_+} = A \left[ \frac{A_+}{t^e} \right] = k[t^e, t^{a_1-e}, t^{a_2-e}, \dots, t^{a_\ell-e}].$$

### Example 3.4

Let  $\ell \geq 2$ ,  $A = k[t^\ell + t^{\ell+1}] + t^{\ell+2}S$  in  $S = k[t]$ . Then

- (1)  $A$  is a weakly Arf ring.
- (2) Let  $I = t^{\ell+2}S$ . Then  $I \in \text{Max}\Lambda(A)$ ,  $\mu_A(I) \geq 2$ , and

$$A_1 = A' = S.$$

- (3) Let  $a = t^\ell + t^{\ell+1}$  and  $I = \overline{(a)}$ . Then  $I \in \text{Max}\Lambda(A)$ ,  $\mu_A(I) \geq 2$ , and

$$A_1 = A' = k[t^2, t^3].$$

## 4 Examples

Let  $k$  be a field and set  $A = k[[X, Y]]/(XY(X + Y))$ . Then

- $A$  is a CM local reduced ring with  $\dim A = 1$ .
- $\mathfrak{m}$  does not have a principal reduction, if  $k = \mathbb{Z}/(2)$ .

### Theorem 4.1

$$\{\text{integrally closed } \mathfrak{m}\text{-primary ideals}\} = \{\mathfrak{m}\} \cup \{\text{stable ideals}\}$$

Recall  $\Lambda(A) = \left\{ \overline{(x)} \mid x \in W(A) \right\}$ .

Hence, if  $k = \mathbb{Z}/(2)$ , then  $A$  is a weakly Arf ring, but not an Arf ring.

## Corollary 4.2

Suppose that  $k = \mathbb{Z}/(2)$ . Then

- $A \times M$ , where  $M$  is a finitely generated  $\bar{A}$ -module s.t.  $M$  is torsion-free as an  $A$ -module
- $A \times_{A/\mathfrak{m}} A \times_{A/\mathfrak{m}} \cdots \times_{A/\mathfrak{m}} A$

are weakly Arf rings, but not Arf.

In what follows, let  $k$  be a field and

$$A = k[[X, Y, Z]]/I_2\left(\begin{array}{ccc} X & Y & Z \\ Y & Z & X \end{array}\right).$$

Then  $A$  is a CM local ring with  $\dim A = 1$ .

### Theorem 4.3

- (1) If  $\text{ch } k = 3$ , then  $A$  is not an Arf ring.
- (2) If  $\text{ch } k \neq 3$  and there is  $\alpha \in k$  s.t.  $\alpha \neq 1, \alpha^3 = 1$ , then  $A$  is an Arf ring.

### Corollary 4.4

Suppose that  $k$  is an algebraically closed field. Then  $A$  is an Arf ring if and only if  $\text{ch } k \neq 3$ .

**Thank you for your attention.**