

## THE CLEANNESNESS OF THE SUBRINGS OF $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$

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### ABSTRACT

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Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a ring. Ring  $R$  is said to be a clean ring if every element of  $R$  can be expressed as the sum of a unit and an idempotent element. Furthermore, there are *r*-clean rings. An *r*-clean ring is a generalization of a clean ring. In an *r*-clean ring, all of its elements can be represented as the sum of a regular element and an idempotent element. Moreover, strongly *r*-clean rings were introduced. A strongly *r*-clean ring is a ring where every element of the ring can be expressed as the sum of a regular and an idempotent element, and the multiplication of that regular and idempotent is commutative. On the other hand, there is a ring of the set of  $2 \times 2$  matrices over ring  $R$  denotes by  $M_2(R)$ . In this paper, we will discuss the cleanness properties, especially strongly *r*-clean of the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . The aim of this paper is to find the characteristics of strongly *r*-clean of the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . Here, we assumed that  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a ring of matrix over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a ring. An element  $a$  in  $R$  is clean if  $a$  can be represented as the sum of a unit and an idempotent element or we can write as  $a = u + e$  where  $u$  is a unit element in  $R$  and  $e$  is an idempotent element in  $R$ . A ring  $R$  is called a clean ring if every element of  $R$  is clean. Clean rings were introduced by W. K. Nicholson in [1]. Zhang and Camilo have studied clean endomorphism rings and unit regular rings [2]. Kar and Das introduced clean semiring in their study [3]. Furthermore, [4] introduced strongly clean rings. An element  $a$  in ring  $R$  is said to be strongly clean if  $a = u + e$  and  $ue = eu$ . Many authors have studied strongly clean rings, for example is [5].

In 2013, Ashrafi and Nasibi introduced an  $r$ -clean ring and generalized a clean element to an  $r$ -clean element [6], [7]. An element  $a$  in  $R$  is  $r$ -clean if  $a = r + e$  where  $r$  is a regular element in  $R$  and  $e$  is an idempotent element in  $R$ . A ring  $R$  is said to be  $r$ -clean ring if every element of  $R$  is  $r$ -clean. In [8] have studied about  $r$ -clean and group rings and [9] have studied about  $r$ -clean ideals. Moreover, Sharma and Singh introduced strongly  $r$ -clean rings [10]. An element  $a$  in  $R$  is called strongly  $r$ -clean if  $a = r + e$  and  $re = er$ , and ring  $R$  is said to be a strongly  $r$ -clean ring if every element of  $R$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean. According to [10], clearly, every strongly  $r$ -clean is an  $r$ -clean, but the converse is not always true. In [10], we also know that a strongly  $r$ -clean is an  $r$ -clean ring, and the converse holds if the ring is abelian.

In addition to  $r$ -clean rings, there are many extensions of clean rings. In 2010, [11] extended clean rings and introduced the concept of  $f$ -clean rings. Many studies have discussed the  $f$ -clean ring, for example, [12], [13], and [14]. Moreover, there are studies about  $m$ -clean rings, for example, [15] and [16].

Let  $M_2(R)$  be a ring of matrix  $2 \times 2$  over  $R$ . In fact, we know that  $M_2(R)$  is not Abelian. Even though there is a ring of matrix that is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring, for example  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  where  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is the set of modulo integer  $P$  (prime number). Motivated by the conditions of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , we will find the characteristics of the cleanness subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . First, we establish the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . Furthermore, we present the regular elements of the ring of matrix. In the end, we find the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  which can be considered as a strongly  $r$ -clean ring and the relation with the cleanness concept on the other conditions. Throughout this article, the set of all regular elements of a ring  $R$  is denoted by  $Reg(R)$ , the set of all idempotent elements of a ring  $R$  is denoted by  $Id(R)$ , and the ring of matrix  $2 \times 2$  over  $R$  denoted by  $M_2(R)$ . In the general condition of the cleanness properties in ring theory, we did not have the relation between clean ring,  $r$ -clean ring, strongly clean, and strongly  $r$ -clean of the subring of a ring. In this paper, we want to explain the characteristics of the cleanness of the subring of matrix rings over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

This study used a literature review as the research method. First, we need to study ring theory, regular elements, idempotent elements, clean rings theory,  $r$ -clean rings theory, and strongly  $r$ -clean rings theory. The authors studied ring theory through books, i.e., [17], [18]. Additionally, the authors also learn about clean rings,  $r$ -clean rings, and strongly  $r$ -clean rings by using related research articles. The next step is to identify the regular elements in the ring of the matrix  $2 \times 2$ . We establish the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  and identify the cleanness of the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . The state of the art of this research is as follows.

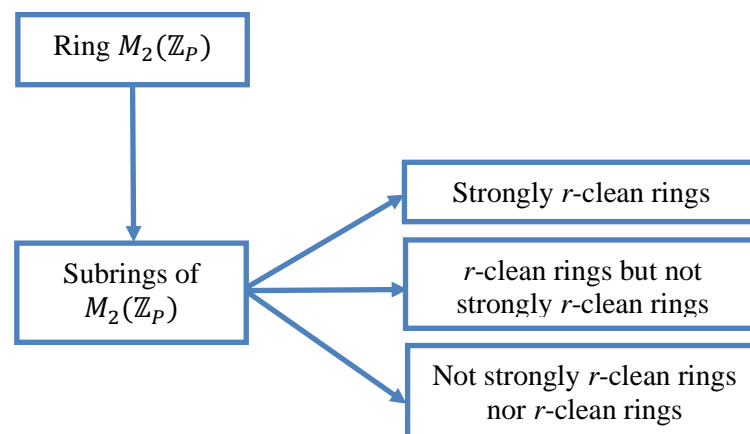


Figure 1. State of the Art

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a ring. The set of  $2 \times 2$  matrices over ring  $R$ , denotes  $M_2(R) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in R \right\}$  is a ring under the addition and multiplication matrix operation, and we can write it as ring  $(M_2(R), +, \cdot)$ . We know that  $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +_p, \cdot_p)$  is a field that means  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is a commutative ring and non-zero elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  have an inverse of the multiplication operation. Therefore, we can express the set of matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  as a ring with unity  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$ . Moreover, we will discuss the cleanness of the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . We start by the regular elements of the ring of matrix  $2 \times 2$  to help in understanding the concept of strongly  $r$ -clean rings on the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .

#### 3.1 The Regular Elements in the Ring of Matrix $2 \times 2$

In 1936, Von Neumann described the regular elements [19]. An element  $r \in R$  is said to be a regular element in ring  $R$  if there exists an element  $y \in R$  such that  $ryr = r$ . Additionally, we will explain the properties of regular elements in  $M_2(R)$ .

**Proposition 1.** Let  $R$  be a unity and commutative ring, and  $M_2(R)$  is a ring. For element  $P = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , we have:

- i. If  $ad - bc \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} d(ad - bc)^{-1} & -b(ad - bc)^{-1} \\ -c(ad - bc)^{-1} & a(ad - bc)^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , then  $P$  is a regular element.
- ii. If  $ad - bc = 0$  where  $a \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , then  $P$  is a regular element.
- iii. If  $ad - bc = 0$  where  $b \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ b^{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , then  $P$  is a regular element.
- iv. If  $ad - bc = 0$  where  $c \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & c^{-1} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , then  $P$  is a regular element.
- v. If  $ad - bc = 0$  where  $d \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , then  $P$  is a regular element.
- vi. If  $ad - bc = 0$  where  $a = b = c = d = 0$ , then  $P$  is a regular element.

**Proof.** We know  $R$  is a unity and commutative ring and  $M_2(R)$  is a ring of the matrix over  $R$ . We have some facts as follows.

- i. Suppose  $ad - bc \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} d(ad - bc)^{-1} & -b(ad - bc)^{-1} \\ -c(ad - bc)^{-1} & a(ad - bc)^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ . Let  $Y = \begin{bmatrix} d(ad - bc)^{-1} & -b(ad - bc)^{-1} \\ -c(ad - bc)^{-1} & a(ad - bc)^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} PYP &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d(ad - bc)^{-1} & -b(ad - bc)^{-1} \\ -c(ad - bc)^{-1} & a(ad - bc)^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (ad - bc)(ad - bc)^{-1} & (-ab + ab)(ad - bc)^{-1} \\ (cd - cd)(ad - bc)^{-1} & (ad - bc)(ad - bc)^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\ &= P \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $P$  is a regular element.

- ii. The second case, we have  $ad - bc = 0$  where  $a \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Since  $a, b, c, d \in R$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  so  $a^{-1} \in R$ , then  $d = bc(a^{-1})$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} aa^{-1} & 0 \\ ca^{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ ca^{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ ca^{-1}a & ca^{-1}b \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $P = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  is a regular element.

For the case where  $c = 0$ ,  $P$  is also a regular ring. The following explanation proves this statement. We have a condition

$$ad - bc = 0$$

where  $a \neq 0$  and  $c = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 ad - bc &= 0 \\
 ad - b(0) &= 0 \\
 ad - 0 &= 0 \\
 ad &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $a \neq 0$  hence  $d = 0$ .

Now we want to show  $P = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a regular.

The reason that we have the condition that exists  $\begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Clearly  $P$  is a regular.

The proof of point (iii), (iv), and (v) are analog with (ii).

vi. If  $a = b = c = d = 0$  then  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . For any  $\begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(R)$  we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore,  $P = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a regular element. ■

From the **Proposition 1**, we can determine the conditions of elements in a ring of the matrix  $2 \times 2$  over a commutative ring which giving the relation of unit and regular elements. By applying this proposition, we can easily identify an element on the ring  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  that is a regular or not by using the properties of the field  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . Here we give the following example of the **Proposition 1**.

**Example 1** Given a ring  $(\mathbb{Z}_3, +_3, \cdot_3)$  and  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_3), +, \cdot)$ . An element  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{Z}_3)$  is a regular element.

Here for  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  we have  $ad - bc = 0$ ,  $a \neq 0$  and there exist  $\begin{bmatrix} 2^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{Z}_3)$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Clearly,  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{Z}_3)$  is a regular element.

Now, we give an example that there is subring  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is not a regular ring.

**Example 2** Given a ring  $(\mathbb{Z}_2, +_2, \cdot_2)$  and ring  $(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2), +, \cdot)$  where  $(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, d \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \right\}$ . An

element  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$  is not a regular element. The explanation is as follows. Here for  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  we have

$ad - bc = 0$  and only entries  $b$  that are nonzero elements. Based on Proposition 1 point 3, an element  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

is said to be a regular element if there exists  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1^{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  in ring  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$ . We know that element

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \notin T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$ . Therefore an element  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is not a regular element. For clarity, the results of the

multiplication between elements in ring  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$  will be provided below, and it will be shown that there is no

element  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$  of  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in T_2(\mathbb{Z}_2)$  is a regular.



No.	The subring of $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$
12.	$\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : 0 \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}, +, \cdot\right)$
13.	$\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}, +, \cdot\right)$

Based on the sufficient and necessary theorem of subrings ([18], [22]), we can check the set on the second column of **Table 2**.

**Example 3.** Let  $\left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$  be a subset of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . We will show  $\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}, +, \cdot\right)$  is a subring of  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$ .

i. The set of  $\left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$  is non empty set, since  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$ .

ii. Let  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1 +_p (-a_2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Since,  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is a ring and  $a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  then there exist  $-a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ . Thus,  $a_1 +_p (-a_2) \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 +_p (-a_2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$ .

iii. Let  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \cdot_p a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is a ring and  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  then  $a_1 \cdot_p a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \cdot_p a_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}$ .

From (i), (ii), and (iii), we have  $\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\}, +, \cdot\right)$  is a subring of  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$ .

### 3.3 The Cleanness Properties of the Subrings of $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$

For the first, we present the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are strongly  $r$ -clean rings. Before discussing the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , we need to study the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** Given a ring  $(R, +, \cdot)$ . If  $a \in R$  is a regular element, then  $a$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element.

**Proof.** Since  $R$  is a ring, then there exists zero element  $0 \in R$  and  $0 \cdot 0 = 0^2 = 0$ . For any regular element  $a \in R$ , we have

$$a = a + 0,$$

where  $a \in \text{Reg}(R)$  and  $0 \in \text{Id}(R)$  and  $a0 = 0a$ . Thus,  $a$  is strongly  $r$ -clean element. ■

Consequence of the **Lemma 1**, regular rings are strongly  $r$ -clean rings.

Next, we will show the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are strongly  $r$ -clean rings in this proposition that follows.

**Proposition 2.** Let  $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +_p, \cdot_p)$  and  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  be rings i.e.

$$M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) = \left\{\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p\right\},$$

then ring  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring.

**Proof.** Based on Proposition 1, for any element  $A \in M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  we can find  $B \in M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  such that  $ABA = A$ . Then every element of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a regular element. According to **Lemma 1**, every element of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element. Thus, ring  $(M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. ■

Based on **Proposition 2** and **Lemma 1**, we can conclude that if all elements of a subring of  $M_2(R)$  is regular, then the subring is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. Therefore, the following proposition is obtained.

**Proposition 3.** The subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  that are regular rings, i.e., the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  in **Table 2**, in numbers 1, 4, 7, 12, and 13 are strongly  $r$ -clean rings.

Furthermore, we will identify the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  that has a unity element.

**Proposition 4.** Let  $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +_p, \cdot_p)$  and  $(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  be rings, i.e.

$$T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\},$$

then ring  $(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring.

Let  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  from ring  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , there exists an element  $X \in T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  such that  $TX = X$ . Thus, every element of set  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) \setminus \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  is a regular element. Consequently, based on **Lemma 1**, every element of set  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) \setminus \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element. It is clear that the subring  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is not a regular ring because there exist elements in  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  that are not a regular element ( $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$ ). Nevertheless, we want to show that even though the subring  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is not a regular ring but subring  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. Now, we want to prove that elements of  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  are strongly  $r$ -clean elements. The elements of  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  can be represented as the sum of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & b \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & b \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Reg}(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Id}(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$ , and  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & b \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & b \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ . These facts show that the elements of  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  are strongly  $r$ -clean elements. Since every element of  $T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element, thus  $(T_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. ■

According to **Proposition 4**, there is a subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  which is not a regular ring, but it has a unity element; thus, the subrings are a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. As a result, we have the following proposition.

**Proposition 5.** The subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  that are not regular rings, but have a unity element, i.e., the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  in **Table 2**, in numbers 10 and 11, are strongly  $r$ -clean rings.

We know the fact that every strongly  $r$ -clean is an  $r$ -clean, but the converse is not always true. On the next, we present the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are  $r$ -clean rings but not strongly  $r$ -clean rings.

**Proposition 6.** Let  $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +_p, \cdot_p)$  and  $(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  be a ring, i.e.

$$A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$$

Then ring  $(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is an  $r$ -clean ring but not a strongly  $r$ -clean ring.

**Proof.** Following **Proposition 1**, every element of  $A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) \setminus \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  is a regular element. Then, the elements of  $A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) \setminus \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  are strongly  $r$ -clean elements. Next, we check the elements of  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  in  $A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are strongly  $r$ -clean elements or not. Idempotent elements in  $A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is  $\text{Id}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : e \neq 0, e \in \text{Id}(\mathbb{Z}_p) \right\}$ . The elements of  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  in  $A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  can be represented as the sum of regular and idempotent elements as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.} \quad & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -e & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ & \text{where } \begin{bmatrix} -e & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Reg}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)) \text{ and } \begin{bmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Id}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)). \text{ Here,} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} -e & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -e & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- ii.  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -e & -e+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  
 where  $\begin{bmatrix} -e & -e+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Reg}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Id}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$ . Here,  
 $\begin{bmatrix} -e & -e+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -e & -e+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- iii.  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Reg}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Id}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$ . Here,  
 $\begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- iv.  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & -(1-e)+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 1-e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & -(1-e)+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Reg}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 1-e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{Id}(A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))$ . Here,  
 $\begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & -(1-e)+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 1-e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 1-e & 1-e \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -(1-e) & -(1-e)+b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Hence, the elements of  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \neq 0, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}$  in  $A_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are  $r$ -clean elements but not a strongly  $r$ -clean elements. ■

Analog to **Proposition 6**, the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  in **Table 2**, numbers 5, 6, 8, and 9 are  $r$ -clean rings but not strongly  $r$ -clean rings. Next, we identify the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  that are not strongly  $r$ -clean rings or  $r$ -clean rings either in the following proposition.

**Proposition 7.** Let  $(\mathbb{Z}_p, +_p, \cdot_p)$  and  $(B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  be a ring, i.e.,

$$B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}.$$

Then ring  $(B(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is not a strongly  $r$ -clean ring or  $r$ -clean either.

**Proof.** The multiplication result of the elements of  $B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $\text{Reg}(B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  and  $\text{Id}(B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . From the regular and idempotent elements contained in ring  $B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , we have that every non-zero element in ring  $B_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  cannot be expressed as the sum of a regular and an idempotent element. Clearly,  $(B(\mathbb{Z}_p), +, \cdot)$  is not a strongly  $r$ -clean ring or  $r$ -clean either. ■

Based on the **Proposition 7**, we also have the following useful facts.

**Proposition 8.** For  $A, B \in M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , if  $AB$  is not equal to a zero element, then the subring is clearly not a strongly  $r$ -clean ring or  $r$ -clean ring either. Thus, the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  in **Table 2**, number 2 and 3 are not a strongly  $r$ -clean ring or  $r$ -clean ring either.

Hence, we have a necessary and sufficient condition for subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is strongly  $r$ -clean ring.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a ring and  $A$  is a subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . Subring  $A$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring if only if  $A$  is a regular ring or  $A$  has a unity element.

**Proof.**  $\Rightarrow$  If  $A$  is a regular ring or  $A$  has a unity element then  $A$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element.

According to **Proposition 3** and **Proposition 5**, clearly, if  $A$  is a regular ring or  $A$  has a unity element then  $A$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element.

$\Leftarrow$  If  $A$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean element then  $A$  is a regular ring or  $A$  has a unity element. Based on the observations, the results of the subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  are obtained as strongly  $r$ -clean rings,  $r$ -clean rings, or neither. These results are presented in **Table 3**.



**Table 3.** The Cleanness of the Subrings of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ 

No.	The subring of $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$	Regular ring	Strongly $r$ -clean ring	$r$ -clean ring
1.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	✓	✓	✓
2.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	-	-
3.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ c & 0 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	-	-
4.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} : d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	✓	✓	✓
5.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	-	✓
6.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ c & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a, c \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	-	✓
7.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} : a, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	✓	✓	✓
8.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} : b, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	-	✓
9.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	-	✓
10.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	✓	✓
11.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : a, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	-	✓	✓
12.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : 0 \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	✓	✓	✓
13.	$(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_p \right\}, +, \cdot)$	✓	✓	✓

Based on the observations in **Table 3**, subrings number 1, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 13 are strongly  $r$ -clean rings, and these subrings are regular rings or rings with unity element. It is proven that if subring  $A$  is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring, then  $A$  is a regular ring or a ring with a unity element. ■

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Through this study, we have the characteristics of the cleanness properties of the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . If the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a regular ring, then the subring is a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. If the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is not a regular ring but has an unity element, then the subring is also a strongly  $r$ -clean ring. However, if all the multiplication result of the elements in the subring of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is a zero element, then the subring is not a strongly  $r$ -clean ring or  $r$ -clean ring either.

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