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# gr-n-ideals in graded commutative rings

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Abstract. Let G be a group with identity e and let R be a G-graded ring. In this paper, we introduce and study the concept of gr-n-ideals of R. We obtain many results concerning gr-n-ideals. Some characterizations of gr-n-ideals and their homogeneous components are given.

# 1 Introduction and preliminaries

Throughout this article, rings are assumed to be commutative with  $1 \neq 0$ . Let R be a ring, I be a proper ideal of R. By  $\sqrt{I}$ , we mean the radical of I which is  $\{r \in R : r^n \in I \text{ for some positive integer } n\}$ . In particular,  $\sqrt{0}$  is the set of nilpotent elements in R. Recall from [11] that a proper ideal I of R is said to be an n-ideal if whenever  $a, b \in R$  and  $ab \in I$  with  $a \notin \sqrt{0}$  implies  $b \in I$ . For  $a \in R$ , we define Ann $(a) = \{r \in R : ra = 0\}$ .

The scope of this paper is devoted to the theory of graded commutative rings. One use of rings with gradings is in describing certain topics in algebraic

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geometry. Here, in particular, we are dealing with gr-n-ideals in a G-graded commutative ring.

First, we recall some basic properties of graded rings which will be used in the sequel. We refer to [6]-[8] for these basic properties and more information on graded rings.

Let G be a group with identity e. A ring R is called graded (or more precisely, G-graded) if there exists a family of subgroups  $\{R_g\}$  of R such that  $R = \bigoplus_{g \in G} R_g$  (as abelian groups) indexed by the elements  $g \in G$ , and  $R_g R_h \subseteq R_{gh}$  for all  $g, h \in G$ . The summands  $R_g$  are called homogeneous components and elements of these summands are called homogeneous elements. If  $a \in R$ , then a can be written uniquely  $a = \sum_{g \in G} a_g$  where  $a_g$  is the component of a in  $R_g$ . Also, we write  $h(R) = \bigcup_{g \in G} R_g$ . Let  $R = \bigoplus_{g \in G} R_g$  be a G-graded ring. An ideal I of R is said to be a graded ideal if  $I = \bigoplus_{g \in G} (I \cap R_g) := \bigoplus_{g \in G} I_g$ . An ideal of a graded ring need not be graded.

If I is a graded ideal of R, then the quotient ring R/I is a G-graded ring. Indeed,  $R/I = \bigoplus_{g \in G} (R/I)_g$  where  $(R/I)_g = \{x + I : x \in R_g\}$ . A G-graded ring R is called *a graded integral domain* (gr-*integral domain*) if whenever  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  with  $r_g s_h = 0$ , then either  $r_g = 0$  or  $s_h = 0$ .

The graded radical of a graded ideal I, denoted by Gr(I), is the set of all  $x = \sum_{g \in G} x_g \in R$  such that for each  $g \in G$  there exists  $n_g \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $x_g^{n_g} \in I$ . Note that, if r is a homogeneous element, then  $r \in Gr(I)$  if and only if  $r^n \in I$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , (see [10].)

Let R be a G-graded ring. A graded ideal I of R is said to be a graded prime (gr-prime) if  $I \neq R$ ; and whenever  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  with  $r_g s_h \in I$ , then either  $r_g \in I$  or  $s_h \in I$ , (see [10].)

The concepts of graded primary ideals and graded weakly primary ideals of a graded ring have been introduced in [9] and [5], respectively. Let I be a proper graded ideal of a graded ring R. Then I is called a graded primary (gr-primary) (resp. graded weakly primary) ideal if whenever  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  and  $r_g s_h \in I$  (resp.  $0 \neq r_g s_h \in I$ ), then either  $r_g \in I$  or  $s_h \in Gr(I)$ .

Graded 2-absorbing and graded weakly 2-absorbing ideals of a commutative graded rings have been introduced in [2]. According to that paper, I is said to be a graded 2-absorbing (resp. graded weakly 2-absorbing) ideal of R if whenever  $r_g, s_h, t_i \in h(R)$  with  $r_g s_h t_i \in I$  (resp.  $0 \neq r_g s_h t_i \in I$ ), then  $r_g s_h \in I$  or  $r_g t_i \in I$  or  $s_h t_i \in I$ .

Then the graded 2-absorbing primary and graded weakly 2-absorbing primary ideals defined and studied in [4]. A graded ideal I is said to be a graded 2-absorbing primary (resp. graded weakly 2-absorbing primary) ideal of R if whenever  $r_g, s_h, t_i \in h(\mathbb{R})$  with  $r_g s_h t_i \in I$  (resp.  $0 \neq r_g s_h t_i \in I$ ), then  $r_g s_h \in I$ or  $r_g t_i \in Gr(I)$  or  $s_h t_i \in Gr(I)$ .

Recently, R. Abu-Dawwas and M. Bataineh in [1] introduced and studied the concepts of graded r-ideals of a commutative graded rings. A proper graded ideal I of R is said to be *a graded* r-*ideal* (gr-r-*ideal*) of R if whenever  $r_g, s_h \in$ h(R) such that  $r_g s_h \in I$  and Ann(a) = {0}, then  $s_h \in I$ .

In this paper, we introduce the concept of graded n-ideals (gr-n-ideals) and investigate the basic properties and facts concerning gr-n-ideals.

### 2 Results

**Definition 1** Let R be a G-graded ring. A proper graded ideal I of R is called a graded n-ideal of R if whenever  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  with  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ , then  $r_g \in I$ . In short, we call it a gr-n-ideal.

- Example 1 (i) Suppose that (R, M) is a graded local ring with unique graded prime ideal. Then every graded ideal is a gr-n-ideal.
- (ii) In any graded integral domain D, the graded zero ideal is a gr-n-ideal.
- (iii) Any graded ring R need not have a gr-n-ideal. For instance, let  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $R = \mathbb{Z}_6$  be a G-graded ring with  $R_0 = \mathbb{Z}_6$  and  $R_1 = \{0\}$ . Then R has not any gr-n-ideal.

**Lemma 1** Let R be a G-graded ring and I be a graded ideal of R. If I is a gr-n-ideal of R, then  $I \subseteq Gr(0)$ .

**Proof.** Assume that I is a gr-n-ideal and  $I \nsubseteq Gr(0)$ . Then there exists  $r_g \in h(R) \cap I$  such that  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Since  $r_g 1 = r_g \in I$  and I is a gr-n-ideal, we get  $1 \in I$ , so I = R, a contradiction. Hence  $I \subseteq Gr(0)$ .

**Theorem 1** Let R be a G-graded ring and I be a gr-prime ideal of R. Then I is a gr-n-ideal of R if and only if I = Gr(0).

**Proof.** Assume that I is a gr-prime ideal of R. It is easy to see  $Gr(0) \subseteq Gr(I) = I$ . If I is a gr-n-ideal of R, by Lemma 1, we have  $I \subseteq Gr(0)$  and so I = Gr(0). For the converse, assume that I = Gr(0). Let  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  such that  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Since I is a gr-prime ideal and  $r_g \notin Gr(0) = I$ , we get  $s_h \in I$ .

**Corollary 1** Let R be a G-graded ring. Then Gr(0) is a gr-n-ideal of R if and only if it is a gr-prime ideal of R.

**Proof.** Assume that Gr(0) is a gr-n-ideal of R. Let  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  such that  $r_g s_h \in Gr(0)$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Then  $s_h \in Gr(0)$  as Gr(0) is a gr-n-ideal of R. Hence Gr(0) is a gr-prime ideal of R. Conversely, Assume that Gr(0) is a gr-prime ideal of R. Gr(0) is a gr-n-ideal of R.  $\Box$ 

The following theorem give us a characterization of gr-n-ideal of a graded rings.

**Theorem 2** Let R be a graded ring and I be a proper graded ideal of R. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) I is a gr-n-ideal of R.
- (ii)  $I = (I :_{R} r_{q})$  for every  $r_{q} \in h(R) Gr(0)$ .
- (iii) For every graded ideals J and K of R such that  $JK \subseteq I$  and  $J \cap (h(R) Gr(0)) \neq \emptyset$  implies  $K \subseteq I$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Assume that I is a gr-n-ideal of R. Let  $r_g \in h(R) - Gr(0)$ . Clearly,  $I \subseteq (I :_R r_g)$ . Now, Let  $s = \sum_{h \in G} s_h \in (I :_R r_g)$ . This yields that  $r_g s_h \in I$  for each  $h \in G$ . Since I is a gr-n-ideal of R and  $r_g \in h(R) - Gr(0)$ , we have  $s_h \in I$  for each  $h \in G$  and so  $s \in I$ . This implies that  $(I :_R r_g) \subseteq I$ . Therefore,  $I = (I :_R r_g)$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) Assume that  $JK \subseteq I$  with  $J \cap (h(R) - Gr(0)) \neq \emptyset$  for graded ideals J and K of R. Then there exists  $r_g \in J \cap h(R)$  such that  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Hence  $r_gK \subseteq I$ , it follows that  $K \subseteq (I :_R r_g)$ . By our assumption, we obtain  $K \subseteq (I :_R r_g) = I$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Let  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  such that  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Let  $J = r_g R$  and  $K = s_h R$  be two graded ideals of R generated by  $r_g$  and  $s_h$ , respectively. Then  $JK \subseteq I$ . By our assumption, we obtain,  $K \subseteq I$  and so  $s_h \in I$ . Thus I is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Theorem 3** Let R be a G-graded ring and  $\{I_{\alpha}\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  be a non empty set of gr-n-ideals of R. Then  $\cap_{i \in \Delta} I_i$  is gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** Clearly,  $\cap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I_{\alpha}$  is a graded ideal of R. Let  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  such that  $r_g s_h \in \cap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I_{\alpha}$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Then  $r_g s_h \in I_{\alpha}$  for every  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Since  $I_{\alpha}$  is a gr-n-ideal of R, we have  $s_h \in I_{\alpha}$  for every  $\alpha \in \Lambda$  thus  $s_h \in \cap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I_{\alpha}$ .

**Theorem 4** Let R be a G-graded ring and I be a graded ideal of R. If I is a gr-n-ideal of R, then I is a gr-r-ideal of R.

**Proof.** Assume that I is a gr-n-ideal of R. Let  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  such that  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $ann(r_g) = 0$ . Since  $ann(r_g) = 0$ ,  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Then  $s_h \in I$  as I is a gr-n-ideal. Thus I is a gr-r-ideal of R.

**Remark 1** It is easy to see that every graded nilpotent element is also a graded zero divisor. So graded zero divisors and graded nilpotent elements are equal in case < 0 > is a graded primary ideal of R. Thus the gr-n-ideals and gr-r-ideals are equivalent in any graded commutative ring whose graded zero ideal is graded primary.

Recall that a G-graded ring R is called a G-graded reduced ring if  $r^2 = 0$  implies r = 0 for any  $r \in h(R)$ ; i.e. Gr(0) = 0.

**Theorem 5** Let R be a G-graded ring. Then the following hold:

- (i) Any G-graded reduced ring R, which is not graded integral domain, has no gr-n-ideal.
- (ii) If R is a G-graded reduced ring, then R is a graded integral domain if and only if O is a gr-n-ideal.

**Proof.** (i) Let R be a G-graded reduced ring such that R is not graded integral domain. Assume that there exists a gr-n-ideal I of R. Since R is a G-graded reduced ring, Gr(0) = 0. By Lemma 1, we get,  $I \subseteq Gr(0) = 0$  and so Gr(0) = 0 = I. Since Gr(0) = 0 is not gr-prime ideal of R, by Corollary 1, we get I = Gr(0) is not a gr-n-ideal, a contradiction.

(ii) Assume that R is a G-graded reduced ring. If R is a graded integral domain, then Gr(0) = 0 is a gr-prime ideal, and hence by Corollary 1, 0 = Gr(0) is a gr-n-ideal of R. For the converse if 0 is a gr-n-ideal of R, then by part (i) R is a graded integral domain.

**Theorem 6** Let R be a G-graded ring, I be a gr-n-ideal of R and  $t_g \in h(R)-I$ . Then  $(I:_R t_g)$  is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** By [9, Proposition 1.13], (I :<sub>R</sub> t<sub>g</sub>) is a graded ideal. Since t<sub>g</sub>  $\notin$  I, (I :<sub>R</sub> t<sub>g</sub>)  $\neq$  R. Now, let  $r_h, s_\lambda \in h(R)$  such that  $r_h s_\lambda \in (I :_R t_g)$  and  $r_h \notin$  $Gr((I :_R t_g))$ . Then  $r_h s_\lambda t_g \in I$ . Since I is a gr-n-ideal of R and  $r_h \notin Gr(0)$ , we get  $s_\lambda t_g \in I$ . This yields that  $s_\lambda \in (I :_R t_g)$ . Therefore,  $(I :_R t_g)$  is a gr-n-ideal of R. **Theorem 7** Let R be G-graded ring and I be a graded ideal of R. If I is a maximal gr-n-ideal of R, then I = Gr(0).

**Proof.** Assume that I is a maximal gr-n-ideal of R. Let  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  such that  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $r_g \notin I$ . Since I is a gr-n-ideal and  $r_g \notin I$ , by Theorem 6, we have  $(I :_R r_g)$  is a gr-n-ideal. Thus  $s_h \in (I :_R r_g) = I$  by maximality of I. This yields that I is a gr-prime ideal of R. By Theorem 1, we get I = Gr(0).  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 2** Let R be a G-graded ring and  $\{I_i : i \in \Lambda\}$  be a directed collection of gr-n-ideals of R. Then  $I = \bigcup_{i \in \Lambda} I_i$  is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$  for some  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$ . Hence  $r_g s_h \in I_k$  for some  $k \in \Lambda$ . Since  $I_k$  is a gr-n-ideal of R, we conclude that  $s_h \in I_k \subseteq \bigcup_{i \in \Lambda} I_i = I$ . Thus I is a gr-n-ideal.

**Theorem 8** Let R be a G-graded ring. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) Gr(0) is a gr-prime ideal of R.
- (ii) There exists a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) It is clear by Corollary 1.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) First we show that R has a maximal gr-n-ideal. Let D be the set of all gr-n-ideals of R. Then by our assumption,  $D \neq \emptyset$ . Since D is a poset by the set inclusion, take a chain  $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq \cdots$  in D. We conclude that the upper bound of this chain is  $I = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} I_i$  by Lemma 2. Then D has a maximal element which is a maximal gr-n-ideal. Thus that ideal is Gr(0) by Corollary 1 and Theorem 7.

In view of Lemma 1 and Theorem 8, we have the following result.

**Theorem 9** Let R be a G-graded ring and I a graded ideal of R such that  $I \subseteq Gr(0)$ .

- (i) I is a gr-n-ideal if and only if I is a gr-primary ideal.
- (ii) If I is a gr-n-ideal, then I is a graded weakly primary (so graded weakly 2-absorbing primary) and graded 2-absorbing primary ideal.
- (iii) If Gr(0) is gr-prime, then I is a graded weakly 2-absorbing primary ideal if and only if I is a graded 2-absorbing primary ideal of R.

(iv) If R has at least one gr-n-ideal, then I is a graded weakly 2-absorbing primary ideal if and only if I is a graded 2-absorbing primary ideal of R.

**Proof.** Straightforward.

**Theorem 10** Let R be a G-graded ring. Then R is a graded integral domain if and only if 0 is the only gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** Let R be a graded integral domain. Assume that I is a nonzero gr-nideal of R. Then we have  $I \subseteq Gr(0) = 0$  by Lemma 1, a contradiction. Hence 0 is a gr-n-ideal by Example 1 (ii). Conversely, if 0 is the only gr-n-ideal, we get Gr(0) is a gr-prime ideal and also a gr-n-ideal by Corollary 1 and Theorem 8. Hence Gr(0) = 0 is a gr-prime ideal. Thus R is a graded integral domain.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 11** Let R be a G-graded ring and J be a graded ideal of R with  $J \cap (h(R) - Gr(0)) \neq \emptyset$ . Then the following statements hold:

(i) If  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are gr-n-ideals of R such that  $I_1J = I_2J$ , then  $I_1 = I_2$ .

(ii) If IJ is a gr-n-ideal of R, then IJ = I.

#### Proof.

(i) Suppose that  $I_1J = I_2J$ . Since  $I_2J \subseteq I_1$ ,  $J \cap (h(R) - Gr(0)) \neq \emptyset$ , and  $I_1$  is a gr-n-ideal, by Theorem 2, we conclude that  $I_2 \subseteq I_1$ . Similarly, since  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal, we have the inverse inclusion.

(ii) It is clear from (i).

For G-graded rings R and R', a G-graded ring homomorphism  $f : R \to R'$  is a ring homomorphism such that  $f(R_g) \subseteq R'_q$  for every  $g \in G$ .

The following result studies the behavior of gr-n-ideals under graded homomorphism.

**Theorem 12** Let  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  be two G-graded rings and  $f: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$  a graded ring homomorphism. Then the following statements hold:

- (i) If f is a graded epimorphism and I<sub>1</sub> is a gr-n-ideal of R<sub>1</sub> containing kerf, then f(I<sub>1</sub>) is a gr-n-ideal of R<sub>2</sub>.
- (ii) If f is a graded monomorphism and  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R_2$ , then  $f^{-1}(I_2)$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R_1$ .

**Proof.** (i) Suppose that  $r_g s_h \in f(I_1)$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0_{R_2})$  for some  $r_g, s_h \in h(R_2)$ . Since f is onto,  $f(x_g) = r_g$ ,  $f(y_h) = s_h$  for some  $x_g, y_h \in h(R_1)$ . Hence  $f(x_g y_h) \in f(I_1)$  implies that  $x_g y_h \in I_1$  as Kerf  $\subseteq I_1$ . It is clear that  $x_g \notin Gr(0_{R_1})$ . Since  $I_1$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R_1$ , we conclude that  $y_h \in I_1$ ; and so  $s_h = f(y_h) \in f(I_1)$ . Thus  $f(I_1)$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R_2$ .

(ii) Suppose that  $r_g s_h \in f^{-1}(I_2)$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0_{R_1})$  for some  $r_g, s_h \in h(R_1)$ . Since kerf = {0}, we have  $f(r_g) \notin Gr(0_{R_2})$ . Since  $f(r_g s_h) = f(r_g)f(s_h) \in I_2$  and  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R_2$ , we conclude that  $f(s_h) \in I_2$ . It means  $s_h \in f^{-1}(I_2)$ , we are done.

**Corollary 2** Let  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  be two graded ideals of a G-graded ring R with  $I_1 \subseteq I_2$ . Then the following statements hold:

- (i) If  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal of R, then  $I_2/I_1$  is a gr-n-ideal of R/I<sub>1</sub>.
- (ii) If  $I_2/I_1$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R/I_1$  and  $I_1 \subseteq Gr(0)$ , then  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal of R.
- (iii) If  $I_2/I_1$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $R/I_1$  and  $I_1$  is a gr-n-ideal of R, then  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** (i) Considering the natural graded epimorphism  $\Pi : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}/I_1$ , the result is clear by Theorem 12.

(ii) Suppose that  $r_g s_h \in I_2$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$  for some  $r_g, s_h \in h(\mathbb{R})$ . Hence  $(r_g + I_1)(s_h + I_1) = r_g s_h + I_1 \in I_2/I_1$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{R}/I_1})$ . It implies that  $s_h + I_2 \in I_1/I_2$ . Thus  $s_h \in I_1$ , we are done.

(iii) Let  $I_2/I_1$  be a gr-n-ideal of  $R/I_1$  and  $I_1$  a gr-n-ideal of R. Assume that  $I_2$  is not gr-n-ideal. Then  $I_1 \not\subseteq Gr(0)$  by (ii). From Lemma 1, we conclude that  $I_1$  is not a gr-n-ideal, a contradiction. Thus  $I_2$  is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Corollary 3** Let R be a G-graded ring, I be a gr-n-ideal of R and S a subring of R with  $S \nsubseteq I$ . Then  $I \cap S$  is a gr-n-ideal of S.

**Proof.** Consider the injection  $i: S \to R$ . Then i is a graded homomorphism. Since I is a gr-n-ideal of R,  $i^{-1}(I) = I \cap S$  is a gr-n-ideal of S by Theorem 12 (ii).

Let R be a G-graded ring and  $S \subseteq h(R)$  a multiplicatively closed subset of R. Then graded ring of fractions is denoted by  $S^{-1}R$  which defined by  $S^{-1}R = \bigoplus_{g \in G} (S^{-1}R)_g$  where  $(S^{-1}R)_g = \{\frac{a}{s} : a \in R, s \in S, g = (\deg s)^{-1}(\deg a)\}$ . A homogeneous element  $r_q \in h(R)$  is said to be gr-regular if  $ann(r_q) = 0$ . Observe that the set of all gr-regular elements of R is a multiplicatively closed subset of R.

The following result studies the behaviour of gr-n-ideal under localization.

**Theorem 13** Let R be a G-graded ring,  $S \subseteq h(R)$  a multiplicatively closed subset of R. Then the following statements hold:

- (i) If I is a gr-n-ideal of R, then  $S^{-1}I$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $S^{-1}R$ .
- (ii) Let S be the set of all gr-regular elements of R. If J is a gr-n-ideal of S<sup>-1</sup>R, then J<sup>c</sup> is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Proof.** (i) Suppose that  $\frac{a}{s}\frac{b}{t} \in S^{-1}I$  with  $\frac{a}{s} \notin Gr(0_{S^{-1}R})$  for some  $\frac{a}{s}, \frac{b}{t} \in h(S^{-1}R)$ . Hence there exists  $u \in h(S)$  such that  $uab \in I$ . Clearly, we have  $a \notin Gr(0)$ . It implies that  $ub \in I$ ; so  $\frac{b}{t} = \frac{ub}{ut} \in S^{-1}I$ . Thus  $S^{-1}I$  is a gr-n-ideal of  $S^{-1}R$ .

(ii) Suppose that  $a, b \in h(R)$  with  $ab \in J^c$  and  $b \notin J^c$ . Then  $\frac{b}{1} \notin J$ . Since J is a gr-n-ideal, we have  $\frac{a}{1} \in Gr(0_{S^{-1}R})$ . Hence  $ua^k = 0$  for some  $u \in S$  and  $k \ge 1$ . Since u is gr-regular,  $a^k = 0$ ; i.e.  $a \in Gr(0)$ . Thus  $J^c$  is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Definition 2** Let S be a nonempty subset of a G-graded ring R with  $h(R) - Gr(0) \subseteq S \subseteq h(R)$ . Then we call S gr-n-multiplicatively closed subset of R if whenever  $r_q \in h(R) - Gr(0)$  and  $s_h \in S$ , then  $r_q s_h \in S$ .

**Theorem 14** Let I be a graded ideal of a G-graded ring R. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) I is a gr-n-ideal of R.
- (ii) h(R) I is a gr-n-multiplicatively closed subset of R.

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Let I be a gr-n-ideal of R. Suppose that  $r_g \in h(R) - Gr(0)$ and  $s_h \in h(R) - I$ . Since  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ ,  $s_h \notin I$ , and I is a gr-n-ideal of R, we conclude that  $r_g s_h \notin I$ . Therefore  $r_g s_h \in h(R) - I$ . Since I is a gr-n-ideal of R, we have  $I \subseteq Gr(0)$  by Lemma 1. Then  $h(R) - Gr(0) \subseteq h(R) - I$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Suppose that  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$  with  $r_g s_h \in I$  and  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . If  $s_h \in h(R) - I$ , then from our assumption (ii), we have  $r_g s_h \in h(R) - I$ , a contradiction. Thus  $s_h \in I$  which means that I is a gr-n-ideal of R.

**Theorem 15** Let I be a graded ideal of a G-graded ring R and S a gr-nmultiplicatively closed subset of R with  $I \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then there exists a gr-n-ideal K of R such that  $I \subseteq K$  and  $K \cap S = \emptyset$ . **Proof.** Let  $D = \{J : J \text{ is a graded ideal of } R \text{ with } I \subseteq J \text{ and } J \cap S = \emptyset\}$ . Observe that  $D \neq \emptyset$  as  $I \in D$ . Suppose  $J_1 \subseteq J_2 \subseteq \cdots$  is a chain in D. Then  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} J_i$  is a grn-ideal of R by Lemma 2. Since  $I \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} J_i$  and  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} J_i) \cap S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (J_i \cap S) = \emptyset$ , we get  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} J_i$  is the upper bound of this chain. From Zorn's Lemma, there is a maximal element K of D. We show that this maximal element K is a grn-ideal of R. Suppose that  $r_g s_h \in K$  and  $s_h \notin K$  for some  $r_g, s_h \in h(R)$ . Then  $K \subsetneq (K :_R r_g)$ . Since K is maximal, it implies that  $(K :_R r_g) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ . Hence there is an element  $t_\lambda \in (K :_R r_g) \cap S$ . Then  $r_g t_\lambda \in K$ . If  $r_g \in Gr(0)$ , then we are done. So assume that  $r_g \notin Gr(0)$ . Since S is gr-n-multiplicatively closed, we conclude that  $r_g t_\lambda \in S$ . Thus  $r_g t_\lambda \in S \cap K$ , a contradiction. Therefore K is a gr-n-ideal of R.

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