

# Smarandache-Zero Divisors in Group Rings

*W.B. Vasantha and Moon K. Chetry*  
*Department of Mathematics*  
*I.I.T Madras, Chennai*

The study of zero-divisors in group rings had become interesting problem since 1940 with the famous zero-divisor conjecture proposed by G.Higman [2]. Since then several researchers [1, 2, 3] have given partial solutions to this conjecture. Till date the problem remains unsolved. Now we introduce the notions of Smarandache zero divisors (S-zero divisors) and Smarandache weak zero divisors (S-weak zero divisors) in group rings and study them. Both S-zero divisors and S-weak zero divisors are zero divisors but all zero divisors are not S-zero divisors or S-weak zero divisors. Even here we can modify the zero divisor conjecture and suggest the S-zero divisor conjecture and S-weak zero divisor conjecture for group rings. Thus the study has its own importance. Unlike in case of group rings of finite groups over field of characteristic zero where one is always gurranteed the zero divisors, we can not establish the same in case of S-zero divisors or S-weak zero divisors.

In this paper we study the conditions on  $Z_n$ , the ring of integer modulo  $n$  to have S-zero divisors and S-weak zero divisors. We have proved if  $n$  is a composite number of the form  $n = p_1 p_2 p_3$  or  $(n = p^\alpha)$  where  $p_1, p_2$  and  $p_3$  are distinct primes or  $(p$  a prime,  $\alpha \geq 3)$ , then  $Z_n$  has S-zero divisors. We further obtain conditions for  $Z_n$  to have S-weak zero divisors. We prove all group rings  $Z_2 G$  where  $G$  a cyclic group of non prime order and  $|G| \geq 6$  have S-zero divisors. The result is extended to any prime  $p$  i.e. we generalize the result for  $Z_p G$  where  $p$  any prime. Conditions for group rings  $ZG$  and  $KG$  ( $Z$  the ring of integer and  $K$  any field of characteristic zero) to have S-zero divisors is derived.

This paper is organized into 5 sections. In section 1, we recall the basic definitions of S-zero divisors and S-weak divisors and some of its properties. In section 2, we find conditions for the finite ring  $Z_n$  to have S-zero divisors and S-weak zero divisors. We give examples to this effect. In section 3, we analyze the group rings  $Z_2 G$  where  $G$  is a finite group of order greater than or equal to 6 and  $G$  a cyclic group of non-prime order. In section 4 we find conditions for  $ZG$  to have S-zero divisors. We prove  $ZS_n$  and  $ZD_{2n}$  have S-zero divisors. Further if  $K$  is a field of characteristic zero then  $KS_n$  and  $KD_{2n}$  have S-zero divisors. When  $G$  is any group of order  $n$  and  $n$  a composite number, then  $ZG$  and  $KG$  have S-zero divisors. In section 5 we give the conclusion based on our study.

## 1. Some Basic Definitions:

Here we just recall some basic results about S-zero divisors and S-weak zero divisors.

**Definition 1.1 [5]:** Let  $R$  be a ring. An element  $a \in R \setminus \{0\}$  is said to be a S-zero divisor if  $a.b = 0$  for some  $b \neq 0$  in  $R$  and there exists  $x, y \in R \setminus \{0, a, b\}$  such that

- i.  $a.x = 0$                                       or       $x.a = 0$
- ii.  $b.y = 0$                                       or       $y.b = 0$
- iii.  $x.y \neq 0$                                     or       $y.x \neq 0$

Note that in case of commutative rings we just need

- i.  $a.x = 0$ ,      ii.  $b.y = 0$  and      iii.  $x.y \neq 0$

**Theorem 1.1 [5]:** Let  $R$  be a ring. Every S-zero divisor is a zero divisor but a zero divisor in general is not a S-zero divisor.

**Example 1.1:** In  $Z_4 = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  the ring of integers modulo 4, 2 is a zero divisor but it is not a S-zero divisor.

**Definition 1.2 [5]:** Let  $R$  be a ring. An element  $a \in R \setminus \{0\}$  is a S-weak zero divisor if there exists  $b \in R \setminus \{0, a\}$  such that  $a.b = 0$  satisfying the following conditions:

There exists  $x, y \in R \setminus \{0, a, b\}$  such that

- i.  $a.x = 0$                                       or       $x.a = 0$
- ii.  $b.y = 0$                                       or       $y.b = 0$
- iii.  $x.y = 0$                                     or       $y.x = 0$

**Example 1.2:** Let  $Z_{12} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 11\}$  be the ring of integer modulo 12.

$3.4 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  $4.9 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ ,  
and  $3.8 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$  also  $8.9 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$

So 3 and 4 are S-weak zero divisors in  $Z_{12}$ . We can check that  $Z_{12}$  contains S-zero divisor also. For

- $6.8 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$  and  $3.8 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$
- $6.2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{12}$  but  $3.2 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$

Thus  $Z_{12}$  has both S-zero divisor and S-weak zero divisors.

## 2. S-zero divisors and S-weak zero divisors in $Z_n$

In this section we find conditions for  $Z_n$  to have S-zero divisors and S-weak zero divisors and prove when  $n$  is of the form  $n = p^\alpha$  ( $\alpha \geq 3$ ) or  $n = p_1 p_2 p_3$  where  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  are distinct primes, then  $Z_n$  has S-zero divisor.

**Proposition 2.1:**  $Z_p = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ , the prime field of characteristic  $p$  where  $p$  is a prime has no S-zero divisors or S-weak zero divisors.

*Proof:* Let  $Z_p = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ , where  $p$  is a prime.  $Z_p$  has no zero divisors. Hence  $Z_p$  can not have S-zero divisor as every S-zero divisor is a zero divisor.

Further  $Z_p$  cannot have S-weak zero divisor as every S-weak zero divisor is also a zero divisor.

Hence the claim

**Example 2.1:** Let  $Z_6 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  be the ring of integers modulo 6. Here

$$2 \equiv 0 \pmod{6}, 3 \cdot 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$$

are the only zero divisors of  $Z_6$ . So  $Z_6$  has no S-zero divisor and S-weak zero divisors.

**Example 2.2:**  $Z_8 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ , the ring of integers modulo 8. Here

$$4 \cdot 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{8} \text{ and } 2 \cdot 4 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}, 4 \cdot 6 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$$

but  $2 \cdot 6 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ .

So  $Z$  has 4 as S-zero divisor, but has no S-weak zero divisors.

**Theorem 2.1:**  $Z_n$  has no S-weak zero divisors when  $n = 2p$ ,  $p$  a prime.

*Proof:* To get any zero divisors  $a, b \in Z_n \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $a \cdot b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$  one of  $a$  or  $b$  must be  $p$  and the other an even number. So we cannot get  $x, y \in Z_n \setminus \{p\}$  such that

$$a \cdot x \equiv 0 \pmod{n}, b \cdot y \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

and

$$x \cdot y \equiv 0 \pmod{n}.$$

Hence the claim.

**Theorem 2.2:**  $Z_n$  has S-weak zero divisors when  $n = p_1 p_2$  (or  $p^2$ ) where  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are distinct odd primes with both of them greater than 3 (or  $p$  an odd prime greater than 3).

*Proof:* Take  $a = p_1, b = p_2$ , then  $a \cdot b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ .

Again take  $x = 3p_2$  and  $y = 2p_1$  then  $a \cdot x \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$  and  $b \cdot y \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ , also  $x \cdot y \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ .

In case of  $n = p^2$  a similar proof holds good.  
Hence the claim.

**Theorem 2.3:**  $Z_n$  has no S-zero divisors if  $n = p_1 p_2$  where  $p_1, p_2$  are primes.

*Proof:* Let  $n = p_1 p_2$ . Suppose  $a.b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ ,  $a, b \in Z_n \setminus \{0\}$  then  $p_1$  is factor of  $a$  and  $p_2$  is a factor of  $b$  or vice-versa.

Suppose  $p_1$  is a factor of  $a$  and  $p_2$  is a factor of  $b$ . Now to find  $x, y \in Z_n \setminus \{0, a, b\}$  such that  $a.x \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow p_2$  is a factor of  $x$ , and  $b.y \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow p_1$  is a factor of  $y$ .

This forcing  $x.y \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ .

Thus if  $n = p_1 p_2$ ,  $Z_n$  has no S-zero divisors.

**Corollary 2.1:**  $Z_n$  has no S-zero divisors when  $n = p^2$ .

**Theorem 2.4:**  $Z_n$  has S-zero divisors if  $n = p_1^\alpha$  where  $p_1$  is a prime and  $\alpha \geq 3$ .

*Proof:* Take

$$a = p_1^{\alpha-1}, b = p_1^{\alpha-1} \text{ then } a.b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}.$$

Again take  $x = p_1$  and  $y = p_1 p_2$  where  $p_2$  is the prime next to  $p_1$ .

Then clearly

$$a.x \equiv 0 \pmod{n}, b.y \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \text{ but } x.y \not\equiv 0 \pmod{n}.$$

Hence the claim.

**Example 2.3:** In  $Z_{27} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 26\}$ ; ring of integers modulo 27, we have

$$9.9 \equiv 0 \pmod{27}, \quad 9.3 \equiv 0 \pmod{27} \text{ also } 9.15 \equiv 0 \pmod{27}$$

but  $3.15 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{27}$ . So  $3^2 = 9$  is a S-zero divisor in  $Z_{27}$ .

**Theorem 2.5:**  $Z_n$  has S-zero divisor when  $n$  is of the form  $n = p_1 p_2 p_3$ , where  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  are primes.

*Proof:* Take  $a = p_1 p_2$ ,  $b = p_2 p_3$  then  $a.b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . again take  $x = p_1 p_3$  and  $y = p_1 p_4$  where  $p_4$  is the prime next to  $p_3$ . Then  $a.x \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$  and  $b.y \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . But  $x.y \not\equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . /

Hence the claim

**Example 2.4:** Let  $Z_{30} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 29\}$  be the ring of integers modulo 30.

Here

$$6.15 \equiv 0 \pmod{30}, \quad 6.10 \equiv 0 \pmod{30}, \quad 15.14 \equiv 0 \pmod{30}$$

But  $14.10 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{30}$ , so 6 and 15 are S-zero divisor in  $Z_{30}$ .

We can generalize the Theorem 2.5 as follows:

**Theorem 2.6:** If  $n = p_1 p_2 p_3 \dots p_n$  then  $Z_n$  has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* Take  $a = p_1 p_2 \dots p_{n-1}$ ,  $b = p_2 p_3 \dots p_{n-1}$ . and  $x = p_1 p_3 \dots p_n$   $y = p_1 p_{n+1}$  whre  $p_{n+1}$  is the prime next to  $p_n$ .

Then it is easy to see that

$$a.b \equiv 0 \pmod{n}, \quad a.x \equiv 0 \pmod{n}, \quad b.y \equiv 0 \pmod{n},$$

$$\text{But } x.y \not\equiv 0 \pmod{n}.$$

So  $a$  and  $b$  are  $S$ -zero divisors in  $Z_n$ .

Finally we can characterize  $Z_n$  for having  $S$ -zero divisors as follows.

**Theorem 2.7:**  $Z_n$  has  $S$ -zero divisors if and only if  $n$  is the product of atleast three primes.

### 3. $S$ -zero divisors in the group ring $Z_2G$

Here we prove that the group ring  $Z_2G$ , where  $G$  is a finite cyclic group of non prime order and  $|G| \geq 6$  has  $S$ -zero divisors. We illustrate by certain examples the non-existence of  $S$ -zero divisors before we prove our claim.

**Example 3.1:** Consider the group ring  $Z_2G$  of the group  $G = \{g/g^2 = 1\}$  over  $Z_2$ . Clearly  $(1 + g)^2 = 0$  is the only zero divisor, so it can not have  $S$ -zero divisors or  $S$ -weak zero divisors.

**Example 3.2:** Let  $G = \{g/g^3 = 1\}$  be the cyclic group of order 3. Consider the group ring  $Z_2G$  of the group  $G$  over  $Z_2$ .

Clearly

$$(1 + g + g^2)(g + g^2) = 0$$

$$(1 + g + g^2)(1 + g) = 0$$

$$(1 + g + g^2)(1 + g^2) = 0$$

are the only zero divisors in  $Z_2G$ . We see none of these are  $S$ -zero divisors or  $S$ -weak zero divisors.

**Example 3.3:** Consider the group ring  $Z_2G$ . where  $G = \{g/g^4 = 1\}$  is the cyclic group of order 4. Then

$$(1 + g)(1 + g + g^2 + g^3) = 0$$

$$(1 + g^2)(1 + g + g^2 + g^3) = 0$$

$$(1 + g^3)(1 + g + g^2 + g^3) = 0$$

$$(g + g^2)(1 + g + g^2 + g^3) = 0$$

$$(g + g^3)(1 + g + g^2 + g^3) = 0$$

$$(g^2 + g^3)(1 + g + g^2 + g^3) = 0$$

are some of the zero divisors in  $Z_2G$ . So it has  $S$ -zero divisors and no  $S$ -weak zero divisors.

**Theorem 3.1:** Let  $Z_2G$  be the group ring where  $G$  is a cyclic group of prime order  $p$ . Then the group ring  $Z_2G$  has no  $S$ -zero divisors or  $S$ -weak zero divisors.

*Proof:* The only possible zero divisors in  $Z_2G$  are

$$(1 + g + \dots + g^{p-1}) Y = 0$$

where  $Y \in Z_2G$  and support of  $T$  is even

But we can not find  $A \in Z_2G \setminus (1 + g + \dots + g^{p-1})$

Such that  $AY = 0$ ,  $|\text{supp } A| < p$ .

Hence  $Z_2G$  can not have  $S$ -zero divisors or  $S$ -weak zero divisors.

**Theorem 3.2:** Let  $Z_2G$  be the group ring of a finite cyclic group of composite order  $n \geq 6$  ( $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_1^{\alpha_2}$ ) then  $Z_2G$  has  $S$ -zero divisors.

*Proof:* Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $n$  where  $G$  has atleast one subgroup  $H$ . Let  $H$  be generated by  $g^t$ ,  $t > 1$ . Now

$$(1 + (g^t)^r) (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{n-1}) = 0; (g^t)^r \neq 1$$

again

$$(1 + g) (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{n-1}) = 0$$

also

$$(1 + (g^t)^r) (1 + g^t + (g^t)^2 + \dots + (g^t)^{s+1}) = 0, (\because (g^t)^{s+1} = 1)$$

clearly

$$(1 + g) (1 + g^t + (g^t)^2 + \dots + (g^t)^{s+1}) \neq 0.$$

Thus  $Z_2G$  has  $S$ -zero divisors.

**Theorem 3.3:** Let  $Z_2S_n$  be the group ring of the symmetric group  $S_n$  over  $Z_2$ . then  $Z_2S_n$  has  $S$ -zero divisors.

*Proof:* Let  $A = 1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5$  and  $B = p_4 + p_5$

$$p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \end{pmatrix}, \quad p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \end{pmatrix}, \quad p_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & \dots & n \end{pmatrix}$$

And 1 is the identity permutation.

Clearly

$$AB = 0$$

Take

$$X = 1 + p_1, \quad \text{and} \quad Y = 1 + p_4 + p_5$$

Then

$$AX = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad BY = 0$$

But

$$XY \neq 0.$$

Hence  $Z_2S_n$  has S-zero divisor.

**Example 3.4:** The group ring  $Z_2S_4$  where  $S_4$  is the symmetric group of order 4 has s-zero divisors.

$$\text{Let } a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in S_4.$$

Put

$$A = (1 + a + b + c)$$

$$\text{Let } g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ then } g^4 = 1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}:$$

$$\text{Now. Let } B = 1 + g + g^2 + g^3,$$

Clearly

$$(1 + g) \sum_{s_i \in S_4} s_i = 0, \quad (1 + g). B = 0$$

also

$$A \sum_{s_i \in S_4} s_i = 0,$$

$$A.B \neq 0.$$

Hence  $(1 + g)$  and  $\sum_{s_i \in S_4} s_i$  are S-zero divisors in  $Z_2 S_4$ .

**Theorem 3.4:** Let  $Z_2 D_{2n}$  be the group ring of the Dihedral group  $D_{2n}$ , over  $Z_2$  where  $n$  is a composite number, then  $Z_2 D_{2n}$  has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* Since  $n$  is a composite number, by the theorem 3.2, we see  $Z_2 D_{2n}$  has S-zero divisors.

**Example 3.5:** Let  $Z_2 D_8$  be the group ring, where  $D_8$  is the Dihedral group of order 8. then  $Z_2 D_8$  has s-zero divisors.

Here

$$D_8 = \{a, b / a^2 = b^4 = 1, bab = a\}.$$

Let

$$x = 1 + b + b^2 + b^3, \quad y = \sum_{g_i \in D_8} g_i = (1 + a + ab + ab^2 + ab^3 + b + b^2 + b^3)$$

then

$$x.y = 0$$

Suppose  $A = (1 + b^2)$  and  $B = (1 + ab)$ .

Then clearly

$$A.x = 0 \text{ also } B.y = 0$$

But

$$A.B \neq 0.$$

Hence x and y are S-zero divisors in  $Z_2 D$ .

**Example 3.6:**  $Z_2G$  where  $G = \{g / g^6 = 1\}$  be the group ring.  $Z_2G$  has S-zero divisors.

Let

$$X = (1 + g + g^2 + g^3 + g^4 + g^5), \text{ and } y = (1 + g^2 + g^4)$$

Then

$$x.y = 0.$$

Let  $a = 1 + g^3$  and  $b = 1 + g^2$

Clearly

$$a.x = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad b.y = 0 \\ \text{but } a. b \neq 0.$$

Hence  $Z_2 G$  has S-zero divisors.

#### 4. S-zero divisors of group rings over rings of characteristic zero.

In this section we prove  $ZG$ , the group ring of a finite group  $G$  over  $Z$ , the ring of integers, has non-trivial S-zero divisors. Further we prove  $ZS_n$  and  $ZD_{2n}$  has non-trivial S-zero divisors. Since  $Z \subset K$  for any field  $K$  of characteristic zero, we can say  $KG$  has non-trivial S-zero divisors.

**Example 4.1:**  $ZG$  the group ring of the group  $G$  over  $Z$ ; where  $G = \{g / g^8 = 1\}$ , we have for  $(1-g^4), (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^7) \in ZG$

$$(1-g^4). (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^7) = 0$$

$$\text{also } (1-g). (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^7) = 0$$

$$(1-g^4). (1 + g^2 + g^4 + g^6) = 0$$

$$\text{but } (1-g). (1 + g^2 + g^4 + g^6) \neq 0.$$

Hence the claim

**Theorem 4.1:** Let  $G$  be a finite group where  $|G| = n$ ,  $n$  is a composite number ; then the group ring  $ZG$  has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* Let  $a \in G$  such that  $a^m = 1$ ,  $m < n$ . Now for  $(1-a), (1 + g_1 + \dots + g_{n-1}) \in ZG$   
We have

$$(1-a) (1 + g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_{n-1}) = 0, \quad g_i \in G$$

$$(1 - a) (1 + a + a^2 + \dots + a^{m-1}) = 0, \quad a \in G \text{ and } a^m = 1$$

$$(1-h) (1 + g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_{n-1}) = 0, \quad h \in G \text{ and } h \neq a^i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

$$\text{but } (1-h) (1 + a + a^2 + \dots + a^{m-1}) \neq 0, \quad m < n.$$

The complete the proof.



**Theorem 4.2:** The group ring  $ZS_n$  has S-zero divisors, where  $S_n$  is the symmetric group of degree n.

*Proof:* For  $(1-p_1), (1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5) \in ZS_n$   
We have

$$(1 - p_1) (1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5) = 0$$

where  $p_i$  are as in theorem 3.3

$$\text{again } (1-p_1) (1 + p_1) = 0$$

$$(1 + p_2) (1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5) = 0$$

$$\text{but } (1+p_1) (1 + p_2) \neq 0.$$

Hence the claim

**Theorem 4.3:** The group ring  $ZD_{2n}$  has S-zero divisors, where  $D_{2n}$  is the Dihedral group of order  $2n$ ,  $n$  is a composite number.

*Proof:* As  $n$  is a composite number, result will follow from the theorem 4.1

**Theorem 4.4:** Let  $KG$  be the group ring of  $G$  over  $K$ , where  $K$  is a field of characteristic zero and  $G$  any group of composite order, then  $KG$  has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* As  $Z \subset K$ , so  $ZG \subset KG$  and as  $ZG$  has S-zero divisors so  $KG$  has non-trivial S-zero divisors.

**Example 4.2:** Let  $Z_3G$  be the group ring of  $G$  over  $Z_3$  where  $G = \{g / g^6 = 1\}$ . For  $(1 + g + g^2 + g^3 + g^4 + g^5), (1 + g + g^4) \in Z_3G$ , we have

$$(1 + g + g^2 + g^3 + g^4 + g^5) (1 + g^2 + g^4) = 0$$

$$(g^2 + 2) (1 + g^2 + g^4) = 0$$

$$\text{also } (1 + g + g^3) (1 + g + g^2 + g^3 + g^4 + g^5) = 0$$

$$\text{but } (g^2 + 2) (1 + g + g^3) \neq 0.$$

Hence  $Z_3 G$  has s-zero divisors.

**Theorem 4.5:** The group ring  $Z_p G$ , where  $G = \{g / g^n = 1\}$  and  $p/n$ , has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* Here

$$(1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{n-1}) (1 + g^p + g^{2p} + \dots + g^{(p-1)p}) = 0 \text{ where } rp = n$$

$$\text{again } (1 + g + g^2 + \dots + g^{n-1}) ((p-1) + g) = 0, \text{ (where } (s, p) = 1)$$

$$((p-1) + g^{tp}) (1 + g^p + g^{2p} + \dots + g^{(p-1)p}) = 0, t < r$$

$$\text{but } ((p-1) + g^8) ((p-1) + g^{tp}) \neq 0.$$

Hence the claim

**Example 4.3:** The group ring  $Z_3S_3$  has S-zero divisors.

Let  $(1 + p_4 + p_5), (1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5) \in Z_3S_3$

Now

$$(1 + p_4 + p_5), (1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5) = 0$$

$$(2 + p_1) (1 + p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 + p_5) = 0$$

also

$$(2 + p_5) (1 + p_4 + p_5) = 0$$

but

$$(2 + p_5) (2 + p_1) \neq 0.$$

**Theorem 4.6:** The group ring  $Z_p S_n$  when  $p \mid n!$  (i.e  $p < n$ ) has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* As  $p \mid n!$   $S_n$  has a cyclic subgroup  $H$  of order  $p$ . We have for  $(1 + h + h^2 + \dots + h^{p-1}), \sum_{s_i \in S_n} s_i \in Z_p S_n$ ,

$$(1 + h + h^2 + \dots + h^{p-1}) \sum_{g_i \in D_8} s_i = 0, \quad h \in H$$

$$\text{and } ((p-1) + s) \sum_{g_i \in D_8} s_i = 0, \quad s \notin H, s \in S_n$$

$$\text{and } ((p-1) + h^r) (1 + h + h^2 + \dots + h^{p-1}) = 0, \quad r < p - 1$$

$$\text{but } ((p-1) + s) ((p-1) + h^r) \neq 0.$$

So  $Z_p S_n$  has S-zero divisors.

**Theorem 4.7:** Let  $Z_p D_{2n}$  be the group ring of the Dihedral group  $D_{2n}$  over  $Z_p$ ,  $p$  a prime such that  $p \nmid n$  then  $Z_p D_{2n}$  has S-zero divisors.

*Proof:* Given  $Z_p D_{2n}$  is the group ring of  $D_{2n}$  over  $Z_p$  such that  $p$  is a prime and  $p \nmid n$ .

Now  $p \nmid n \Rightarrow D_{2n}$  has a cyclic subgroup of order  $p$ , say  $H = \langle t \rangle$ .

For  $(1 + t + t^2 + \dots + t^{p-1}), \sum_{g_i \in D_{2n}} g_i \in Z_p D_{2n}$

We have

$$t^p = 1, t \in D_{2n}$$

$$(1 + t + t^2 + \dots + t^{p-1}) \sum_{g_i \in D_{2n}} g_i = 0$$

$$((p-1) - t^r) (1 + t + t^2 + \dots + t^{p-1}) = 0 \quad r < p - 1$$

$$((p-1) - g_r) \sum_{g_i \in D_{2n}} g_i = 0 \quad g_r \neq t^r \text{ for } r = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p - 1.$$

$$\text{But } ((p-1) - t^r) ((p-1) - g^r) \neq 0.$$

Hence the claim.

## Conclusion

In the first place we proved that  $Z_p S_n$  has S-zero divisors provided  $p \mid n!$ ,  $p$  is a prime such that  $p < n$ . Further we proved  $ZS_n$  and  $ZD_{2n}$  has S-zero divisors only when  $n$  is a composite number.

$Z_p D_{2n}$  has  $S$ -zero divisors for  $p|n$ . We are not in a position to obtain any nice algebraic structure for the collection of  $S$ -zero divisors or  $S$ -weak zero divisors in group rings. Also another interesting problem would be to find the number of  $S$ -zero divisors and  $s$ -weak zero divisors in case of  $Z_p S_n$  ( $p|n!$ ,  $p < n$ ) and  $Z_p D_{2n}$  ( $p|n$ ). The solution even in case of  $Z_p G$  where  $G$  is a cyclic group of order  $n$  such that  $p|n$ ,  $p$  a prime is not complete.

### References

- [1]. CONNELL I.G., On the group ring, Can.J. Math 15 (1963), 650-685.
- [2]. HIGMAN G., The units of group rings, Proc., London math. Soc. 2, 46 (1940) 231-248.
- [3] PASSMAN D.S., The algebraic structure of group rings, Wiley interscience (1977).
- [4] PASSMAN D.S. What is a group ring? Amer. Math Monthly 83 (1976), 173-185.
- [5] VASANTHA KANDASAMY, W.B. Smarandache Zero divisors, (2001) <http://www.gallup.unm.edu/~smarandache/ZeroDivisor.pdf>