

## LCM-stableness in ring extensions

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### Introduction

In his paper [4], R. Gilmer introduced the concept of LCM-stableness, relating to GCD-properties of a commutative group ring. The main purpose of this paper is to point out that, in some cases, the necessary and sufficient conditions for a ring extension to be LCM-stable can be given in terms of polynomial grade, originally due to M. Hochster and developed by D. G. Northcott. For this purpose, we shall introduce two further notions,  $R_2$ -stableness and  $G_2$ -stableness, and investigate the relationship between LCM-stableness and them. In these discussions it is important to know when ' $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ ' implies ' $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ '. We shall give in the last section an example of a finitely generated ideal  $I$  in an integral domain, with  $\text{gr}(I) = 1$  and  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ .

In §2, we shall show that flatness, INC and LCM-stableness are all equivalent notions for a simple extension which satisfies some conditions (cf. Th. 2.7). In §3, we shall examine a relation between  $R_2$ -stableness and  $G_2$ -stableness, and study universality of LCM-stableness; namely, in Th. 3.5 we shall prove that  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable if and only if  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $G_2$ -stable, and also if and only if  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable. As a corollary to this theorem, we can see that, in case  $A$  is locally a GCD-domain,  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable if and only if so is  $A[X] \subset B[X]$ .

In §4, we shall examine LCM-stableness of a simple extension  $A \subset A[\alpha]$ . Let  $I$  be the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X]$  onto  $A[\alpha]$ . We shall first show in Th. 4.3 that if  $I = (f(X))$  ( $f(X) \in A[X]$ ), then  $A[Y] \subset A[\alpha][Y]$  is  $R_2$ -stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ . Moreover, we shall show in Th. 4.5 that, under some conditions,  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is  $R_2$ -stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ . In particular, we can show that if  $A$  is locally a GCD-domain, then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(I)) \geq 3$  (cf. Cor. 4.6).

In §5 and §6, we shall deal with the case of doubly generated extension  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$ . In §5, we shall study a special case (cf. Th. 5.5). In §6, we shall consider the case where  $K(\alpha), K(\beta)$  are linearly disjoint over the quotient field  $K$  of  $A$ . Firstly we shall treat the case when  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is (faithfully) flat (cf. Prop. 6.1, Th. 6.4), and secondly we shall examine the kernel  $K_{\alpha, \beta}$  of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X, Y]$  onto  $A[\alpha, \beta]$  by means of polynomial grade (cf. Prop. 6.6, Cor. 6.7, Prop. 6.8). Moreover, in case  $A$  is locally a GCD-domain, we shall give a characterization of LCM-stableness of  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  (cf. Th. 6.10).

Finally, in §7, we shall give an example such that  $R_2$ -stablens does not necessarily imply  $G_2$ -stablens.

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### Notation and terminology

Throughout this paper, rings will be all integral domains unless otherwise specified and  $X$  will be an indeterminate. Moreover,  $A$  will be an integral domain with the quotient field  $K$  and  $\Omega$  will be the algebraic closure of  $K$ . We let  $\text{Spec}(A)$  and  $\text{Max}(A)$  stand for the set of all prime ideals of  $A$  and that of all maximal ideals of  $A$  respectively. An *overring* of  $A$  is a subring of  $K$  containing  $A$ . Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $A$ . We denote by  $\text{Gr}(I)$  and  $\text{gr}(I)$  the polynomial grade of  $I$  and the classical grade of  $I$  respectively. Let  $J$  be an ideal of  $A[X]$ . We denote by  $c(J)$  the ideal of  $A$  generated by all coefficients of all polynomials in  $J$  and we call it the *content* of  $J$ .

#### §1. Basic properties of LCM-stablens

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be integral domains. We say that  $A \subset B$  is *LCM-stable* if  $(aA \cap bA)B = aB \cap bB$  for all  $a, b \in A$  (cf. [4]). It follows easily from the definition that  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $(a :_A b)B = a :_B b$  for all  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$ . In this section, we examine basic properties of LCM-stablens. The following proposition is a well-known result on flatness.

**PROPOSITION 1.1.** *If  $A \subset B$  is flat, then  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable. In particular,  $A \subset A_S$  is LCM-stable for each multiplicatively closed set  $S$  in  $A$ .*

As for transitivity, the following proposition is important. However it can be proved easily, and so the proof is omitted.

**PROPOSITION 1.2.** *Let  $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset A_3$  be integral domains. Then we have the following statements.*

- (1) *If both  $A_1 \subset A_2$  and  $A_2 \subset A_3$  are LCM-stable, then so is  $A_1 \subset A_3$ .*
- (2) *Assume that  $IA_3 \cap A_2 = I$  for any ideal  $I$  of  $A_2$ . If  $A_1 \subset A_3$  is LCM-stable, then so is  $A_1 \subset A_2$ .*

**REMARK 1.3.** LCM-stablens of both  $A_1 \subset A_2$  and  $A_1 \subset A_3$  does not necessarily imply that of  $A_2 \subset A_3$ . Moreover, LCM-stablens of both  $A_1 \subset A_3$  and  $A_2 \subset A_3$  does not necessarily imply that of  $A_1 \subset A_2$ . For example, the former case is  $\mathbf{Z} \subset \mathbf{Z}[\sqrt{5}] \subset \mathbf{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{5})/2]$  and the latter case is  $\mathbf{Z}[\sqrt{5}] \subset$

$\mathbb{Z}[(1+\sqrt{5})/2] \subset \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{5}]$ , where  $\mathbb{Z}$  is the ring of integers and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the rational number field.

**PROPOSITION 1.4** (cf. [12], Lemma 2). *Let  $A \subset T \subset B$  be integral domains with  $T \subset K$ . If  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable, then so is  $T \subset B$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $x, y \in T - \{0\}$ . Put  $x = a/c$  and  $y = b/c$ , where  $a, b, c \in A - \{0\}$ . Then we have  $x :_B y = a :_B b = (a :_A b)B \subset (a :_T b)B = (x :_T y)B$ . Thus,  $x :_B y = (x :_T y)B$ . This shows that  $T \subset B$  is LCM-stable.

**COROLLARY 1.5.** *Let  $A \subset B$  be LCM-stable. Then the following statements hold.*

- (1) *For each multiplicatively closed set  $S$  in  $A$  with  $A_S \subset B$ ,  $A_S \subset B$  is LCM-stable.*
- (2) *Suppose that  $S$  and  $T$  are multiplicatively closed sets of  $A$  and  $B$  respectively and that  $S \subset T$ . Then  $A_S \subset B_T$  is LCM-stable.*

As for  $A$ -algebras, we give some characterizations of LCM-stableness.

**PROPOSITION 1.6.** *For  $A \subset B \subset C$ , the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  *$B \subset C$  is LCM-stable.*
- (2) *For each  $P \in \text{Spec}(A)$ ,  $B_P \subset C_P$  is LCM-stable.*
- (3) *For each  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ ,  $B_M \subset C_M$  is LCM-stable.*
- (4) *For each  $Q \in \text{Max}(C)$  with  $Q \cap B = P$ ,  $B_P \subset C_Q$  is LCM-stable.*

**PROOF.** We first prove (3) $\Rightarrow$ (1). Let  $a, b \in B$  and  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . We have obviously  $(a :_B b)C \subset a :_C b$ . Since  $B_M \subset C_M$  is LCM-stable,  $(a :_B b)C_M = (a :_B b)C_M = a :_{C_M} b = (a :_C b)C_M$ . Therefore,  $(a :_B b)C = a :_C b$ . That is,  $B \subset C$  is LCM-stable.

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1) can be proved similarly. Moreover, the assertions (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) $\Rightarrow$ (3) and (1) $\Rightarrow$ (4) follow immediately from Cor. 1.5.

**PROPOSITION 1.7** (cf. [3], Lemma 6.5). *Let  $B$  be an overring of  $A$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  *$A \subset B$  is LCM-stable.*
- (2)  *$(y :_A x)B = B$  for each  $x/y \in B$ .*
- (3)  *$A \subset B$  is flat.*

**PROOF.** The equivalence of (2) and (3) follows from Lemma 1 and Th. 1 in [12]. The implication (3) $\Rightarrow$ (1) is obvious (cf. Prop. 1.1).

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2). Let  $x/y \in B$ , where  $x, y \in A$  and  $y \neq 0$ . Then since  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable, we have  $(y :_A x)B = y :_B x = B$ .

F. Richman and D. E. Dobbs gave some characterizations of a Prüfer domain

in terms of flatness (cf. [12], Th. 4 and [2], Prop. 3.1). By virtue of Prop. 1.7, we have a new characterization of a Prüfer domain.

**COROLLARY 1.8.** *The following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *A is a Prüfer domain.*
- (2) *For any integral domain B containing A,  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable.*
- (3) *For each  $u \in K$ ,  $A \subset A[u]$  is LCM-stable.*

Next, we give a sufficient condition for  $A \subset B$  to be LCM-stable.

**PROPOSITION 1.9.** *Let  $A \subset B$  be integral domains. If  $A \subset A[x, y]$  is LCM-stable for any  $x, y \in B$ , then  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable.*

**PROOF.** Let  $a, b \in A$  and assume that  $ax = by \in aB \cap bB$ , where  $x, y \in B$ . Then since  $A \subset A[x, y]$  is LCM-stable, we have  $ax = by \in aA[x, y] \cap bA[x, y] = (aA \cap bA)A[x, y] \subset (aA \cap bA)B$ . Therefore,  $aB \cap bB = (aA \cap bA)B$ . Thus,  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable.

**REMARK 1.10.** In the above proposition, we can not replace two elements  $x$  and  $y$  by a single element  $x$ . In fact, let  $A = \mathcal{Q}[s, t]_{(s,t)}$ , where  $s, t$  are indeterminates over  $\mathcal{Q}$ . We can take  $x, y \in \Omega$  with the properties that  $x^2 + sx + s^2 = 0$ ,  $y^2 + ty + t^2 = 0$  and  $tx = sy$ . Then since  $A$  is integrally closed and  $A[x, y]$  is integral over  $A$ ,  $A[z]$  is a free  $A$ -module for each  $z \in A[x, y]$ . In particular,  $A \subset A[z]$  is LCM-stable for each  $z \in A[x, y]$ . On the other hand, since  $(s, t) \neq A$ ,  $A \subset A[x, y]$  is not LCM-stable (cf. Prop. 5.3).

It is well-known that for an overring  $B$  of  $A$ , if  $A \subset B$  is flat and  $B$  is integral over  $A$ , then  $A = B$  (see [12]). This fact suggests to us the following propositions on LCM-stableness.

**PROPOSITION 1.11.** *Let  $A$  be a quasi-local domain with the unique maximal ideal  $M$  and  $B$  be an integral domain containing  $A$ . Assume that  $MB \neq B$ . If  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable, then we have  $B \cap K = A$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $x = a/b \in B \cap K$ , where  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$ . Since  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable, we have  $a = bx \in (aA \cap bA)B$ . Therefore, there exist  $x_i \in aA \cap bA$  and  $\beta_i \in B$  such that  $a = bx = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i \beta_i$ . We can put  $x_i = ay_i = bz_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ , where  $y_i, z_i \in A$ . Then we have  $1 = \sum_{i=1}^r y_i \beta_i$ . Since  $MB \neq B$ , there exists  $i$  such that  $y_i \notin M$ . Therefore,  $a \in bA$ . Thus,  $x \in A$ . That is, we have  $B \cap K = A$ .

From Prop. 1.11 and Prop. 1.6, the following corollaries follow easily.

**COROLLARY 1.12.** *Let  $A \subset B$  be integral domains. Assume that for each  $P \in \text{Spec}(A)$  there exists  $Q \in \text{Spec}(B)$  such that  $Q \cap A = P$ . If  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable, then we have  $B \cap K = A$ .*

**COROLLARY 1.13.** *Let  $B$  be an overring of  $A$  with  $B \neq A$ . Assume that  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable. Then there exists  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$  such that  $MB = B$ . In particular,  $B$  is not integral over  $A$ .*

Finally, we give a property of LCM-stableness in terms of prime ideals. For  $P \in \text{Spec}(A)$ , we denote by  $\text{ht}(P)$  the height of  $P$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.14** (cf. [3], Prop. 6.4). *Assume that  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable. Let  $P \in \text{Spec}(B)$  with  $\text{ht}(P) \leq 1$ . Then we have  $\text{ht}(P \cap A) \leq 1$ .*

**PROOF.** By Cor. 1.5,  $A_{P \cap A} \subset B_P$  is LCM-stable. Therefore, we may assume that  $A$  and  $B$  are quasi-local domains with the maximal ideals  $P$  and  $M$ , respectively, and that  $M \cap A = P \neq 0$  and  $\text{ht}(M) \leq 1$ . Let  $a \in P - \{0\}$ . Since  $\text{ht}(M) = 1$  and  $B$  is a quasi-local domain, we have  $M = \text{rad}(aB)$ . On the other hand, since  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable and  $PB \neq B$ ,  $aB \cap A = aA$  by Prop. 1.11. Therefore,  $P = M \cap A = \text{rad}(aB) \cap A = \text{rad}(aB \cap A) = \text{rad}(aA)$ . This implies that  $\text{ht}(P) = 1$ .

**§2. LCM-stableness of  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  with  $\alpha^m \in K$**

Let  $\alpha \in \Omega$  with  $\alpha^m \in K$  for some  $m > 0$ . In this section, we shall give some characterizations for  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  to be LCM-stable.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *Let  $A$  be a quasi-local domain and  $\alpha \in \Omega$ . Assume that  $\alpha^m = u \in K - A$  and that  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable. Then we have  $\alpha^{-1} \in A[\alpha]$ . Therefore,  $\alpha^{-1}$  is integral over  $A$  and also so is  $u^{-1}$ .*

**PROOF.** Put  $u = a/b$ , where  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$ . Since  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable, we have  $a = b\alpha^m \in (aA \cap bA)A[\alpha]$ . Therefore, there exist  $r > 0$  and  $x_i, y_i, z_i \in A$  such that  $a = b\alpha^m = \sum_{i=0}^r x_i \alpha^i$  and  $x_i = ay_i = bz_i$  for  $0 \leq i \leq r$ . Now since  $u \notin A$ ,  $y_i$  is a non-unit for every  $i$ . Thus,  $1 - y_i$  is a unit in  $A$  for each  $i$ . Therefore, we have  $\alpha^{-1} = (1 - y_0)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^r y_i \alpha^{i-1} \in A[\alpha]$ . This completes the proof.

Let  $A \subset B$  be integral domains. We say that  $A \subset B$  is INC if two different prime ideals of  $B$  with the same contraction in  $A$  can not be comparable (see [7], [16]).

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Let  $\alpha \in \Omega$  with  $\alpha^m \in K$  for some  $m > 0$ . If  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable, then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is INC.*

**PROOF.** By virtue of §1 and [16], we may assume that  $A$  is a quasi-local domain. Then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is INC by Prop. 2.1 and Cor. 3.2 in [16].

**REMARK 2.3.** The converse of Cor. 2.2 is false as is seen in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}] \subset$

$\mathbf{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{5})/2]$ .

Let  $\alpha \in \Omega$ . Hereafter, by  $K_\alpha$  we shall denote the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X]$  onto  $A[\alpha]$ . From now on, we examine some conditions for the converse of Cor. 2.2 to be true.

**COROLLARY 2.4.** *Let  $\alpha \in \Omega$  with  $\alpha^m \in K$  for some  $m > 0$ . Assume that  $K_\alpha$  is invertible. Then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is INC; and when that is so,  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat.*

**PROOF.** The assertions follow immediately from Prop. 1.1, Cor. 2.2, Cor. 3.2 in [16] and Cor. 2.20 in [10].

Here, we need two lemmas relating to a linear base. It is well-known that  $A$  is integrally closed if and only if  $K_u$  has a linear base for each  $u \in K$  (cf. (11.13) in [8] and [11]). The following lemma is a generalization of Th. 1 in [11] which can be proved in the same manner.

**LEMMA 2.5.** *Let  $\alpha \in \Omega$  with  $\alpha^m = u \in K - \{0\}$  for some  $m > 0$  and put  $u = a/b$  where  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$ . Put  $B_u = \{dx - e \mid d, e \in A \text{ and } be = ad\}$  and  $B_\alpha = \{dX^m - e \mid d, e \in A \text{ and } be = ad\}$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $K_u = B_u A[X]$ ; that is,  $K_u$  has a linear base.
- (2) If  $bX^m - a$  is irreducible over  $K$ , then  $K_\alpha = B_\alpha A[X]$ .
- (3)  $(a, b)^n \cap (b^{n+1} :_A a) \subset b^n A$  for each  $n > 0$ .

Generally, it is easily shown that for  $u \in K$  if  $A$  is integrally closed in  $A[u]$ , then  $K_u$  has a linear base (cf. (11.13) in [8]). On the other hand, the converse is false as is seen in  $A \subset A[u]$ , where  $A = \mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}2\sqrt{-1}$  and  $u = 1/2\sqrt{-1}$ . Therefore, the following lemma is a slight generalization of the  $u - u^{-1}$  Lemma which are essentially proved in Th. 67 in [7].

**LEMMA 2.6.** *Let  $A$  be a quasi-local domain with the unique maximal ideal  $M$  and take  $u \in K$ . Assume that  $K_u$  has a linear base. If  $K_u \not\subset MA[X]$ , then either  $u \in A$  or  $u^{-1} \in A$ .*

**THEOREM 2.7.** *Let  $\alpha \in \Omega - \{0\}$  with  $\alpha^m = u \in K$  for some  $m > 0$ . Put  $u = a/b$ , where  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$ . Assume that  $K_u$  has a linear base and that  $bX^m - a$  is irreducible over  $K$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable.
- (2)  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is INC.
- (3)  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat.
- (4)  $(a, b)$  is invertible.

**PROOF.** Since incomparability, LCM-stableness, flatness and the property

that  $K_u$  has a linear base, where  $u \in K$ , are local properties (see [16] and §1), we may assume that  $A$  is a quasi-local domain with the unique maximal ideal  $M$ . Then we have only to show the implications (2) $\Rightarrow$ (4) and (4) $\Rightarrow$ (3), since the others are obvious (cf. Cor. 2.2).

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (4). Assume that  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is INC. Then we have  $c(K_\alpha) = A$  by Cor. 3.2 in [16]. On the other hand, it follows easily from Lemma 2.5 that  $c(K_u) = c(K_u)$ . Therefore,  $K_u A[X] \not\subset MA[X]$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.6, we have either  $u \in A$  or  $u^{-1} \in A$ . That is,  $(a, b)$  is principal.

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (3). Assume that  $(a, b)$  is invertible. Since  $A$  is a quasi-local domain, we have easily either  $u \in A$  or  $u^{-1} \in A$ . Suppose that  $u \in A$ . Then we have  $K_\alpha = (X^m - u)A[X]$  by the assumption. Therefore,  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is obviously flat. We now proceed to the case  $u^{-1} \in A$ . Similarly, we have  $K_\alpha = (u^{-1}X^m - 1)A[X]$ . Therefore,  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat by Cor. 2.20 in [10].

**COROLLARY 2.8** (cf. Cor. 4.4). *Let  $aX^m - b$  be a prime element of  $A[X]$ , where  $m > 0$  and  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $A \subset A[X]/(aX^m - b)$  is LCM-stable.
- (2)  $A \subset A[X]/(aX^m - b)$  is flat.
- (3)  $(a, b) = A$ .

**§3. Universality**

In this section, we shall examine the universality of LCM-stableness. For this purpose, we prepare two notions,  $R_2$ -stableness and  $G_2$ -stableness, related to LCM-stableness. Let  $A \subset B$  be integral domains. We say that  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable if  $\text{Gr}(IB) \geq 2$  for each non-zero finitely generated ideal  $I$  of  $A$  with  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ . Moreover, we say that  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable if  $a :_B b = a$  for any  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$  with  $a :_A b = a$ . Obviously, if  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable, then  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable and if  $A$  is a GCD-domain, then the converse holds. Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $A$ . If  $\text{Gr}(I) \leq 2$ , then we have  $A :_K I = A$ . But the converse is false as is seen in Remark 2.4 in [6]. On the other hand, in case  $I$  is finitely generated,  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$  if and only if  $A :_K I = A$  by virtue of Th. 7 of Chap. 5 in [9]. Therefore, by Ex. 1 and Ex. 2 (p. 102) in [7], if  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable, then  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable and moreover, if  $A$  is a Noetherian domain, then the converse is true. However, neither  $G_2$ -stableness nor  $R_2$ -stableness does necessarily imply LCM-stableness as is seen in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}] \subset \mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{5})/2]$ . So we first study a regular sequence of length 2 in a polynomial ring. We denote by  $Z(R)$  the set of all zero-divisors of a ring  $R$ .

**LEMMA 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $Q$  be the total quotient ring of  $R$ . Let  $f(X) = a_0 + a_1X + \dots + a_kX^k \in R[X]$ . Assume that  $c(f)$  contains a non-zero-divisor. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $a :_{R[X]} f(X) = a$  for each  $a \in R - Z(R)$ .

- (2)  $a:_{R[X]} f(X) = a$  for each  $a \in c(f) - Z(R)$ .  
 (3)  $a:_R c(f) = a$  for each  $a \in c(f) - Z(R)$ .  
 (4)  $a:_R c(f) = a$  for some  $a \in c(f) - Z(R)$ .  
 (5)  $R:_{\mathcal{Q}} c(f) = R$ .

PROOF. The equivalences (3) $\Leftrightarrow$ (4) $\Leftrightarrow$ (5) are easy and (2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (3) follows from Th. 7 of Chap. 5 in [9]. Moreover, (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) is obvious.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1). Let  $a \in R - Z(R)$ . By the assumption, there exists  $b \in c(f) - Z(R)$ . Since  $ab \in c(f) - Z(R)$ , we have  $ab:_{R[X]} f(X) = ab$ . Thus,  $a:_{R[X]} f(X) = a$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $\mathcal{Q}$  be the total quotient ring of  $R$ . Let  $f(X), g(X) \in R[X]$ . Assume that  $c(f)$  contains a non-zero-divisor. Then  $f(X):_{R[X]} g(X) = f(X)$  if and only if (i)  $f(X):_{\mathcal{Q}[X]} g(X) = f(X)$  and (ii)  $R:_{\mathcal{Q}} (c(f) + c(g)) = R$ .*

PROOF. Suppose first that  $f(X):_{R[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . Since  $R[X] \subset \mathcal{Q}[X]$  is flat, we have obviously  $f(X):_{\mathcal{Q}[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . Let  $a/b \in R:_{\mathcal{Q}} (c(f) + c(g))$ , where  $a \in R$  and  $b \in R - Z(R)$ . Then there exist  $\phi(X), \psi(X) \in R[X]$  such that  $af(X) = b\phi(X)$ ,  $ag(X) = b\psi(X)$ . Since  $b \notin Z(R)$ , we have  $f(X)\psi(X) = g(X)\phi(X)$ . Therefore,  $\phi(X) \in f(X):_{R[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . That is, we can take  $c(X) \in R[X]$  so that  $\phi(X) = c(X)f(X)$ . Since  $f(X) \notin Z(R[X])$ , we have  $a = bc(X) \in bR[X] \cap R = bR$ . Thus,  $a/b \in R$ . This implies that  $R:_{\mathcal{Q}} (c(f) + c(g)) = R$ .

Conversely, let  $h(X) \in f(X):_{R[X]} g(X)$  and take  $\phi(X) \in R[X]$  so that  $h(X)g(X) = f(X)\phi(X)$ . Since  $h(X) \in f(X)\mathcal{Q}[X]$  by (i), there exist  $a \in R - Z(R)$  and  $\psi(X) \in R[X]$  such that  $ah(X) = f(X)\psi(X)$ . Then since  $f(X) \notin Z(R[X])$ , we have  $a\phi(X) = g(X)\psi(X)$ . Put  $F(X) = X^n f(X) + g(X)$ , where  $n > \deg g$ . Then  $c(F) = c(f) + c(g)$  and by (ii)  $R:_{\mathcal{Q}} c(F) = R$ . Since  $F(X)\psi(X) = a(X^n h(X) + \phi(X))$ , we have  $\psi(X) \in aR[X]$  by Lemma 3.1. Therefore,  $h(X) \in f(X)R[X]$  by noting  $a \notin Z(R)$ . That is,  $f(X):_{R[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ .

**COROLLARY 3.3.** *With the notation of Th. 3.2, let  $a \in R - Z(R)$ . Then  $a:_{R[X]} f(X) = a$  if and only if  $R:_{\mathcal{Q}} (a, c(f)) = R$ . Moreover, assume that  $R:_{\mathcal{Q}} c(f) = R$ . Then for each  $b \in R - \{0\}$ ,  $a:_{R[X]} bf(X) = a$  if and only if  $a:_R b = a$ .*

**PROPOSITION 3.4.** *Let  $I$  be a non-zero proper ideal of  $A[X]$ . If  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ , then  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ .*

PROOF. Suppose that  $I \cap A = 0$ . Then we have  $IK[X] \neq K[X]$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(IK[X]) \leq 1$ . On the other hand,  $\text{Gr}(I) \leq \text{Gr}(IK[X]) \leq 1$  by Ex. 10 of Chap. 5 in [9], a contradiction. Thus,  $I \cap A \neq 0$ . Take  $a \in I \cap A - \{0\}$ . Since  $\text{Gr}(I/(a)) \geq 1$  by Th. 15 of Chap. 5 in [9], we have obviously  $\text{gr}(I/(a)) \geq 1$ . Thus,  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ .

With these preparations, we study universality.

**THEOREM 3.5.** *For  $A \subset B$ , the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable.
- (2)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $G_2$ -stable.
- (3)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable.

**PROOF.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (3). Let  $f(X), g(X) \in A[X] - \{0\}$  and assume that  $f(X) :_{A[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . Then by Th. 3.2, we have (i)  $f(X) :_{K[X]} g(X) = f(X)$  and (ii)  $A :_K (c(f) + c(g)) = A$ . Let  $L$  be the quotient field of  $B$ . By (i), we have immediately  $f(X) :_{L[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . Since  $\text{Gr}(c(f) + c(g)) \geq 2$  by (ii) and  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable,  $\text{Gr}((c(f) + c(g))B) \geq 2$ . Therefore,  $B :_L (c(f) + c(g)) = B$ . Thus,  $f(X) :_{B[X]} g(X) = f(X)$  by Th. 3.2. That is,  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (2). Let  $I$  be a finitely generated ideal of  $A[X]$  with  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ . We may assume that  $I \neq A[X]$ . Then by Prop. 3.4 we have  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ . Since  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable,  $\text{gr}(IB) \geq 2$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(IB) \geq 2$ . That is,  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $G_2$ -stable.

The implication (2) $\Rightarrow$ (1) follows easily from the definition.

If  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable, then obviously so is  $A \subset B$ . The converse is false as is seen in §7. As for the converse, we consider the following condition. We say that  $A$  satisfies the condition (\*) if  $A_P$  is a valuation ring for any  $P \in \text{Spec}(A)$  with  $\text{gr}(P) = 1$ . By Th. 2.2 in [14], if  $A$  is a GCD-domain, then  $A$  satisfies (\*). Moreover, if  $A$  satisfies (\*),  $A$  is integrally closed by Cor. 2.16 in [1].

**THEOREM 3.6.** *Assume that  $A$  satisfies the condition (\*). Then for  $A \subset B$ ,  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable if and only if  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable.*

**PROOF.** Suppose that  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable. Let  $I$  be a finitely generated ideal of  $A$  with  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ . We may assume that  $IB \neq B$ . Then there exists  $Q \in \text{Spec}(B)$  such that  $\text{Gr}(IB) = \text{Gr}(Q)$  by Th. 16 of Chap. 5 in [9]. Put  $Q \cap A = P$ . Then we have  $I \subset P$ . Assume that  $\text{gr}(P) = 1$ . By the assumption,  $A_P$  is a valuation ring. Therefore,  $IA_P$  is a proper principal ideal of  $A_P$ . On the other hand, since  $A :_K I = A$ ,  $A_P :_K IA_P = A_P$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\text{gr}(P) \geq 2$ . Since  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable,  $\text{gr}(PB) \geq 2$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(IB) = \text{Gr}(Q) \geq \text{Gr}(PB) \geq 2$ . That is,  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable.

**COROLLARY 3.7.** *Let  $A$  be a GCD-domain. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable.
- (2)  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable.
- (3)  $A \subset B$  is  $G_2$ -stable.
- (4)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is LCM-stable.

- (5)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable.
- (6)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $G_2$ -stable.

COROLLARY 3.8. *Let  $A$  be locally a GCD-domain. Then  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is LCM-stable.*

Hereafter, we shall fix  $A \subset B$  and let  $L$  be the quotient field of  $B$ . Assume that  $A$  is integrally closed. With this assumption, we examine LCM-stableness of  $A[X] \subset B[X]$ .

LEMMA 3.9. *Let  $f(X), g(X) \in A[X] - \{0\}$ . If  $f(X):_{K[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ , then we have  $f(X):_{A[X]} g(X) = (A:K(c(f) + c(g)))f(X)A[X]$ .*

PROOF. Let  $x \in A:K(c(f) + c(g))$ . Then  $xf(X), xg(X) \in A[X]$ . Therefore, we have  $xf(X) \in f(X):_{A[X]} g(X)$ . Thus,  $(A:K(c(f) + c(g)))f(X)A[X] \subset f(X):_{A[X]} g(X)$ .

Conversely, let  $h(X) \in f(X):_{A[X]} g(X)$ . Then there exists  $\phi(X) \in A[X]$  such that  $h(X)g(X) = f(X)\phi(X)$ . Since  $f(X):_{K[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ , there exist  $a \in A - \{0\}$  and  $\psi(X) \in A[X]$  such that  $ah(X) = f(X)\psi(X)$ . Then we have  $a\phi(X) = g(X)\psi(X)$ . Put  $F(X) = f(X)X^n + g(X)$ , where  $n > \deg g$ . Then  $c(F) = c(f) + c(g)$  and  $a(h(X)X + \phi(X)) = F(X)\psi(X)$ . Therefore,  $h(X)X^n + \psi(X) \in F(X)K[X] \cap A[X]$ . On the other hand, since  $A$  is integrally closed, we have  $F(X)K[X] \cap A[X] = (A:K(c(F)))F(X)A[X]$  by Th. B in [15]. Thus, there exist  $x_i \in A:K(c(F))$  and  $g_i(X) \in A[X]$  such that  $h(X)X^n + \phi(X) = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i F(X)g_i(X)$ . Therefore, we have  $\psi(X) = a \sum_{i=1}^r x_i g_i(X)$ . Thus,  $h(X) = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i f(X)g_i(X) \in (A:K(c(F)))f(X)A[X]$ . That is,  $f(X):_{A[X]} g(X) \subset (A:K(c(f) + c(g)))f(X)A[X]$ . This completes the proof.

PROPOSITION 3.10. *Assume that  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is LCM-stable. Then for each non-zero finitely generated ideal  $I$  of  $A$ ,  $B:L I = (A:K I)B$ .*

PROOF. Suppose that  $I = (a, a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)$  is a non-zero finitely generated ideal of  $A$  (in case  $I$  is principal, we set  $n=0$  and  $a_0=a$ ), and put  $f(X) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i X^i$ . By Lemma 3.9, we have  $f(X):_{A[X]} a = (A:K I)f(X)A[X]$ . On the other hand, generally  $(A:K I)f(X)B[X] \subset (B:L I)f(X)B[X] \subset f(X):_{B[X]} a$ . Since  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is LCM-stable,  $(A:K I)f(X)B[X] = (B:L I)f(X)B[X]$ . Therefore,  $(A:K I)B = B:L I$ .

THEOREM 3.11. *Assume that  $B$  is integrally closed and that  $L$  is algebraic over  $K$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is LCM-stable.
- (2)  $B:L I = (A:K I)B$  for any non-zero finitely generated ideal  $I$  of  $A$ .
- (3)  $a:_B I = (a:_A I)B$  for any  $a \in A - \{0\}$  and non-zero finitely generated ideal  $I$  of  $A$ .

PROOF. (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2). This follows from Prop. 3.10.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1). Let  $f(X), g(X) \in A[X] - \{0\}$ . Since  $K[X]$  is a PID, there exist  $d(X) \in K[X]$  and  $f_1(X), g_1(X) \in A[X]$  such that  $f(X) = d(X)f_1(X)$ ,  $g(X) = d(X)g_1(X)$  and  $f_1(X) :_{K[X]} g_1(X) = f_1(X)$ . Then  $f(X) :_{A[X]} g(X) = f_1(X) :_{A[X]} g_1(X)$ . Therefore, we may assume that  $f(X) :_{K[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . Then we have obviously  $f(X) :_{L[X]} g(X) = f(X)$ . Thus, since  $B$  is integrally closed, by Lemma 3.9 and the assumption we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(X) :_{B[X]} g(X) &= (B :_L (c(f) + c(g)))f(X)B[X] \\ &= (A :_K (c(f) + c(g)))f(X)B[X] \\ &= (f(X) :_{A[X]} g(X))f(X)B[X]. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is LCM-stable.

(2) $\Leftrightarrow$ (3). Since  $L$  is algebraic over  $K$ ,  $L = B \otimes_A K$  and the assertion follows easily.

#### §4. Simple extensions

In this section, we shall give a necessary and sufficient condition for a simple extension over  $A$ , which is locally a GCD-domain, to be LCM-stable and discuss a difference between LCM-stableness and flatness. Let  $I$  be a finitely generated proper ideal of  $A$ . It is well-known that if  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ , then  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ , or equivalently  $A :_K I = A$ , and if  $A$  is a Noetherian domain, then the converse is true. Moreover, the converse holds for a polynomial ring as is seen in Prop. 3.4. More generally we can show that this is true for a wider class of domains, containing Noetherian domains and Krull domains. We say that  $I$  has a primary decomposition if  $I = \bigcap_{i=1}^r Q_i$  for some primary ideals  $Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_r$ .

LEMMA 4.1. *Assume that each proper principal ideal of  $A$  has a primary decomposition. Let  $I$  be a finitely generated proper ideal of  $A$ . If  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ , then we have  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ .*

PROOF. Suppose that  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ . In particular,  $I \neq 0$ . Let  $a \in A - \{0\}$ . Then we have  $a :_A I = a$ . Let  $aA = \bigcap_{i=1}^r Q_i$  be an irredundant primary decomposition of  $aA$ . We put  $P_i = \text{rad}(Q_i)$ . Then  $Z(A/aA) = \bigcup_{i=1}^r P_i$ . Assume that  $I \subset Z(A/aA)$ . There exists  $i$  such that  $I \subset P_i$ . Since  $I$  is finitely generated,  $I^n \subset Q_i$  for some  $n > 0$ . Take  $b \in \bigcap_{j \neq i} Q_j - Q_i$ . Then  $b \notin aA$  and  $bI^n \subset aA$ . Since  $a :_A I = a$ , we have  $a :_A I^n = a$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $I \not\subset Z(A/aA)$ , by which we have easily  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ .

The following Lemma follows immediately from Ex. 10 of Chap. 5, Th. 5 of Chap. 6 in [9] and Th. 3.5 in [13].

LEMMA 4.2. Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $A[X]$  generated by an  $A[X]$ -sequence of length  $n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) and let  $a(X) \in A[X]$  with  $a(X) \notin I$ . Let  $Q$  be a minimal prime ideal of  $I :_{A[X]} a(X)$ . Put  $Q \cap A = P$ . Then  $\text{Gr}(Q) = \text{Gr}(QA[X]_Q) = n$  and if  $\text{Gr}(P) \geq n$ , then  $Q = PA[X]$ .

Throughout the following Th. 4.3, Cor. 4.4 and Th. 4.5, let  $f(X)$  be a prime element of  $A[X]$  with  $\deg f \geq 1$  and let  $B = A[X]/(f(X))$ .

THEOREM 4.3.  $A[Y] \subset B[Y]$  is  $R_2$ -stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ , where  $Y$  is an indeterminate. In particular, if  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ , then  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable.

PROOF. Suppose that  $A[Y] \subset B[Y]$  is  $R_2$ -stable. We may assume that  $c(f) \neq A$ . Let  $a \in c(f) - \{0\}$ . Since  $f(X)$  is a prime element of  $A[X]$ ,  $a :_{A[Y]} f(Y) = a$ . Also, since  $A[Y] \subset B[Y]$  is  $R_2$ -stable,  $a :_{B[Y]} f(Y) = a$ . Therefore,  $\{f(X), a, f(Y)\}$  is an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence in  $c(f)A[X, Y]$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ . Let  $a(Y), b(Y) \in A[Y] - \{0\}$  and assume that  $a(Y) :_{A[Y]} b(Y) = a(Y)$ . Since  $f(X)$  is a prime element of  $A[X]$ , we have either  $f(X) :_{A[X, Y]} a(Y) = f(X)$  or  $f(X) :_{A[X, Y]} b(Y) = f(X)$ . Say  $f(X) :_{A[X, Y]} a(Y) = f(X)$ . If  $(f(X), a(Y), b(Y)) = A[X, Y]$ , then  $(a(Y), b(Y))B[Y] = B[Y]$  and therefore, we have  $a(Y) :_{B[Y]} b(Y) = a(Y)$ . So suppose that  $(f(X), a(Y), b(Y)) \neq A[X, Y]$ . Assume that  $\{f(X), a(Y), b(Y)\}$  is not an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence. Then there exists  $h(X, Y) \in A[X, Y]$  such that  $b(Y)h(X, Y) \in (f(X), a(Y))$  and  $h(X, Y) \notin (f(X), a(Y))$ . Let  $Q$  be a minimal prime ideal of  $(f(X), a(Y)) :_{A[X, Y]} h(X, Y)$  and put  $Q \cap A[Y] = P$ . Then  $Q \supset (f(X), a(Y), b(Y))$  and therefore,  $P \supset (a(Y), b(Y))$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(P) \geq 2$ . By Lemma 4.2, we have  $\text{Gr}(Q) = 2$  and  $Q = PA[X, Y]$ . Then since  $f(X) \in Q$ ,  $c(f) \subset P \cap A$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(Q) = \text{Gr}(P) \geq \text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $\{f(X), a(Y), b(Y)\}$  is an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence. That is,  $a(Y) :_{B[Y]} b(Y) = a(Y)$ . This implies that  $A[Y] \subset B[Y]$  is  $R_2$ -stable.

COROLLARY 4.4. Let  $A$  be a GCD-domain. Then  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ .

THEOREM 4.5. Assume that each principal proper ideal of  $A$  has a primary decomposition. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- (1)  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable.
- (2)  $A[X] \subset B[X]$  is  $R_2$ -stable.
- (3)  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ .

PROOF. We have only to prove (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Suppose that  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable. We may assume that  $c(f) \neq A$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 2$ . Therefore, by Lemma 4.1, there exist  $a, b \in c(f)$  such that  $\{a, b\}$  is an  $A$ -sequence. Since  $A \subset B$  is  $R_2$ -stable, we have  $a :_B b = a$ . Thus,  $\{f(X), a, b\}$  is an  $A[X]$ -sequence in  $c(f)A[X]$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(c(f)) \geq 3$ .

LEMMA 4.6. *Let  $I$  be a finitely generated ideal of  $A$ . Then we have  $\text{Gr}(I) = \inf \{ \text{Gr}(IA_M); M \in \text{Max}(A) \}$ .*

PROOF. Let  $A(Y)$  be a localization of  $A[Y]$  by a multiplicatively closed set consisting of all polynomials  $f(Y)$  of  $A[Y]$  with  $\text{c}(f) = A$ , where  $Y$  is a finite set of variables. By Cor. 1 of Prop. 2 in [5], we have  $\text{Gr}(I) = \text{Gr}(IA(Y))$ . Therefore,  $\inf \{ IA_M \} = \inf \{ IA_M(Y) \} = \inf \{ IA(Y)_{MA(Y)} \}$ ,  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . Since there exists a bijection between  $\text{Max}(A)$  and  $\text{Max}(A(Y))$ , we may assume that  $\text{Gr}(I) = n$  and  $\{ a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \}$  is an  $A$ -sequence in  $I$ . Then  $\text{Gr}(I/(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)) = \text{Gr}(I) - n = 0$  and  $\inf \{ \text{Gr}(IA_M/(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)) \} = \inf \{ \text{Gr}(IA_M) \} - n$ ,  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . Therefore, we may assume that  $\text{Gr}(I) = 0$ . Then since  $I$  is finitely generated, there exists  $x \in A - \{0\}$  such that  $xI = 0$  by Th. 8 of Chap. 5 in [9]. Take  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$  so that  $x/1 \neq 0$  in  $A_M$ . Then we have  $\text{Gr}(IA_M) = 0$  by Th. 8 of Chap. 5 in [9]. This completes the proof.

THEOREM 4.7. *Let  $A$  be locally a GCD-domain and  $\alpha \in \Omega - \{0\}$ . Let  $I$  be the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X]$  onto  $A[\alpha]$ . Then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(\text{c}(I)) \geq 3$ .*

PROOF. Suppose that  $\text{Gr}(\text{c}(I)) \geq 3$ . Let  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . Since  $A_M$  is a GCD-domain, there exists  $f_M(X) \in A_M[X]$  such that  $IA_M[X] = f_M(X)A_M[X]$ . Therefore, we have  $\text{c}(IA_M[X]) = \text{c}(f_M)$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(\text{c}(f_M)) \geq 3$ . By Cor. 4.4,  $A_M \subset A_M[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable. Therefore,  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable by Prop. 1.6.

Conversely, suppose that  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable. Let  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . Take  $f_M(X) \in A_M[X]$  so that  $IA_M[X] = f_M(X)A_M[X]$ . Since  $A_M \subset A_M[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable by Cor. 1.5, we have  $\text{Gr}(\text{c}(IA_M[X])) = \text{Gr}(\text{c}(f_M)) \geq 3$  by Cor. 4.4. That is,  $\text{Gr}(\text{c}(I)_{A_M}) \geq 3$  for each  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(\text{c}(I)) \geq 3$  by Lemma 4.6.

Finally, we give an example of  $A \subset B$  which is not flat but LCM-stable.

Example 4.8. Let  $A = k[s, t, u]$  where  $k$  is a field and  $s, t$  and  $u$  are indeterminates. Let  $B = A[X]/(sX^2 + tX + u)$ . Then  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable but is not flat.

§5. LCM-stableness of  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$

Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega - \{0\}$ . Even if both  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  and  $A \subset A[\beta]$  are LCM-stable,  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is not necessarily LCM-stable as is seen in Remark 1.10. So we shall examine LCM-stableness of  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  under the condition  $\alpha/\beta \in K$  in §5 and under the condition that  $K(\alpha), K(\beta)$  are linearly disjoint over  $K$  in §6. The following lemma follows easily from Prop. 1.2, Cor. 1.5 and Prop. 1.6.

LEMMA 5.1. Let  $A \subset B$  be integral domains and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in A$ . Assume that  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)B = B$ . Then  $A \subset B$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A \subset B_{a_i}$  is LCM-stable for every  $i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Throughout this section, we assume that  $A$  is integrally closed and that  $\alpha x = b\beta$  for some  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$  with  $a :_A b = a$ .

LEMMA 5.2. If  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable, then there exists  $\gamma \in A[\alpha, \beta]$  such that  $\alpha = b\gamma$ ,  $\beta = a\gamma$  and  $A[\alpha, \beta] = A[\gamma]$ .

PROPOSITION 5.3. Assume that both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are integral over  $A$ . Then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $(a, b) = A$ .

PROOF. Suppose that  $(a, b) = A$ . Since  $\alpha x = b\beta$ , we have  $A_a[\alpha, \beta] = A_a[\beta]$  and  $A_b[\alpha, \beta] = A_b[\alpha]$ . Since both  $A \subset A_a[\beta]$  and  $A \subset A_b[\alpha]$  are LCM-stable, so is  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  by Lemma 5.1.

Conversely, suppose that  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable. By Lemma 5.2, we can take  $\gamma \in A[\alpha, \beta]$  so that  $\alpha = b\gamma$ ,  $\beta = a\gamma$  and  $A[\alpha, \beta] = A[\gamma]$ . Put  $\gamma = f(\alpha, \beta) \in A[\alpha, \beta]$ . Since both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are integral over  $A$ , so is  $\gamma$ . Therefore,  $A[\gamma]$  is a free  $A$ -module. Since  $\gamma = f(\alpha, \beta) = f(b\gamma, a\gamma)$ , we have  $1 \in (a, b)$ . Thus,  $(a, b) = A$ .

In order to generalize Prop. 5.3, we need a lemma.

LEMMA 5.4. Let  $f_\alpha(X) = \sum_{i=0}^k s_i X^i$  and  $f_\beta(X) = \sum_{i=0}^k t_i X^i$  be irreducible polynomials of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  over  $K$  with coefficients in  $A$ , respectively. Then we have  $t_i \in a^{k-i} :_A s_k$  and  $s_i \in b^{k-i} :_A t_k$  for  $0 \leq i \leq k-1$ .

PROOF. Put  $g(X) = \sum_{i=0}^k t_i b^{k-i} a^i X^i$ . Then since  $g(\alpha) = b^k f_\beta(\beta) = 0$ ,  $f_\alpha(X)$  divides  $g(X)$  in  $K[X]$ . Since  $\deg f_\alpha = \deg g$ , there exist  $c, d \in A - \{0\}$  such that  $cf_\alpha(X) = dg(X)$ . Then we have  $cs_i = dt_i b^{k-i} a^i$  for  $0 \leq i \leq k$ . Therefore,  $s_k t_i b^{k-i} = t_k s_i a^{k-i}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq k-1$ . Since  $a :_A b = a$ ,  $a^{k-i} :_A b^{k-i} = a^{k-i}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq k-1$ . Thus, for  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ , there exists  $x_i \in A$  such that  $s_k t_i = a^{k-i} x_i$  and  $t_k s_i = b^{k-i} x_i$ . This completes the proof.

THEOREM 5.5. Let  $\alpha$  be integral over  $A$ . Then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable and  $(a, b) = A$ .

PROOF. Since  $A_a[\alpha, \beta] = A_a[\beta]$  and  $A_b[\alpha, \beta] = A_b[\alpha]$ , it suffices to prove the 'only if' part by Lemma 5.1. Suppose that  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable. We first show that  $(a, b) = A$ . Let  $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{k-1}$  be a free basis of  $A[\alpha]$  over  $A$ . Since  $a^{k-1} \alpha^{k-1} = b^{k-1} \beta^{k-1}$ ,  $a^{k-1} :_A b^{k-1} = a^{k-1}$  and  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable, there exist  $f_i(\beta) \in A[\beta]$  ( $0 \leq i \leq k-1$ ) such that  $\beta^{k-1} = a^{k-1} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} f_i(\beta) \alpha^i$ . Thus, we have

$$(\#) \quad \beta^{k-1} = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} a^{k-i-1} b^i \beta^i f_i(\beta).$$

Let  $f_\beta(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} t_i X^i \in A[X]$  be an irreducible polynomial of  $\beta$  over  $K$ . Since  $A$  is integrally closed, the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X]$  onto  $A[\beta]$  equals  $(A :_K \mathfrak{c}(f_\beta))f_\beta(X)A[X]$  by Th. B in [15]. By (#), there exist  $x_i \in A :_K \mathfrak{c}(f_\beta)$  and  $g_i(X) \in A[X]$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} X^{k-1} - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} a^{k-i-1} b^i f_i(X) X^i \\ = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i f_\beta(X) g_i(X). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $1 \in (a, b) + \sum_{i=1}^r \mathfrak{c}(x_i f_\beta)$ . Put  $x_i t_k = t_{ik}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ . Then  $t_{ik} \in A$ . Since  $\alpha$  is integral over  $A$ ,  $1 \in (a, b) + \sum_{i=1}^r t_{ik} A$  by Lemma 5.4. For each  $i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq r$ ,  $A_{t_{ik}}[\beta]$  is integral over  $A_{t_{ik}}$  and  $A_{t_{ik}} \subset A_{t_{ik}}[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable. Therefore, we have  $(a, b)A_{t_{ik}} = A_{t_{ik}}$  by Prop. 5.3. Thus,  $t_{ik} \in \text{rad}(a, b)$  for each  $i$ . That is,  $(a, b) = A$ .

We now prove that  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable. Since  $A_a[\alpha, \beta] = A_a[\beta]$ ,  $A \subset A_a[\beta]$  is LCM-stable by Cor. 1.5. Moreover, since  $A_b[\beta] \subset A_b[\alpha, \beta] = A_b[\alpha]$  and since  $\alpha$  is integral over  $A$ ,  $A \subset A_b[\beta]$  is obviously LCM-stable. Thus,  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable by Lemma 5.1.

REMARK 5.6. Let  $k$  be a field and  $s, t, u$  and  $b$  be indeterminates.

(1) Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$ . Even if both  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  and  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  are LCM-stable,  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is not necessarily so. In fact, let  $A = k[s, t, u, b]$  and take  $\gamma \in \Omega$  which satisfies  $sy^2 + t\gamma + u = 0$ . Put  $a = 1 - sb, \alpha = a\gamma$  and  $\beta = b\gamma$ . Then we have  $A[\gamma] = A[\alpha, \beta]$ . Both  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  and  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  are LCM-stable. But  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is not LCM-stable.

(2) Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$ . LCM-stableness of  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  does not necessarily imply  $(a, b) = A$ . In fact, let  $A = k[s, t, u]$  and take  $\gamma \in \Omega$  which satisfies  $s^2 u^2 \gamma^2 + st u \gamma + (1 - su) = 0$ . Put  $\alpha = u\gamma$  and  $\beta = s\gamma$ . Then we have  $A[\alpha, \beta] = A[\gamma]$ . Moreover,  $A \subset A[\alpha], A \subset A[\beta]$  and  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  are all LCM-stable. But, obviously  $(u, s) \neq A$ .

§ 6. LCM-stableness of  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  (continued)

Throughout this section, let  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega - \{0\}$  and assume that  $K(\alpha), K(\beta)$  are linearly disjoint over  $K$ .

PROPOSITION 6.1. If  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat and if  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable, then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable. Moreover, if  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is faithfully flat, then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if so is  $A \subset A[\beta]$ .

PROOF. Since  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat and  $K(\alpha), K(\beta)$  are linearly disjoint over  $K$ , we have  $A[\alpha, \beta] = A[\alpha] \otimes_A A[\beta]$ . Therefore,  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable by Prop. 1.2, (1).

Suppose that  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is faithfully flat and  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable. Then  $A[\beta] \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is faithfully flat and therefore,  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable by Prop. 1.2, (2).

**COROLLARY 6.2.** *Assume that  $A$  is integrally closed and  $\alpha$  is integral over  $A$ . Then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if so is  $A \subset A[\beta]$ .*

**LEMMA 6.3.** *Assume that  $(\sum_{i=0}^k a_i X^i)$  is the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X]$  onto  $A[\alpha]$ . Then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is faithfully flat if and only if  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k) = A$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $M \in \text{Max}(A)$ . Put  $f(X) = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i X^i$  and  $\bar{A} = A/M$ . We denote by  $\bar{f}(X)$  the reduction of  $f(X)$  modulo  $M$ . Then we have  $A[\alpha]/MA[\alpha] = \bar{A}[X]/(\bar{f}(X))$ . Therefore, this lemma follows immediately from Cor. 2.20 in [10].

**THEOREM 6.4.** *In addition to the assumption of Lemma 6.3, we assume that  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat. Then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A \subset A_{a_i}[\beta]$  is LCM-stable for every  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .*

**PROOF.** Since  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat,  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k) = A$  by Cor. 2.20 in [10]. Therefore, we have  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)A[\alpha] = A[\alpha]$ . By Lemma 5.1,  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A \subset A_{a_i}[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable for every  $i$ . Fix  $i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . By Prop. 1.2 and Cor. 1.5,  $A \subset A_{a_i}[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A_{a_i} \subset A_{a_i}[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable. Moreover, since  $A_{a_i} \subset A_{a_i}[\alpha]$  is faithfully flat by Lemma 6.3,  $A_{a_i} \subset A_{a_i}[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A_{a_i} \subset A_{a_i}[\beta]$  is LCM-stable by Prop. 6.1. Also,  $A_{a_i} \subset A_{a_i}[\beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $A \subset A_{a_i}[\beta]$  is LCM-stable. Thus, this theorem holds.

**REMARK 6.5.** In Th. 6.4,  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is not necessarily LCM-stable and therefore, the converse of the first half of Prop. 6.1 is false. In fact, let  $A = k[s, t]$  where  $k$  is a field and  $s, t$  are indeterminates. Take  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$  so that  $s\alpha^2 + t\alpha + 1 = 0$  and  $s\beta + t = 0$ , respectively. Then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is flat, but  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is not LCM-stable by Cor. 2.8. Since  $K(\beta) = K$ ,  $K(\alpha)$ ,  $K(\beta)$  are obviously linearly disjoint over  $K$ . On the other hand,  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable by Th. 6.4.

In what follows, let  $Y$  be an indeterminate and we denote by  $K_\alpha$  (resp.  $K_\beta$ ) the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X]$  (resp.  $A[Y]$ ) onto  $A[\alpha]$  (resp.  $A[\beta]$ ). Moreover, we denote by  $K_{\alpha, \beta}$  the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X, Y]$  onto  $A[\alpha, \beta]$ . We now examine  $K_{\alpha, \beta}$ . In the following Prop. 6.6 and Cor. 6.7, we assume that  $K_\alpha = (f_\alpha(X))$  and  $K_\beta = (f_\beta(Y))$ , where  $f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y) \in A[X]$ .

**PROPOSITION 6.6.**  $K_{\alpha, \beta} = (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$  if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta)) \geq 3$ .

PROOF. Suppose that  $K_{\alpha,\beta}=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$ . We may assume that  $c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta)\neq A$ . Let  $a\in c(f_\alpha)-\{0\}$ . Then  $\{a, f_\alpha(X)\}$  is an  $A[X]$ -sequence since  $f_\alpha(X)$  is a prime element of  $A[X]$ . Let  $f(X, Y)\in (a, f_\alpha(X)):_{A[X,Y]}f_\beta(Y)$ . Then we can take  $g(X, Y), h(X, Y)\in A[X, Y]$  so that  $f(X, Y)f_\beta(Y)=ag(X, Y)+f_\alpha(X)h(X, Y)$ . We have  $g(X, Y)\in K_{\alpha,\beta}$ . By the assumption, there exist  $\phi_\alpha(X, Y), \phi_\beta(X, Y)\in A[X, Y]$  such that  $g(X, Y)=f_\alpha(X)\phi_\alpha(X, Y)+f_\beta(Y)\phi_\beta(X, Y)$ . Therefore,  $f_\alpha(X)\cdot(h(X, Y)+a\phi_\alpha(X, Y))=f_\beta(Y)(f(X, Y)-a\phi_\beta(X, Y))$ . Since  $f_\alpha(X):_{A[X,Y]}f_\beta(Y)=f_\alpha(X)$ ,  $f(X, Y)-a\phi_\beta(X, Y)\in f_\alpha(X)A[X, Y]$ , and therefore  $f(X, Y)\in (a, f_\alpha(X))$ . Thus,  $(a, f_\alpha(X)):_{A[X,Y]}f_\beta(Y)=(a, f_\alpha(X))$ . That is,  $\{a, f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)\}$  is an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence in  $c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta)$ , which shows that  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta))\geq 3$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta))\geq 3$ . Let  $a\in (c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta))-\{0\}$ . Assume that  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)):_{A[X,Y]}a\neq (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$ . Then we can take  $h(X, Y)\in A[X, Y]$  so that  $ah(X, Y)\in (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$  and  $h(X, Y)\notin (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$ . Let  $Q$  be a minimal prime ideal of  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)):_{A[X,Y]}h(X, Y)$ . Then  $a, f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)\in Q$ . Put  $Q\cap A[X]=P$ . Since  $\{f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)\}$  is an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence and  $a, f_\alpha(X)\in P$ , we have  $\text{Gr}(Q)=\text{Gr}(QA[X, Y]_Q)=2$  and  $Q=PA[X, Y]$  by Lemma 4.2. Since  $f_\beta(Y)\in Q, c(f_\beta)\subset Q\cap A$ . On the other hand,  $\{a, f_\beta(Y)\}$  is an  $A[X]$ -sequence. Thus,  $\text{Gr}(Q\cap A)=\text{Gr}(P\cap A)\geq 2$ . Since  $\text{Gr}(PA[X]_P)=\text{Gr}(QA[X, Y]_Q)=2, P=(P\cap A)A[X]$  by Th. 3.5 in [13]. That is,  $Q=(Q\cap A)A[X, Y]$ . Thus,  $c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta)\subset Q\cap A$ . By the assumption, we have  $\text{Gr}(Q)=\text{Gr}(Q\cap A)\geq \text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta))\geq 3$ . This is a contradiction. Therefore,  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)):_{A[X,Y]}a=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$ . Let  $S$  be the multiplicatively closed set of  $A$  generated by the leading coefficients of  $f_\alpha(X)$  and  $f_\beta(Y)$ . Since  $K(\alpha), K(\beta)$  are linearly disjoint over  $K$ , we have  $K_{\alpha,\beta}A_S[X, Y]=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))A_S[X, Y]$ . Therefore,  $K_{\alpha,\beta}=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$  by the relation obtained above.

COROLLARY 6.7. *If  $A\subset A[\alpha]$  is  $G_2$ -stable, then we have  $K_{\alpha,\beta}=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$ .*

PROOF. Let  $a\in c(f_\alpha)-\{0\}$ . Since  $f_\beta(Y):_{A[Y]}a=f_\beta(Y)$  and since  $A[Y]\subset A[\alpha][Y]$  is  $R_2$ -stable by Th. 3.5, we have  $f_\beta(Y):_{A[\alpha,Y]}a=f_\beta(Y)$ . Therefore,  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y)):_{A[X,Y]}a=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha)+c(f_\beta))\geq 3$ , and  $K_{\alpha,\beta}=(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y))$  by Prop. 6.6.

COROLLARY 6.8. *Let  $A$  be locally a GCD-domain. If  $A\subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable, then  $K_{\alpha,\beta}=(K_\alpha, K_\beta)A[X, Y]$ .*

PROOF. Let  $M\in \text{Max}(A)$ . Since  $A_M$  is a GCD-domain, both  $K_\alpha A_M[X]$  and  $K_\beta A_M[Y]$  are principal and  $A_M\subset A_M[\alpha]$  is  $G_2$ -stable by Cor. 1.5 and Cor. 3.7. Therefore, we have  $K_{\alpha,\beta}A_M[X, Y]=(K_\alpha, K_\beta)A_M[X, Y]$  by Cor. 6.7. Thus,  $K_{\alpha,\beta}=(K_\alpha, K_\beta)A[X, Y]$ .

Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\in A$ . Hereafter, we say that  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  is an  $A$ -sequence even if  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)=A$ .

PROPOSITION 6.9. *Let  $A$  be locally a GCD-domain. If both  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  and  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  are LCM-stable, then we have  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta)) \geq 4$ .*

PROOF. By virtue of Lemma 4.6, we may assume that  $A$  is a local domain. Then  $A$  is a GCD-domain by the assumption. Therefore, both  $K_\alpha$  and  $K_\beta$  are principal. Put  $K_\alpha = (f_\alpha(X))$  and  $K_\beta = (f_\beta(Y))$ , where  $f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(X) \in A[X]$ . Moreover,  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is  $G_2$ -stable by Cor. 3.7. Let  $Z$  be an indeterminate. We can take a positive integer  $n$  so that  $c(f_\alpha(Z) + f_\beta(Z)Z^n) = c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta)$ . Put  $F(Z) = f_\alpha(Z) + f_\beta(Z)Z^n$ . Since  $f_\alpha(Z)$  is a prime element of  $A[Z]$ , we have  $A :_K c(F) = A$ . Let  $a \in c(f_\alpha) - \{0\}$ . Then  $a :_{A[Z]} F(Z) = a$  by Lemma 3.1. Since  $A[Z] \subset A[\alpha, \beta][Z]$  is  $R_2$ -stable by Th. 3.5,  $a :_{A[\alpha, \beta, Z]} F(Z) = a$ . Therefore, we have  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a) :_{A[X, Y, Z]} F(Z) = (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a)$  by Cor. 6.7. On the other hand, it is easily shown by Cor. 6.7 that  $\{f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a\}$  is an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence. Thus,  $\{f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a, F(Z)\}$  is an  $A[X, Y, Z]$ -sequence in  $(c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta))A[X, Y, Z]$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta)) \geq 4$ . This implies that  $\text{Gr}(c(K_\alpha) + c(K_\beta)) \geq 4$ .

THEOREM 6.10. *Let  $A$  be locally a GCD-domain. Assume that both  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  and  $A \subset A[\beta]$  are LCM-stable. Then  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is LCM-stable if and only if  $\text{Gr}(c(K_\alpha) + c(K_\beta)) \geq 4$ .*

PROOF. By virtue of Prop. 6.9, it is sufficient to prove the ‘if’ part. By Prop. 1.6 and Ex. 10 of Chap. 5 in [9], we may assume that  $A$  is a local domain. Then  $A$  is a GCD-domain. Therefore, it is sufficient to show that  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is  $R_2$ -stable. Moreover, we can put  $K_\alpha = (f_\alpha(X))$  and  $K_\beta = (f_\beta(Y))$ , where  $f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(X) \in A[X]$ . Suppose that  $\text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta)) \geq 4$ . Let  $a, b \in A - \{0\}$  and assume that  $a :_A b = a$ . Since  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is  $G_2$ -stable by Cor. 3.7, it is easily shown by Cor. 6.7 that  $\{f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a\}$  is an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence. Assume that  $\{f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a, b\}$  is not an  $A[X, Y]$ -sequence. Then there exists  $h(X) \in A[X, Y]$  such that  $bh(X, Y) \in (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a)$  and  $h(X, Y) \notin (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a)$ . Let  $Q$  be a minimal prime ideal of  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a) :_{A[X, Y]} h(X, Y)$ . Then we have  $f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a, b \in Q$ . Put  $Q \cap A[X] = P$  and  $Q \cap A = P_0$ . Since  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable,  $\{f_\alpha(X), a, b\}$  is an  $A[X]$ -sequence in  $P$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(P) \geq 3$ . Therefore,  $\text{Gr}(Q) = \text{Gr}(QA[X, Y]_Q) = 3$  and  $Q = PA[X, Y]$  by Lemma 4.2. Hence,  $\text{Gr}(PA[X]_P) = \text{Gr}(QA[X, Y]_Q) = 3$  and  $c(f_\beta) \subset P_0$ . Since  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable,  $\text{Gr}(P_0) \geq \text{Gr}(c(f_\beta)) \geq 3$  by Th. 4.7. Therefore,  $P = P_0A[X]$  by Th. 3.5 in [13]. Thus,  $Q = P_0A[X, Y]$ . Then we have  $c(f_\alpha), c(f_\beta) \subset P_0$ . By the assumption,  $\text{Gr}(Q) = \text{Gr}(P_0) \geq \text{Gr}(c(f_\alpha) + c(f_\beta)) \geq 4$ . This is a contradiction. That is,  $(f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a) :_{A[X, Y]} b = (f_\alpha(X), f_\beta(Y), a)$ . By Cor. 6.7, we have  $a :_{A[\alpha, \beta]} b = a$ . Thus,  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is  $R_2$ -stable. This completes the proof.

REMARK 6.11. In Th. 6.10, the condition that  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is LCM-stable can not be omitted. In fact, let  $A = Q[s, t, u, v]$ , where  $s, t, u, v$  are indeterminates

and take  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$  so that  $s\alpha^2 + t\alpha + u = 0$  and  $v\beta^2 + t\beta + t = 0$  respectively. Then  $A \subset A[\alpha]$  is LCM-stable, but  $A \subset A[\beta]$  is not LCM-stable. By prop. 6.6, we see that the kernel of the canonical homomorphism of  $A[X, Y]$  onto  $A[\alpha, \beta]$  is equal to  $(sX^2 + tX + u, vY^2 + tY + t)$ , and therefore it is easily shown that  $A \subset A[\alpha, \beta]$  is not LCM-stable.

§7. Examples

In §4 we have seen that, if  $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ , then  $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$  under some conditions on the ideal  $I$ . It seems plausible to the author that ‘ $\text{Gr}(I) \geq 2$ ’ does not necessarily imply ‘ $\text{gr}(I) \geq 2$ ’; however such an example can be found nowhere in the literature. So, in this section we give an example and by making use of it, we show that  $R_2$ -stableness does not necessarily imply  $G_2$ -stableness.

Let  $I$  be a non-zero proper ideal of  $A$ . We first construct a ring  $B$  so that  $\text{gr}(IB) = 1$ . For the ideal  $I$ , we consider a set of indeterminates  $\{X_{\lambda\mu}\}_{\lambda, \mu \in I}$ . Let  $R = A[\{X_{\lambda\mu}\}_{\lambda, \mu \in I}]$  and  $J = (X_{\lambda\mu}X_{\alpha\beta} \mid \lambda, \mu, \alpha, \beta \in I)R$ . Put  $I_{\lambda\mu} = (\lambda, \mu)$  for any  $\lambda, \mu \in I$ . We denote by  $B$  a subdomain  $A + \sum I_{\lambda\mu}X_{\lambda\mu} + J$  ( $\lambda, \mu \in I$ ) of  $R$ . Let  $f \in B$ . Then there exist uniquely  $f_0 \in A, f_{\lambda\mu} \in I_{\lambda\mu}$  ( $\lambda, \mu \in I$ ) and  $f_1 \in J$  such that  $f = f_0 + \sum f_{\lambda\mu}X_{\lambda\mu} + f_1$  ( $\lambda, \mu \in I$ ), where  $f_{\lambda\mu} = 0$  for almost all  $\lambda, \mu \in I$ . We say that  $f = f_0 + \sum f_{\lambda\mu}X_{\lambda\mu} + f_1$  ( $\lambda, \mu \in I$ ) is the decomposition of  $f$ .

LEMMA 7.1. *Let  $f \in B$  and  $f_0 + \sum f_{\lambda\mu}X_{\lambda\mu} + f_1$  ( $\lambda, \mu \in I$ ) be the decomposition of  $f$ . Then we have*

- (1) for  $\lambda, \mu \in I, X_{\lambda\mu}f \in B$  if and only if  $f_0 \in I_{\lambda\mu}$ ,
- (2) if  $X_{\lambda\mu}f \in B$ , then  $X_{\lambda\mu}f \in fB$ .

COROLLARY 7.2.  $\text{gr}(IB) = 1$ .

PROOF. Let  $f, g \in IB$  and let  $f_0 + \sum f_{\lambda\mu}X_{\lambda\mu} + f_1, g_0 + \sum g_{\lambda\mu}X_{\lambda\mu} + g_1$  be the decompositions of  $f, g$  respectively. Since  $f, g \in IB$ , we have  $f_0, g_0 \in I$ . Therefore,  $X_{f_0g_0}f \in f :_B g$  and  $X_{f_0g_0}f \in fB$  by Lemma 7.1. Thus,  $f :_B g \neq f$ . This implies that  $\text{gr}(IB) = 1$ .

Next, we consider the following condition (\*\*) to make  $\text{Gr}(IB) \geq 2$ .

$$(**) \quad (\alpha, \beta) :_A I = (\alpha, \beta) \quad \text{for any } \alpha, \beta \in I.$$

For example, let  $A = k[s, t, u]$  where  $k$  is a field and  $s, t, u$  are all indeterminates. Put  $I = (s, t, u)$ . Then  $I$  satisfies the condition (\*\*).

PROPOSITION 7.3. *Assume that  $I$  satisfies the condition (\*\*). Then we have  $\lambda :_B I = \lambda$  for each  $\lambda \in I$ . In particular, if  $I$  is finitely generated, then  $\text{Gr}(IB) \geq 2$ .*

PROOF. Let  $\lambda \in I$ . We assume that  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Let  $f \in \lambda :_B I$  and let  $f_0 +$

$\sum f_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + f_1$  be the decomposition of  $f$ . Then for each  $\mu \in I$ , there exists  $g_\mu \in B$  such that  $\mu f = \lambda g_\mu$ . Let  $g_0^\mu + \sum g_{\alpha\beta}^\mu X_{\alpha\beta} + g_1^\mu$  be the decomposition of  $g_\mu$  for each  $\mu \in I$ . Then the following (i), (ii) and (iii) hold for each  $\mu \in I$ : (i)  $\mu f_0 = \lambda g_0^\mu$ , (ii)  $\mu f_{\alpha\beta} = \lambda g_{\alpha\beta}^\mu$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in I$ , (iii)  $\mu f_1 = \lambda g_1^\mu$ . By (i) and the condition (\*\*),  $f_0 \in \lambda :_A I = \lambda$ . Therefore, we can take  $h_0 \in A$  so that  $f_0 = \lambda h_0$ . Next, by (iii) and the condition (\*\*),  $f_1 \in \lambda :_R I = (\lambda :_A I)R = \lambda R$ . Therefore, we can take  $h_1 \in R$  so that  $f_1 = \lambda h_1$ . Then since  $f_1 \in J$ , we have  $h_1 \in J$ . Moreover, by (ii) and the condition (\*\*),  $f_{\alpha\beta} \in \lambda :_A I = \lambda$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in I$ . Therefore, we can take  $h_{\alpha\beta} \in A$  so that  $f_{\alpha\beta} = \lambda h_{\alpha\beta}$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in I$ . Put  $h = h_0 + \sum h_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + h_1$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in I$ ). Then we have  $h \in R$  and  $f = \lambda h$ . Since  $\mu h = g_\mu$ ,  $\mu h_{\alpha\beta} = g_{\alpha\beta}^\mu \in I_{\alpha\beta}$  for any  $\mu, \alpha, \beta \in I$ . Thus, we have  $h_{\alpha\beta} \in (\alpha, \beta) :_A I = (\alpha, \beta)$  by the condition (\*\*). That is,  $h \in B$ . Therefore,  $f \in \lambda B$ . This implies that  $\lambda :_B I = \lambda$ .

LEMMA 7.4. Let  $A[\{X_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in A}]$  be a polynomial ring in variables  $\{X_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in A}$  over  $A$ . Let  $f \in A[\{X_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in A}]$  with  $f(0) = 1$ . Then we have  $a :_{A[\{X_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in A}]} f = a$  for each  $a \in A$ .

Here, let  $A = k[s, t, u]_{(s,t,u)}$ , where  $k$  is a field and  $s, t, u$  are all indeterminates. Put  $M = (s, t, u)A$  and let  $R = A[\{X_{\alpha\beta}\}_{\alpha, \beta \in M}]$ , where  $\{X_{\alpha\beta}\}_{\alpha, \beta \in M}$  is a set of variables. Moreover, put  $M_{\alpha\beta} = (\alpha, \beta)$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in M$  and put  $J = (X_{\alpha\beta}X_{\lambda\mu} | \alpha, \beta, \lambda, \mu \in M)R$ . Let  $B = A + \sum M_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + J$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in M$ ) and  $T = A + \sum MX_{\alpha\beta} + J$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in M, \alpha \neq 0$  or  $\beta \neq 0$ ). Then we have  $A \subset B \subset T \subset R$ .

PROPOSITION 7.5. With the above notation, we have  $\text{Gr}(MT) = 1$ . In particular,  $B \subset T$  is not  $G_2$ -stable.

PROOF. Let  $a, \alpha, \beta \in M - \{0\}$ . Then we have  $aX_{\alpha\beta} \in T$ . Since  $m(aX_{\alpha\beta}) = a(mX_{\alpha\beta})$  for each  $m \in M$ ,  $aX_{\alpha\beta} \in a :_T M$ . On the other hand, since  $X_{\alpha\beta} \notin T$ ,  $aX_{\alpha\beta} \notin aT$ . Therefore,  $a :_T M \neq a$ . Thus,  $\text{Gr}(MT) = 1$ . Furthermore, we have  $\text{Gr}(MB) \geq 2$  by Prop. 7.3. That is,  $B \subset T$  is not  $G_2$ -stable.

PROPOSITION 7.6. With the notation of Prop. 7.5,  $B \subset T$  is  $R_2$ -stable.

PROOF. Let  $f, g \in B$  and assume that  $f :_B g = f$ . Let  $f_0 + \sum f_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + f_1, g_0 + \sum g_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + g_1$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in M$ ) be the decompositions of  $f, g$  respectively. By the proof of Cor. 7.2, it is easy to see that either  $f_0 \notin M$  or  $g_0 \notin M$ . Say  $f_0 \notin M$ . Since  $A$  is a local domain, we may assume that  $f_0 = 1$ . Let  $h \in f :_T g$  and take  $\phi \in T$  so that  $hg = f\phi$ . Put  $h = h_0 + \sum h_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + h_1$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in M, \alpha \neq 0$  or  $\beta \neq 0$ ) and  $\phi = \phi_0 + \sum \phi_{\alpha\beta}X_{\alpha\beta} + \phi_1$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in M, \alpha \neq 0$  or  $\beta \neq 0$ ), where  $h_0, \phi_0 \in A, h_{\alpha\beta}, \phi_{\alpha\beta} \in M$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in M$  and  $h_1, \phi_1 \in J$ . If  $h_{\alpha\beta} = \phi_{\alpha\beta} = 0$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in M$ , then  $h, \phi \in B$ . Therefore,  $h \in f :_B g = f$ . That is,  $h \in fB \subset fT$ . Now, suppose that there exist  $\alpha, \beta \in M$  such that  $h_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0$  and  $\phi_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0$ . Then we can take  $a \in \cap M_{\alpha\beta} - \{0\}$ , the intersection ranging over all  $\alpha, \beta \in M$  with  $h_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0$  and  $\phi_{\alpha\beta} \neq 0$ . Then we have

$ah, a\phi \in B$ . Since  $f:{}_B g = f$  and  $g(ah) = f(a\phi)$ , there exists  $\psi \in B$  such that  $ah = f\psi$  and  $a\phi = g\psi$ . Moreover, there exists  $\xi \in R$  such that  $h = f\xi$  and  $\psi = a\xi$  by Lemma 7.4. Put  $\xi = \xi_0 + \sum \xi_{\alpha\beta} X_{\alpha\beta} + \xi_1$  ( $\alpha, \beta \in M$ ), where  $\xi_0, \xi_{\alpha\beta} \in A$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in M$  and  $\xi_1 \in J$ . Then we have  $h_{\alpha\beta} = \xi_{\alpha\beta} + \xi_0 f$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in M$ . (In particular,  $\xi_{00} = 0$ ). Therefore,  $\xi_{\alpha\beta} \in M$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in M$ . Thus,  $\xi \in T$ . That is,  $h = f\xi \in fT$ . This implies that  $f:{}_T g = f$ . Thus,  $B \subset T$  is  $R_2$ -stable.

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