

Define a ring homomorphism  $\varphi : B \rightarrow M_2(k[t])$  by  $\varphi / k = \text{Id}_k$ , and

$$\varphi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \varphi(y) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ t & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(It is easy to check that  $\varphi$  respects the relations  $x^2 = 0$  and  $xy + yx = 1$  on  $B$ .) We have  $\varphi(y^2) = t \cdot I_2$ , so

(\*)  $\varphi(y^{2n}) = t^n \cdot I_2$ , and  $\varphi(y^{2n+1}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t^n \\ t^{n+1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Expressing  $B$  in the form  $k[y] + k[y]x$ , we can write an arbitrary

element  $\gamma \in B$  in the form  $\alpha + \beta x$ , where  $\alpha = \sum a_i y_i$ , and  $\beta = \sum b_i y_i$  (with  $a_i, b_i \in k$ ). In view of (\*),

$$\varphi(\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 + a_2 t + a_4 t^2 + \dots & a_1 + a_3 t + a_5 t^2 + \dots \\ a_1 t + a_3 t^2 + a_5 t^3 + \dots & a_0 + a_2 t + a_4 t^2 + \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\varphi(\beta x) = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 t + b_3 t^2 + b_5 t^3 + \dots & 0 \\ b_0 + b_2 t + b_4 t^2 + \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $\varphi(\gamma) = 0$ , we must have all  $a_i = 0$ , and therefore all  $b_i = 0$ . This shows  $\varphi$  is one-one. The form of the matrices above also shows that  $\varphi$  is onto, so  $B \sim M_2(k[t])$ .