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# **ON FULLY BOUNDED NOETHERIAN MODULES AND THEIR ENDOMORPHISM RINGS**

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#### **Abstract**

In this paper we introduce the notion of bounded modules and fully bounded modules. A right *R*-module *M* is called a bounded module if every essential submodule of *M* contains a fully invariant submodule of *M* which is essential in *MR*. A module *M* is called a fully bounded module if *M/X* is bounded for any prime submodule *X* of *M*.

## **1. Introduction and Preliminaries**

Throughout this paper, all rings are associative with identity, and all modules are unitary right R-modules. We write  $M_R$  (resp.  $_R M$ ) to indicate that M is a right (resp. left) R-modules. We also write  $J(R)$  (resp.  $rad(M)$ ) for the Jacobson radical of R (resp. Jacobson radical of  $M_R$ ) and  $S = End(M_R)$ , its endomorphism ring. A submodule X of M is called a *fully invariant* submodule

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of M if for any  $f \in S$ , we have  $f(X) \subset X$ . Especially, a right ideal of R is a fully invariant submodule of  $R_R$  if it is a two-sided ideal of R. Following [16], a fully invariant proper submodule X of M is called *prime submodule* of M if for any ideal I of S and any fully invariant submodule U of M, if  $I(U) \subset X$ , then either  $I(M) \subset X$  or  $U \subset X$ . In particular, an ideal P of R is a prime ideal if for any ideals I, J of R, if  $IJ \subset P$ , then either  $I \subset P$  or  $J \subset P$ . A non-zero submodule U of M is called *essential* in M if U has non-zero intersection with any non-zero submodule of M. A right R-module M is called a *self-generator* if it generates all its submodules. M is *retractable* if for any non-zero submodule X of M, there is a non-zero  $\varphi \in S = \text{End}(M)$  such that  $\varphi(M) \subset X$ . Clearly, every self-genarator is retractable. Note that, for a submodule  $X$  of  $M$ , if  $M$ is retractable and  $Hom(M, X) = 0$ , then  $X = 0$ . General background materials can be found in [1], [3], [4], [5], [6], [10], [11], [13], [18], [19].

## **2. Bounded and fully bounded modules**

**Definition 1.1** A right R-module M is called a *bounded module* if every essential submodule contains a fully invariant submodule which is essential in M as a submodule. A ring  $R$  is a right bounded if every essential right ideal of R contains an ideal which is essential as a right ideal.

Clearly, every commutative ring is right bounded. A simple Artinian ring which has no proper essential right ideals is right bounded.

Let X be a submodule of M. We denote  $I_X = \{f \in S | f(M) \subset X\}$ . Clearly,  $I_X$  is a right ideal of S. If X is a fully invariant submodule of M, then  $I_X$  is an ideal of S. The following two properties will be useful.

**Prposition 2.2** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective finitely generated right* R*-module which is retractable.If*  $X$  *is an essential submodule of*  $M$ *, then*  $I_X$  *is an essential right ideal of*  $S = End_R(M)$ .

The proof is similar to  $([14]$ , Lemma 3.6) with notice that if M is retractable and  $\text{Hom}(M, X) = 0$ , then  $X = 0$ .

**Proposition 2.3** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module which is retractable. If* K *is an essential right ideal of* S*, then* K(M) *is an essential submodule of* M*.*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $K(M) \cap B = 0$  with B is a submodule of M. Then we have  $Hom(M, K(M) \cap B) = Hom(M, K(M)) \cap Hom(M, B) = 0$ . By ([19, 18.4) we have  $K = Hom(M, K(M))$ . Since M is retractable and  $Hom(M, B)$ 0, we can see that  $B = 0$ . Hence  $K(M)$  is an essential submodule of M.  $\Box$ 

From above propositions, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.4** *Let* M<sup>R</sup> *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module* which is retractable. Then,  $M_R$  is a bounded module if and only if its endo*morphism ring*  $S = End(M_R)$  *is a right bounded ring.* 

**Proof.** Suppose that M is a bounded module. Let I be an essential right ideal of S. Then  $I(M)$  is essential submodule of M. By assumption,  $I(M)$  contains a fully invariant submodule  $B$  of  $M$  which is essential in  $M$ . By Proposition 2.2 the ideal  $I_B$  is an essential right ideal of S. Note that  $I_B \subset I_{I(M)} = I$  by [19, 18.4] and thus  $S$  is a right bounded ring.

Conversely, assume that  $S$  is a right bounded ring. Let  $X$  be an essential submodule of  $M$ . By proposition 2.2,  $I_X$  is an essential right ideal of  $S$ . By hypothesis, there exists a two sided ideal  $K$  of  $S$  contained in  $I_X$  which is essential in S as a right ideal. Note that  $K(M)$  is fully invariant submodule of M. By proposition 2.3,  $K(M)$  is an essential submodule of  $M_R$ , proving that  $M$  is a bounded module.

**Lemma 2.5** ([19, 17.3]) *Let* K, M, N *be* R-modules. If  $f : M \to N$  *is a homomorphism and* K *is an essential submodule of* N, then  $f^{-1}(K)$  *is an essential submodule of* M*.*

**Theorem 2.6** *If M* is a bounded module, then so is  $M^n$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that M is a bounded module and X is any essential submodule of  $M^n$ . Write  $M^n = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M_i$ , where  $M_i = M$  for each  $i = 1, 2, ..., n$ . Then  $X \cap M_i$  is essential in  $M_i$  for each  $i = 1, 2, ..., n$ . By assumption,  $X \cap M_i$ contains a fully invariant submodule  $A_i$  of  $M_i$  such that  $A_i$  is essential in  $M_i = M, i = 1, 2, ..., n$ . Put  $B = \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i$ . Then B is a fully invariant submodule of  $M_i$   $(i = 1, 2, ..., n)$ . Hence  $B^n = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n B_i, B_i = B$ , is essential in  $M^n$ . It remains to prove that  $B^n$  is a fully invariant submodule of  $M^n$ . Let  $\varphi \in End(M^n)$ . Then  $\varphi = (\varphi_{ij}), \varphi_{ij} : M_j \to M_i = M$  with  $\varphi_{ij} = \pi_i \varphi \iota_j \in End(M)$ , where  $\iota_j : M_j \to M^n, \pi_i : M^n \to M_i$  are inclusion and projection maps. Take any  $x = (b_1, ..., b_n) \in B^n = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n B_i$ . Then sion and projection maps. Take any  $x = (b_1, ..., b_n) \in B^n = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n B_i$ . Then  $x = \sum_{j=1}^n \iota_j(b_j)$  and therefore  $\varphi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi \iota_j(b_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n \iota_i \pi_i(\sum_{j=1}^n \varphi \iota_j(b_j)).$ Thus  $\varphi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \iota_i[\sum_{i=1}^n \pi_i \varphi \iota_j(b_j)] = \sum_{i=1}^n \iota_i[\sum_{i=1}^n \varphi_{ij}(b_j)],$  where  $b_j \in$  $B_j = B$  and hence  $\varphi_{ij}(b_j) \in B_i = B$ . Therefore  $\sum \varphi_{ij}(b_j) \in B_i \subset M_i$  $B_j = B$  and hence  $\varphi_{ij}(b_j) \in B_i = B$ . Therefore  $\sum \varphi_{ij}(b_j) \in B_i \subset M_i$ . Hence  $\sum_{i=1}^n \iota_i[\sum_{i=1}^n \varphi_{ij}(b_i)] \in B^n$ , proving that  $B^n$  is a fully invariant submodule of  $\sum_{i=1}^n \iota_i[\sum_{i=1}^n \varphi_{ij}(b_j)] \in B^n$ , proving that  $B^n$  is a fully invariant submodule of  $M^n$ .

Let  $Mat_n(R)$  be the ring of all square matrices of order n with coefficients in R. The following corollary is an immediate consequence.

**Corollary 2.7** *If*  $R$  *is a right bounded ring, then*  $R^n$  *is a bounded*  $R$ *-module* and hence  $Mat_n(R)$  *is a right bounded ring.* 

**Lemma 2.8** ([16], Theorem 2.4) *Let* M *be a right* R*-module. If* M *is a prime* R*-module, then its endomorphism ring* S *is a prime ring. Conversely, if* M *is a self-generator and* S *is a prime ring, then* M *is a prime module.*

It was showed in  $[6]$  that a prime ring R is right bounded if and only if every essential right ideal of R contains a non-zero ideal. Using this result, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.9** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module which is retractable. If* M *is a prime module, then* M *is a bounded module if and only if every essential submodule of* M *contains a non-zero fully invariant submodule of* M*.*

**Proof.** One way is clear by definition. Conversely, let I be an essential right ideal of S. Then  $I(M)$  is an essential submodule of M. By assumption,  $I(M)$  contains a fully invariant submodule B of M. Since  $I(M)$  is an essential submodule of M and  $0 \neq B \subset > I(M)$ . By 2.3,  $I_B \subset I_{I(M)} = I$  and  $I_B$  is an ideal of S. Since  $M$  is a prime module, it follows that  $S$  is a prime ring, by Lemma 2.8. Therefore,  $S$  is a right bounded ring. It follows from Theorem 2.4 that  $M$  is a bounded module.

Recall that a ring  $R$  is right fully bounded if for every prime ideal  $I$  of R, the prime factor ring  $R/I$  is a right bounded ring. We now introduce the concept of fully bounded modules as a generalization of fully bounded rings.

**Definition 2.10** A right R-module  $M_R$  is fully bounded if for every prime submodule  $X$  of  $M$ , the factor module  $M/X$  is a bounded module. A ring  $R$ is right fully bounded if for every prime ideal  $I$  of  $R$ , the factor ring  $R/I$  is a right bounded ring.

We now examine the relationship between a fully bounded module M and its endomorphism ring S. First we need the following lemmas, the proofs which are straightforward.

**Lemma 2.11** *Let* X *be a fully invariant submodule of*  $M, \varphi = End(M)$ *. Then there is a unique*  $\bar{\varphi} = End(M/X)$  *such that*  $\bar{\varphi} \nu = \nu \varphi$ *, where*  $\nu : M \to M/X$  *is the natural projection.*

**Lemma 2.12** *Let* X *be a submodule of a quasi-projective module*  $M, \psi \in$ End(M/X). There is  $a \varphi \in End(M)$  such that  $\psi \nu = \nu \varphi$  where  $\nu : M \to$  $M/X$ .

**Lemma 2.13** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective right* R*-module and* X, *a fully invariant submodule of M. Then*  $End(M/X) \simeq S/I_X$ *, where*  $S = End(M)$ *and*  $I_X = \{ \varphi | \varphi(M) \subset X \}.$ 

**Proof.** Let  $\varphi \in S$  and  $\overline{\varphi} \in \overline{S} = End(M/X)$  as defined in Lemma 2.11 and 2.12. Define the map  $\Phi: End(M/X) \to S/I_X$  given by  $\overline{\varphi} \mapsto \varphi + I_X$ . Clearly,  $\Phi$ is well-defined. Note that for  $\psi, \varphi \in S$ , we have  $\overline{\varphi} + \overline{\psi} = \overline{\varphi + \psi}$  and  $\overline{\varphi} \cdot \overline{\psi} = \overline{\varphi \cdot \psi}$ . Using these facts we can check that  $\Phi$  is a ring homomorphism. Moreover, it can be seen that  $\Phi$  is 1-1 and onto, proving that  $\Phi$  is a ring isomorphism.  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 2.14** *Let* X *be a fully inveriant sub module of* M.

*(1) If* M *is quasi-projective, then so is* M/X.

*(2) If* M *is retractable, then so is* M/X.

*(3) If* M *is a self-generator, then so is* M/X.

#### **Proof.**

(1) Let  $g: M/X \to N$  be any R-epimorphism and  $h: M/X \to N$ . Then  $g\nu$ is an R-epimorphism. Since M is quasi-projective, there exists  $\varphi \in End(M)$ such that  $(g\nu)\varphi = h\nu$ . Since X is fully invariant, there is a unique  $\bar{\varphi} \in$ End(M/X) such that  $\bar{\varphi}\nu = \nu\varphi$ . Hence  $h\nu = g\nu\varphi = g\bar{\varphi}\nu$ . It follows that  $h = g\bar{\varphi}$ , proving that  $M/X$  is quasi-projective.

(2) Let B be any submodule of  $M/X$ . Then B is of the form  $A/X$  for some submodule A of M.

If M is retractable, then there is  $\varphi \in S$  such that  $\varphi(M) \subset A$ . Since  $\varphi(M)/X \simeq \overline{\varphi}(M/X)$ , we get  $\overline{\varphi}(M/X) \subset B$ , proving that  $M/X$  is retractable.

(3) If M is a self-generator,  $A = \sum_{\varphi \in I} \varphi(M)$  for some subset I of S. Applying Lemma 2.11 and 2.12,  $\varphi(M)/X \simeq \bar{\varphi}(M/X)$  and hence  $B = \Sigma_{\varphi \in I} \bar{\varphi}(M/X)$ ,<br>proving that  $M/X$  is a self-generator proving that  $M/X$  is a self-generator.

**Lemma 2.15** ([16], Theorem 1.10) Let M be a right R-module,  $S = End(M_R)$ *and* X*, a fully invariant submodule of* M*. If* X *is a prime submodule of* M*, then*  $I_X$  *is a prime ideal of S. Conversely, if* M *is a self-generator and if*  $I_X$ *is a prime ideal of* S*, then* X *is a prime submodule of* M*.*

**Theorem 2.16** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module which is self-generator. Then* M *is a fully bounded module if and only if* S *is a right fully bounded ring.*

**Proof.** Let I be any prime ideal of S. Then  $X = I(M)$  is a fully invariant submodule of M. Note that  $I = Hom(M, I(M))$  by [20, 18.4] and hence  $X \neq M$  and  $I_X = Hom(M, I_X(M)) = Hom(M, X) = Hom(M, I(M)) = I$ . This shows that  $X$  is a prime submodule of  $M$  by Lemma 2.14. By assumption,  $M/X$  is a bounded module. It follows from Theorem 2.4 that  $\text{End}(M/X)$  is a right bounded ring. By Lemma 2.13,  $S/I = S/I_X \simeq End(M/X)$  is a right bounded ring, proving that  $S$  is a right fully bounded ring.

Conversely, let X be a prime submodule of  $M$ . Then  $I_X$  is a prime ideal of S by Lemma 2.15. By assumption,  $S/I_X$  is a right bounded ring. Hence  $M/X$ is a bounded module, by Lemma 2.13. This shows that  $M$  is a fully bounded

module and the proof of our Theorem is complete.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 2.17** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module. If* M *is a Noetherian module, then* S *is a right Noetherian ring.*

**Proof.** Suppose that we have ascending chain of right ideals of S,  $I_1 \subset I_2 \subset$  $\cdots$ . Then we have  $I_1(M) \subset I_2(M) \subset \cdots$  is an ascending chain of submodules of M. By assumption, there exists an integer n such that  $I_n(M) = I_k(M)$ , for all  $k > n$ . By ([19, 18.4]), we have  $I_n = Hom(M; I_n(M)) = Hom(M; I_k(M)) =$  $I_k$ . Thus S is a right Noetherian ring.  $\Box$ 

A right fully bounded ring needs not be right bounded. However, if  $R$  is a right fully bounded right Noetherian ring, it can be shown that  $R$  is right bounded (see [3, Proposition 7.12]). Applying this Proposition, we can generalize the result to modules as follows.

**Theorem 2.18** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module which is a self-generator. If* M<sup>R</sup> *is a Noetherian fully bounded module, then* M<sup>R</sup> *is a bounded module.*

**Proof.** Since  $M_R$  is a Noetherian fully bounded module, S is a right Noetherian right fully bounded ring, by theorem 2.16 and 2.17. By [3, Proposition 7.12], S is a right bounded ring. By Theorem 2.4, we can see that  $M_R$  is a bounded module, completing our proof.  $\Box$ 

Following  $[6]$ , if R is a right Noetherian right fully bounded ring, then every factor ring of R is right bounded. Combining this result and Lemma 2.14, we can prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.19** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module which is a self-generator. If* M *is a fully bounded Noetherian module and* X *is a fully invariant submodule of* M*, then* M/X *is a bounded module.*

**Proof.** Since M is a right Noetherian right fully bounded module, the endomorphism ring  $S$  is right Noetherian, right fully bounded by Theorem 2.16 and 2.17. Let X be a fully invariant submodule of M. Then  $S/I_X$  is a right bounded ring by [6]. Let  $B/X$  be any essential submodule of  $M/X$ . Then by Lemma 2.13 and 2.14,  $I_B/I_X$  is an essential right ideal of  $S/I_X$ . Since  $S/I_X$  is a right bounded ring,  $I_B/I_X$  contains an essential ideal  $H/I_X$  of  $S/I_X$ . Therefore  $H(M)/X$  is a fully invariant essential submodule of  $M/X$ , proving that factor module  $M/X$  is a bounded module.

The following corollary is a direct consequence of the above theorem.

**Corollary 2.20** *Let* M *be a quasi-projective, finitely generated right* R*-module which is a self-generator and*  $f : M \to N$  *be an epimorphism. If* Kerf *is a*  *fully invariant submodule of* M *and if* M *is a fully bounded Noetherian module, then* N *is a Noetherian bounded module.*

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