

Tarbiat Moallem University, 20<sup>th</sup> Seminar on Algebra,  
2-3 Ordibehesht, 1388 (Apr. 22-23, 2009) pp 162-165

## PRÉSIMPLIFIABLE AND WEAKLY PRÉSIMPLIFIABLE MODULES

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**ABSTRACT.** In [2] it was noted that in commutative rings with zero divisors the equivalent definitions of associates in integral domains are not equivalent anymore and thus lead to different types of irreducible elements. There it was proved that in such rings these different types of associates are equivalent if and only if the ring,  $R$ , is pré-simplifiable, that is for every  $r, a \in R$ ,  $ra = a$  implies  $a = 0$  or  $r \in U(R)$ . In [3] they extended the basic definitions of the theory of factorization to modules; including pré-simplifiability. Here we define the weakly pré-simplifiable condition for modules. This notion enables us to reduce checking pré-simplifiability and several other factorization properties in general modules to checking them just in faithful modules. Also we study how these properties behave under several module constructions.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper all rings are assumed to be commutative with identity and all modules are assumed to be unitary and nonzero. D. D. Anderson and S. Valdes-Leon in [2, 3] extended the theory of factorization to commutative rings with zero divisors and modules over them. In that context equivalent definitions of irreducible elements in integral domains lead to several types of irreducible elements and hence several kinds of atomic rings (an atomic ring is one in which every element can be factorized into product of irreducible elements). But all these different types of irreducibility and atomicity turn out to be equivalent in pré-simplifiable rings. Here we bring some of their definitions (in the module case) and propositions. In what follows we assume that  $R$  is a ring and  $M$  is a left  $R$ -module. We denote the set of units of  $R$ , Jacobson radical and nilradical of  $R$  by  $U(R)$ ,  $J(R)$  and  $N(R)$  respectively. Also  $Z(M)$  means the set of zero divisors of  $M$ , that is  $\{r \in R \mid \exists 0 \neq m \in M : rm = 0\}$ . Any other undefined notation is as [4].

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $m, n \in M$ . Then  $m$  and  $n$  are **associates**, denoted  $m \sim n$ , if  $Rm = Rn$ . If  $m = un$  for some unit  $u \in R$ , then  $m$  and  $n$  are **strong associates**, denoted  $m \approx n$ . Finally we say that  $m$  and  $n$  are **very strong associates**, denoted  $m \cong n$ , if  $m \sim n$  and either  $m = n = 0$  or  $m \neq 0$  and  $m = rn$  implies  $r \in U(R)$ . By being associate in  $R$  we mean being associate in  $R$  as an  $R$ -module (similarly for other kinds of associativity).

A nonzero  $m \in M$  is called **primitive** (resp. **strongly primitive**, **very strongly primitive**) if for  $r \in R$  and  $n \in M$ ,  $m = rn$  implies  $m \sim n$  (resp.  $m \approx n$ ,  $m \cong n$ ).

**2000 Mathematics Subject Classification:** 13A05, 13C99.

**keywords and phrases:** Factorization, Pré-simplifiable modules, Weakly pré-simplifiable modules, Associates, Zero divisors.

There are two forms of factorization in modules, one in which the ring elements are not factorized and one in which they are. The second is the composition of first and factorization in rings, so we focus on the first. In the rest of this section we assume  $J = \{\text{primitive, strongly primitive, very strongly primitive}\}$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $\alpha \in J$  and  $m \in M$ . A factorization  $m = an$  where  $a \in R$  and  $n \in M$  is called an  $\alpha$ -factorization if  $n$  is  $\alpha$ . We say  $M$  is  $\alpha$ -atomic if every nonzero element of  $M$  has an  $\alpha$ -factorization.

Two  $\alpha$ -factorizations  $an_1 = an_2$  of  $0 \neq m \in M$  are **isomorphic** (resp. **strongly isomorphic, very strongly isomorphic**) if  $n_1 \sim n_2$  (resp.  $n_1 \approx n_2, n_1 \cong n_2$ ).

Let  $K = \{\text{isomorphic, strongly isomorphic, very strongly isomorphic}\}$ .

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $\alpha \in J, \beta \in K$ .  $M$  is an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -unique factorization module  $((\alpha, \beta)$ -UFM) if (1)  $M$  is  $\alpha$ -atomic and (2) any two  $\alpha$ -factorization of a nonzero element of  $M$  are  $\beta$ . And  $M$  is a **bounded factorization module (BFM)** when for each  $0 \neq m \in M$ , there is an  $N_m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $m = a_1 \cdots a_k n$  for nonunits  $a_i \in R$  and  $n \in M$ , then  $k \leq N_m$ .  $R$  is a **bounded factorization ring (BFR)** if it is a BFM as a module over itself.

**Definition 1.4.** A ring  $R$  (resp. an  $R$ -module  $M$ ) is called **présimplifiable** when for every  $r, a \in R$  (resp.  $r \in R, a \in M$ ) such that  $ra = a$ , we have  $a = 0$  or  $r \in U(R)$ .

**Proposition 1.5.**  $R$  (or  $M$ ) is *présimplifiable* if and only if all kinds of associates in it are equivalent and hence in a *présimplifiable* module all kinds of primitives, atomicities and also different types of being isomorphic, are equivalent.

**Proposition 1.6.** If  $R$  (resp.  $M$ ) is a BFR (resp. BFM) then it is *présimplifiable*.

**Proposition 1.7.**  $M$  is *présimplifiable* if and only if  $Z(M) \subseteq J(R)$ .

## 2. WEAKLY PRÉSIMPLIFIABLE MODULES

**Definition 2.1.**  $M$  is a **weakly présimplifiable module** when  $rm = m$  for all  $m \in M$  implies  $r \in U(R)$ .

$M$  is **r-présimplifiable** if for each  $0 \neq m \in M$  and  $r \in R - Z(M)$ ,  $rm = m$  implies  $r \in U(R)$ .

**Theorem 2.2.**  $M$  is *weakly présimplifiable* if and only if  $\text{Ann}(M) \subseteq J(R)$ .

**Corollary 2.3.** Every  $R$ -module is *weakly présimplifiable* iff every finitely generated  $R$ -module is *weakly présimplifiable*, iff every cyclic  $R$ -module is *weakly présimplifiable*, iff  $R$  is *local* (note that we assumed every module is nonzero).

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $\alpha \in J, \beta \in K$  ( $J$  &  $K$  as in the introduction). We say  $M$  is a  $\beta$ -weak finite factorization module ( $\beta$ -WFFM) when for any  $0 \neq m \in M$ , up to  $\beta$ , there are a finite number of factorizations  $m = an$  for some  $a \in R, n \in M$ . We say  $M$  is  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -finite atomic factorization  $((\alpha, \beta)$ -FAF) if  $M$  is  $\alpha$ -atomic and the number of  $\alpha$ -factorizations of any nonzero element of  $M$  is finite, up to  $\beta$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module,  $\alpha \in J, \beta \in K$  ( $J$  &  $K$  as in the introduction).

- (1) If  $M$  is *weakly présimplifiable* then:  $m \in M$  (taking  $M$  as an  $R$ -module) is  $\alpha$  iff it is so in  $M$  as an  $(R/\text{Ann}(M))$ -module.  $M$  as an  $R$ -module is  $\alpha$ -atomic (resp.  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -UFM,  $(\beta)$ -WFFM,  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -FAF) iff it is so as an  $(R/\text{Ann}(M))$ -module.

(2)  $M$  is *présimplifiable* (resp. *r-présimplifiable*, a *BFM*) iff  $M$  is weakly *présimplifiable* and  $M$  as an  $(R/\text{Ann}(M))$ -module is *présimplifiable* (resp *r-présimplifiable*, a *BFM*).

**Corollary 2.6.** *If  $M$  is *présimplifiable* (resp. a *BFM*) then  $R/\text{Ann}(M)$  is *présimplifiable* (resp. a *BFR*).*

**Example 2.7.** If  $R$  is a valuation ring with rank higher than one, then  $R/\mathfrak{m}$ , where  $\mathfrak{m}$  is the maximal ideal of  $R$ , is a bounded factorization  $R$ -module although  $R$  is not a BFR.

**Proposition 2.8.** *If  $M$  is finitely generated then  $M$  is weakly *présimplifiable* if and only if for any ideal  $I$  in  $R$ ,  $IM = M$  implies  $I = R$ .*

**Corollary 2.9.** *If there exists a finitely generated weakly *présimplifiable* divisible  $R$ -module, then  $R$  is a total quotient ring; in particular if  $R$  is a domain over which such a module exists, it is a field.*

**Examples 2.10.**  $M = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{Z}_{3^n}$  is a weakly *présimplifiable*  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module although  $2\mathbb{Z}M = M$ .  $N = \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$  is a finitely generated weakly *présimplifiable*  $\mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$ -module and there are ideals  $I \neq J$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$  such that  $IN = JN$ .

### 3. POLYNOMIAL MODULES AND DIRECT SUMS

In [1] it was proved that  $R[x]$  is *présimplifiable* iff in  $R$  the zero ideal is primary. To obtain a similar result about  $M[x]$  as an  $R[x]$ -module we need:

**Definition 3.1.** *We say  $M$  is with nil zero divisors (with N.Z., for short) if  $Z(M) \subseteq N(R)$ . And it is with nil annihilator (abbreviated N.A.) if  $\text{Ann}(M) \subseteq N(R)$ .*

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $f \in Z(M[x])$  then there is an  $0 \neq m \in M$  such that  $fm = 0$ .*

**Theorem 3.3.**  *$M[x]$  as an  $R[x]$ -module is *présimplifiable* iff it is *r-présimplifiable*, iff it is with N.Z., iff  $M$  is with N.Z..*

*$M[x]$  as an  $R[x]$ -module is weakly *présimplifiable* iff it is with N.A., iff  $M$  is with N.A..*

**Proposition 3.4.** *A faithful module is with N.Z. iff its zero submodule is primary.*

$M[x]$  as an  $R$ -module is isomorphic to  $M^{\mathbb{N}}$ , so we state more generally:

**Proposition 3.5.** *Assume each  $M_i$  is an  $R$ -module.  $\bigoplus_{i \in A} M_i$  is *présimplifiable* (resp. with N.Z.) iff  $\prod_{i \in A} M_i$  is so iff each  $M_i$  is so. If any  $M_i$  is weakly *présimplifiable* (resp. with N.A.) then  $\bigoplus_{i \in A} M_i$  and  $\prod_{i \in A} M_i$  are so.*

**Example 3.6.** If  $R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $R_2 = \mathbb{Z}_3$  and  $R = R_1 \oplus R_2$  then although  $R$  as an  $R$ -module is with N.A. but none of its submodules is even weakly *présimplifiable*.

**Proposition 3.7.** *Assume  $R$  is a perfect ring (which means it satisfies the minimal condition on principal ideals), and  $A$  is an infinite set and  $M_i$  are  $R$ -modules.  $\bigoplus_{i \in A} M_i$  (or equivalently  $\prod_{i \in A} M_i$ ) is weakly *présimplifiable* if and only if there is a  $F \subseteq A$  such that  $|F| < \infty$  and  $\bigoplus_{i \in F} M_i$  is weakly *présimplifiable*.*

**Proposition 3.8.** *Assume each  $M_i$  is an  $R_i$  module ( $i \in A$ ).  $M = \bigoplus_{i \in A} M_i$  (or equivalently  $N = \prod_{i \in A} M_i$ ) as a  $\prod_{i \in A} R_i$ -module is *présimplifiable* (resp. with N.Z.) iff  $|A| = 1$  and the only  $M_i$  is *présimplifiable* (resp. with N.Z.).  $M$  (or  $N$ ) is weakly *présimplifiable* iff each  $M_i$  is weakly *présimplifiable*. If  $M$  or  $N$  is with N.A. then each  $M_i$  is with N.A..*

**Corollary 3.9.** *A présimplifiable ring is indecomposable.*

**Example 3.10.** If, in the notation of 3.8,  $R_i = \mathbb{Z}_{2^i}$  and  $M_i = R_i/N(R_i)$ , then each  $M_i$  is with N.A. but  $M$  and  $N$  are not so.

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