

## A NOTE ON FULLER'S THEOREM

ZHU SHENGLIN (朱胜林)\*

### Abstract

In 1972, Fuller proved that a complete additive subcategory  ${}_R\mathcal{C}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is equivalent to a module category  $\Delta\text{-Mod}$  if and only if  ${}_R\mathcal{C} = \text{Gen}({}_R U)$  for some quasiprogenerator  ${}_R U$  and  $\Delta \cong \text{End } {}_R U$  canonically. In this note the author gives a characterization of  ${}_R\mathcal{C}$  which makes  ${}_R U$  a projective  $R$ -module in the case when  $R$  is a right perfect ring with identity, and shows that  $R\text{-Mod}$  is the unique complete additive subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which is equivalent to  $R\text{-Mod}$  for a left Artinian ring  $R$ .

In 1972, Fuller<sup>[1]</sup> proved that a complete additive subcategory  ${}_R\mathcal{C}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is equivalent to a module category  $\Delta\text{-Mod}$  if and only if  ${}_R\mathcal{C} = \text{Gen}({}_R U)$  for some quasiprogenerator  ${}_R U$  and  $\Delta \cong \text{End } {}_R U$  canonically. In this note we give a characterization of  ${}_R\mathcal{C}$  which makes  ${}_R U$  a projective module in the case when  $R$  is a right perfect ring with identity, and show that  $R\text{-Mod}$  is the unique complete additive subcategory which is equivalent to  $R\text{-Mod}$  provided that  $R$  is left Artinian.

Throughout this note all rings are associative with identity, and all modules are unital. Each endomorphism will be written on the other side of the module. We write  $R\text{-Mod}$  for the category of all left  $R$ -modules. A full subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is called complete additive<sup>[2]</sup> if it is closed under taking submodules, epimorphic images and direct sums. A left  $R$ -module  ${}_R U$  is a quasiprogenerator if  ${}_R U$  is finitely generated quasiprojective and  ${}_R U$  generates each of its submodules. A ring  $R$  is semiperfect if every finitely generated left  $R$ -module has a projective cover, and  $R$  is right perfect if and only if  $R$  is semiperfect and left semiartinian (Theorem 27.6 in [2]; p. 151 in [3]).

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $R$  and  $\Delta$  be rings. Let  ${}_R\mathcal{C}$  be a complete additive subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  and assume that  $T: \Delta\text{-Mod} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{C}$  is a (additive) category equivalence. Let  ${}_R U$  be the canonical left  $R$ -module  $U = T(\Delta)$ . Then the following are equivalent*

- (a)  ${}_R\mathcal{C} = \text{Gen}({}_R P)$  for some projective module  ${}_R P$ ;
- (b)  ${}_R\mathcal{C} = \text{Gen}({}_R P)$  for some finitely generated projective  $R$ -module  ${}_R P$ ;
- (c)  $U$  is a projective left  $R$ -module;
- (d) There exists a ring  $\Delta'$  and a Morita equivalence  $T': \Delta'\text{-Mod} \rightarrow \Delta\text{-Mod}$  such that

$P = T \cdot T'(\Delta')$  is projective.

*Proof.* Obviously.

Given a ring  $R$ , let  $\Omega$  denote the set of isomorphism classes of simple left  $R$ -modules. If  $\Omega_1$  is a subset of  $\Omega$ , then a hereditary torsion radical  $\bar{S}_{\Omega_1}$  can be constructed as follows: for a module  ${}_R M$ , the  $\Omega_1$ -socle  $\text{soc}_{\Omega_1}(M)$  of  $M$  is the sum of all simple submodules of  $M$  with isomorphism classes in  $\Omega_1$ ; let

$$\begin{aligned} s_{\Omega_1}^0(M) &= 0, \\ s_{\Omega_1}^\alpha(M) / s_{\Omega_1}^{\alpha-1}(M) &= \text{soc}_{\Omega_1}(M / s_{\Omega_1}^{\alpha-1}(M)), \\ s_{\Omega_1}^\alpha(M) &= \sum_{\beta < \alpha} s_{\Omega_1}^\beta(M) \end{aligned}$$

when  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal,

$$\bar{S}_{\Omega_1}(M) = s_{\Omega_1}^\alpha(M)$$

where  $\alpha$  is the first ordinal for which

$$s_{\Omega_1}^\alpha(M) = s_{\Omega_1}^{\alpha+1}(M).$$

Then  $\bar{S}_{\Omega_1}(M) = M$  if and only if  $\text{soc}_{\Omega_1}(M/L) \neq 0$  for every proper submodule  $L$  of  $M$  (Prop. 3.1, VIII in [4]).

**Theorem 2.** Let  $R$ ,  $\Delta$ ,  ${}_R C$  be as in Proposition 1. If  ${}_R U$  is projective, then satisfies the following

- (1)  ${}_R C$  is closed under extension;
- (2) Let  $S, S'$  be simple left  $R$ -modules with  $S \in {}_R C$ . If  $\text{Ext}_R^1(S, S') \neq 0$ ,  $t S' \in {}_R C$ .

Moreover, if  $R$  is right perfect with each simple modules in  ${}_R C$  being finitely presented (e.g.  ${}_R J(R)$  is finitely generated), then the converse holds (i. e.,  ${}_R U$  is projective).

*Proof.* If  ${}_R U$  is projective, (1) is obvious by  ${}_R C = \text{Gen}({}_R U)$ . To see (2), let  $S, S'$  be simple  $R$ -modules with  $S \in {}_R C$  and  $\text{Ext}_R^1(S, S') \neq 0$ . Then there exists nonsplitting exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow {}_R S' \rightarrow {}_R N \rightarrow {}_R S \rightarrow 0;$$

and  ${}_R N$  is uniform with minimal submodule  ${}_R S'$ . Since  $S \in \text{Gen}({}_R U)$ , and  ${}_R U$  projective, we have  $\text{Trace}_R U \neq 0$ , hence  $S' \in \text{Gen}({}_R U) = {}_R C$ .

To see the converse, let  $R$  be a right perfect ring with each simple module in finitely presented. Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$  be a representative set of all simple  $R$ -modules in  ${}_R C$ , and set  $\Omega_1 = \{[S_1], [S_2], \dots, [S_n]\}$ ;  $\Omega_2 = \Omega - \Omega_1$ . Denote the projective cover of  $S_i$ ,  $P_i \xrightarrow{\pi_i} S_i \rightarrow 0$ , then  $P_i$  is a local module with largest submodule  $K_i = \ker \pi_i$ .

Set  $P_i^1 = S_{\Omega_1}(P_i)$ , we will show that  $P_i^1 = P_i$ . If it is not the case, then  $P_i^1 \subsetneq P_i$ . Since  $P_i/P_i^1/K_i/P_i^1 \cong S_i$  and  $[S_i] \in \Omega_1$ , we have  $S_{\Omega_1}(P_i/P_i^1) \neq P_i/P_i^1$ . Let

$$P_i^2/P_i^1 = S_{\Omega_1}(P_i/P_i^1),$$

then  $\text{soc}_{\Omega_1}(P_i/P_i^2) = 0$ . Since  $P_i$  is semiartinian, we have a submodule  $P_i^3$  of  $P_i$  such that  $P_i^3 \supsetneq P_i^2$  and  $P_i^3/P_i^2 \cong S$  with  $[S] \in \Omega_1$ . But  $S$  is finitely presented, the functor

$\text{Ext}_R^1(S, -)$  commutes with direct limits. By  $\text{Ext}_R^1(S, S') = 0$  for any simple  $R$ -module  $S'$  with  $[S'] \in \Omega_2$ , we have  $\text{Ext}_R^1(S, P_i^2/P_i^1) = 0$ . Thus the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P_i^2/P_i^1 \rightarrow P_i^3/P_i^1 \rightarrow P_i^3/P_i^2 \cong S \rightarrow 0$$

splits. Hence there exists a submodule  $P_i^4$  of  $P_i^3$  such that

$$P_i^4/P_i^1 \cong P_i^3/P_i^2 \cong S.$$

This contradicts

$$P_i^1 = S_{\alpha_i}(P_i).$$

Hence

$$P_i = S_{\alpha_i}(P_i),$$

and condition (1) gives that  $P_i \in {}_R C$ .

Let  $P = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n P_i$ , then  $P$  is a projective  $R$ -module in  ${}_R C$  which generates each simple objects (modules) of  ${}_R C$ . Hence  ${}_R C = \text{Gen}({}_R P)$ . By Prop. 1, we have that  ${}_R U$  is projective.

*Example 3.* Let

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} S & 0 \\ \mathbb{Q} & \mathbb{Q} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $S$  is the localization of  $\mathbb{Z}$  at  $2\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $R$  is semiperfect but  $R$  is not right perfect. Let

$$I = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix} \mid q, q' \in \mathbb{Q} \right\},$$

then  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  ${}_R U = R/I$  is a quasiprogenerator such that  ${}_R C = \text{Gen}({}_R U)$  satisfies (1), (2) of Theorem 2. Moreover,  $J(R)$  is a finitely generated left ideal. But  ${}_R U$  is not a projective  $R$ -module.

*Example 4.* Let  $S$  be the ring of all the  $\aleph_0$ -square upper triangular matrices over a field  $F$  that are constant on the diagonal and have only finitely many nonzero entries off the diagonal. Then  $S$  is a right perfect ring (Ex. 28.2 in [2]). Let  $M$  be all the  $\aleph_0$ -square matrices with finitely many nonzero entries, then  $M$  can be seen as an  $S$ - $S$ -bimodule canonically, and  $MJ(S) = M$ . Let

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} S & 0 \\ M & S \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $R$  is a right perfect ring. Let

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ M & S \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  ${}_R U = R/I$  is a quasiprogenerator and  ${}_R C = \text{Gen}({}_R U)$  satisfies (1) and (2) of Theorem 2. But  ${}_R U$  is not projective. In this example the only simple  $R$ -module in  ${}_R C$  is not finitely presented.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $R$  be a left Artinian ring, and let  ${}_R C$  be a complete additive subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . If  ${}_R C$  is category equivalent to  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then  ${}_R C = R\text{-Mod}$ .

*Proof* Let  $T: R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{O}$  denote the category equivalence. Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$  be a set of representatives of all nonisomorphic simple  $R$ -modules. As  ${}_R\mathcal{O}$  is complete additive, we have  ${}_RT(S_i) = S_{\sigma(i)}$  for a permutation  $\sigma$  on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

Let  $P_i \xrightarrow{\pi_i} S_i \rightarrow 0$  be a projective cover in  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then  $P_i$  is finitely generated (hence has finite length). Since  $T$  is a category equivalence, we see that  $T(P_i) \xrightarrow{T(\pi_i)} T(S_i) \rightarrow 0$  is a projective cover of  $T(S_i)$  in  ${}_R\mathcal{O}$ . As in the category  $R\text{-Mod}$ , we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & \ker T(\pi_i) & \rightarrow & T(P_i) & \xrightarrow{T(\pi_i)} & T(S_i) \rightarrow 0 \\ & & & & \uparrow f_i & & \parallel \\ & & & & P_{\sigma(i)} & \xrightarrow{\pi_{\sigma(i)}} & S_{\sigma(i)} \rightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

Since  $\ker T(\pi_i)$  is small in  $T(P_i)$  (also in the category  $R\text{-Mod}$ ),  $f_i$  is epimorphism. If we denote the length of a module  ${}_RM$  by  $\text{lth}(M)$ , then

$$\text{lth}(T(P_i)) \leq \text{lth}(P_{\sigma(i)}).$$

On the other hand, there is a lattice isomorphism  $T$ :

$$\text{Lat}({}_RP_i) \rightarrow \text{Lat}({}_RT(P_i)),$$

thus

$$\text{lth}(T(P_i)) = \text{lth}(P_i).$$

$$\text{While } \sum_{i=1}^n \text{lth}(T(P_i)) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \text{lth}(P_{\sigma(i)}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{lth}(P_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{lth}(T(P_i)),$$

we get  $\text{lth}(T(P_i)) = \text{lth}(P_{\sigma(i)})$ , hence  $f_i$  are isomorphisms,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ; and  $P_i \in$

Since  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^n P_i$  is a generator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , we have  ${}_R\mathcal{O} = R\text{-Mod}$ .

In Theorem 5 the Artinian condition cannot be replaced by right perfect no

*Example 6.* Let  $R$  be the ring  $S$  in Example 4. Let  $I = \{x \in R \mid \text{all the entries of } x \text{ except the first row equal to zero}\}$ , then  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$  and  ${}_RU = R/I$  quasiprogenerator which is not a generator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Moreover,  $\text{End } {}_RU \cong R$ . Hence the complete additive subcategory  $\text{Gen}({}_RU)$  is a proper subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which is equivalent to  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

**Proposition 7.** Let  $R, \Delta$  be rings and  ${}_R\mathcal{O}$  be a complete additive subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  such that  ${}_R\mathcal{O} \cong \Delta\text{-Mod}$ . Then  $\Delta$  is (semi)-perfect whenever  $R$  is. When  $R$  is local,  $\Delta$  always has the form  $M_n(R/I)$ , for some ideal  $I$  of  $R$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

*Proof* Let  $T: \Delta\text{-Mod} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{O}$  be the category equivalence and  ${}_RU = T(\Delta)$ , then  ${}_RU$  is finitely generated quasiprojective and  $\Delta \cong \text{End } {}_RU$ .

Let  $P \xrightarrow{\pi} {}_RU \rightarrow 0$  be the projective cover of  ${}_RU$ , then  $P$  is a finitely generated projective  $R$ -module and  $\ker \pi$  is fully invariant in  $P$ . Hence there exists a canonical ring surjection  $\text{End } P \rightarrow \text{End } {}_RU$ , setting  $f \in \text{End } P$  to

$$\bar{f} \in \text{End } {}_RU: (x + \ker \pi) \bar{f} = (x)f + \ker \pi.$$

When  $R$  is (semiperfect) left perfect,  $\text{End } {}_RP$  is (semiperfect) left perfect, and so

's  $\text{End } {}_R U \cong \Delta$ .

Let  $R$  be a local ring with largest left ideal  $J$ . Then all simple  $R$ -modules are isomorphic (to  $S = R/J$ ). Thus all simple objects of  ${}_R \mathcal{O}$  are isomorphic, and so is  $\Delta\text{-Mod}$ . Let  ${}_A Q \xrightarrow{\pi} {}_A S' \rightarrow 0$  be a projective cover of a simple  $\Delta$ -module  ${}_A S'$ , then  ${}_A Q$  is a progenerator of  $\Delta\text{-Mod}$  and  $T({}_A Q) \rightarrow T({}_A S') \rightarrow 0$  is a projective cover of  $T({}_A S')$  in  $\mathcal{O}$ ,  ${}_R U' = T({}_A Q)$  is a progenerator of  ${}_R \mathcal{O}$ . As in the category  $R\text{-Mod}$ , we have the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & \ker T(\pi) & \rightarrow & {}_R U' & \rightarrow & {}_R T({}_A S') \rightarrow 0 \\ & & & & \uparrow f & & \parallel \\ & & & & R & \rightarrow & R/J \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

is an epimorphism, hence  ${}_R U' \cong R/I$ , for some left ideal  $I$  of  $R$ . From the quasiprojectivity we see that  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  $\Delta$  and  $R/I \cong \text{End}_R(R/I)$  are Morita equivalent, and since  $R/I$  is local, we have  $\Delta \cong M_n(R/I)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

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