

A NOTE ON WEAKLY PRIMITIVE RINGS

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Abstract

It is well known that, for a subring of a full linear ring over a vector space, 2-fold transitive implies k -fold transitive for every natural integer k , and a primitive ring with minimal one-sided ideal is a two-sided nonsingular ring and every isomorphism can be induced by a semi-linear one-to-one transformation. This paper generalizes these results to weakly primitive rings.

Throughout this paper, unless specifically indicated otherwise, rings need not possess an identity element. By a module we will mean a right module, and an effort will be made to consistently write module homomorphisms on the side opposite to that of the scalars. A partial endomorphism of a module M is a homomorphism from a submodule of M into M . A nonzero R -module M is called compressible if it can be embedded in each of its nonzero submodules; it will be called critically compressible if it is compressible, and, additionally, cannot be embedded in any of its proper factor modules.

Lemma 1. *The following conditions are equivalent for a compressible module M :*

- (i) M is critically compressible;
- (ii) Every nonzero partial endomorphism of M is a monomorphism.

Proof. Refer to [6, Proposition 2.1].

A module which satisfies condition (ii) of the above lemma is called a monoform module.

Lemma 2. (i) *If M_R is monoform then elements of $D = \text{End}(M_R)$ have unique extensions to elements of $\Delta = \text{End}(\overline{M}_R)$ and Δ is a division ring, where \overline{M}_R is the quasi-injective hull of M_R .*

(ii) *If M_R is critically compressible then D is a right Ore domain with right quotient division ring Δ .*

Proof. Refer to [6, Proposition 1.2].

We call a triple $(\Delta, {}_\Delta V_R, M_R)$ an R -lattice if V is a Δ - R -bimodule with Δ being a division ring, $\Delta M = V$, and R acts faithfully on M . And we say that R acts

on R -lattice $(\Delta, {}_{\Delta}V_R, M_R)$ k -fold transitive if for given $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \in V$ linearly independent over Δ , there exists $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that for any elements $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k \in M$ one can find $r \in R$ with $an_i = v_i r$ for each $i=1, \dots, k$. A ring R is called a weakly primitive ring if it has a faithful critically compressible module. For weakly primitive ring Zelmanowitz proved the following density theorem.

Theorem (The Density Theorem). *The following conditions are equivalent for a ring R :*

- (i) R is weakly primitive.
- (ii) R acts on R -lattice $(\Delta, {}_{\Delta}V_R, M_R)$ k -fold transitive for every integer k .

Remark. In the (ii) of above theorem, the R -lattice $(\Delta, {}_{\Delta}V_R, M_R)$ satisfies following conditions: (a) M_R is a critically compressible module, (b) V_R is quasi-injective hull of M , and (c) $\Delta = \text{End}(E(\overline{M}_R))$ where $E(\overline{M}_R)$ is quasi-injective hull of M_R .

Theorem 3. *If R acts on R -lattice $(\Delta, {}_{\Delta}V_R, M_R)$ 2-fold transitive, then R acts on R -lattice $(\Delta, {}_{\Delta}V_R, M_R)$ k -fold transitive for every integer k .*

Proof For any $v \in V$ there is $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that for any $0 \neq u \in M$ there exists $r \in R$ with $vr = au \in M$, that is, V_R is an essential extension of M .

Let N_R be a submodule of M_R . We take an $0 \neq n \in N$. Then there exists $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that for any $m \in M_R$ one can find some $r \in R$ with $nr = am \in N$, i. e., $a \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ and obviously that a is a monomorphism, that is, M_R is a compressible module.

For any $\tau \in \text{End}_{\Delta} V$ and $v \in V$ and $m \in M$ one can find $r, s \in R$ with $(\tau r - s)|_{\Delta V} = 0$ and $r|_{\Delta m}$ being an automorphism. Indeed, let $u = v\tau$. If u and m are linear independent over Δ , then there exists $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that for $m, 0$ one can find $r \in R$ with $mr = am, ur = 0$. For v one can find $s \in R$ with $vs = 0$. Hence $v(\tau r - s) = v\tau r - vs = ur = 0$, i. e., $(\tau r - s)|_{\Delta V} = 0$ and $r|_{\Delta m} = Is$. If u and m are linear dependent over Δ , that is, $u = dm$, for v there exists $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that for any $m \in M$ one can find $t \in R$ with $vt = am$. And for $a^{-1}dm$ one can find $0 \neq b \in \Delta$ and $r \in R$ with $a^{-1}dmr = bm \in M$ and also one can find $s \in R$ with $vs = abm$. Then $v\tau r = ur = dmr = a(a^{-1}dmr) = abm = vs$. Thus $(\tau r - s)|_{\Delta V} = 0$ and $r|_{\Delta m}$ is an automorphism.

Secondly, we show that M_R is a critically compressible module; in fact, we only show that M_R is a moniform module by Lemma 1. Let N_R be a submodule of M_R and let $0 \neq f \in \text{Hom}_R(N, M)$ be given; say $f(m) \neq 0$ for some $m \in N$. Given an arbitrary element $0 \neq n \in N$, we choose $\tau \in \text{End}_{\Delta} V$ with $n\tau = m$ and take $r, s \in R$ with $\tau r = s$ on Δn , and with $r|_{\Delta(m)}$ being an automorphism. Then $f(n)s = f(ns) = f(n\tau r) = f(mr) = f(m)r \neq 0$, so $f(n) \neq 0$, and it follows that f is a monomorphism.

Finally, we must show that $\Delta' = \text{End}(\overline{M}_R) = \Delta$. By Lemma 2 and the fact that V_R is an essential extension of M_R we have $\Delta \subseteq \text{End}(E(M_R)) = \text{End}(\overline{M}_R)$. For any

$\sigma \in \text{End}(M_R)$ and for any $m \in M$, $\sigma(m)$ and m must be linear dependent over Δ ; if not, then there exists $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that there exists $r \in R$ with $mr = 0$ and $\sigma(m)r = am \neq 0$, but then $0 \neq \sigma(m)r = \sigma(mr) = 0$ which is a contradiction. Hence $\sigma(m) = dm$ for some $0 \neq d \in \Delta$. Now let n be an arbitrary element of M_R . There exists $0 \neq a \in \Delta$ such that there exists $r \in R$ with $mr = an \in M$, that is, a is an element of $\text{End}(M_R)$ and $\sigma a(n) = \sigma(an) = \sigma(mr) = (\sigma(m))r = (dm)r = d(mr) = dan$. Hence $\sigma a = da$ or $\sigma = d$. But by lemma $\text{End}(M_R)$ is an Ore domain and $\Delta' = \text{End}(\bar{M}_R)$ is a right quotient ring of $\text{End}(M_R)$, so $\Delta = \text{End}(\bar{M}_R)$. By the density theorem of Zelmanowitz, we know that R acts on R -lattice $(\Delta, {}_\Delta V_R, M_R)$ densely. Thus we complete the proof.

Lemma 4. *Let M_R and N_R be two R -modules. If there exist monomorphisms $M_R \rightarrow N_R$ and $N_R \rightarrow M_R$, then $\bar{N}_R \cong \bar{M}_R$ where \bar{N}_R and \bar{M}_R are quasi-injective hulls of N_R and M_R respectively.*

Proof Since there exist monomorphisms $N_R \xrightarrow{f} M_R$ and $M_R \xrightarrow{g} N_R$, and we extend two monomorphisms $E(N_R) \rightarrow E(M_R)$ and $E(M_R) \rightarrow E(N_R)$, by Bumby Theorem ([3, Proposition 3.60]) we know that $E(N_R)$ is isomorphic to $E(M_R)$. Without loss of generality we can assume that $E(M_R) = E(N_R) = E$ and M_R, N_R are two essential submodules of E_R . $S = \text{End}(E_R)$, then $\bar{M}_R = SM_R$ and $\bar{N}_R = SN_R$. f and g can extend two monomorphisms of E , say \hat{f} and \hat{g} . Then $\hat{f}(\bar{N}_R) = \hat{f}S(N_R) \subseteq \hat{f}S\hat{f}^{-1}(M_R) \subseteq SM_R = \bar{M}_R$. Similarly, $\hat{g}: \bar{M}_R \hookrightarrow \bar{N}_R$. Since $\bar{M}_R \hookrightarrow \bar{N}_R$ and \bar{N}_R is quasi-injective, \bar{N}_R is \bar{M}_R -injective by [2, Proposition 16.13]. And $\bar{N}_R \hookrightarrow \bar{M}_R$, we have $\bar{M}_R \cong \bar{N}_R \oplus L_R$ for some submodule of E ; but this contradicts the assumption that N_R is essential in E_R . Thus $\bar{M}_R \cong \bar{N}_R$.

Theorem 5. *Let $R_i (i=1, 2)$ be two rings which act on R_i -lattice (Δ_i, V_i, M_i) 2-fold transitive and contain a linear transformation with finite rank. If σ is an isomorphism from ring R_1 to ring R_2 , then there exists a semi-linear one to one transformation τ from V_1 to V_2 such that $r^\sigma = \tau^{-1}r\tau$ for every $r \in R_1$.*

Proof We consider rings R_1 and R_2 as the same ring R under isomorphism σ . Then the R_i -lattices (Δ_i, V_i, M_i) are R -lattice, and R acts on (Δ_i, V_i, M_i) 2-fold transitive and contains a linear transformation with finite rank on $V_i (i=1, 2)$.

By Theorem 3 we know that R acting on R -lattices (Δ_i, V_i, M_i) is dense. Let r be a linear transformation with finite rank. Then we may write $Vr \subseteq \sum_{i=1}^t \Delta m_i$ with $m_1, \dots, m_t \in M$, linear independent over Δ . And we can choose some $r' \in R$ such that $m_1 r' \neq 0$ and $m_i r' = 0$ for $2 \leq i \leq t$. Thus we know that $rr' \in R$ with rank 1.

Let us now assume that $r \in R$ is a linear transformation of rank 1 on V . Then $V = \ker r \oplus \Delta m$ and for every nonzero element $r' \in rR$, $\ker r' = \ker r$. So $r' \neq 0$ iff $mr' \neq 0$, that is, $rR \rightarrow M$ via: $r' \mapsto mr'$ is a monomorphism. By Theorem 3 we know that

M is a compressible module, so there also exists a monomorphism $M \rightarrow rR$.

From above discussion we know that for each R -lattice (Δ_i, V_i, M_i) there exists $r_i \in R$ such that $r_i R \hookrightarrow M_i$ and $M_i \hookrightarrow r_i R$. And by [4, Theorem 4.1] we know that R is a right nonsingular prime, and $r_1 R$ is a uniform right ideal of R . So there are two monomorphisms $r_1 R \rightarrow r_2 R$ and $r_2 R \rightarrow r_1 R$. Thus we have two monomorphisms $M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ and $M_2 \rightarrow M_1$. By Theorem 3, $V_1 = \bar{M}_1$ and $V_2 = \bar{M}_2$. Thus $V_1 \cong V_2$ by Lemma 4, and we write it as τ . We restore τ to an isomorphism from R_1 -module V_1 to R_2 -module V_1 . Then we have

$$(r_1 v_1) \tau = (v_1) \tau (r_1)^\sigma, \quad v_1 \in V_1 \text{ and } r_1 \in R_1.$$

We think r_1 as an endomorphism of V_1 and $(r_1)^\sigma$ as an endomorphism of V_2 . Then $r_1 \tau = \tau (r_1^\sigma)$, that is,

$$r_1^\sigma = \tau^{-1} r_1 \tau, \text{ for every } r_1 \in R_1.$$

It remains to show that τ is a semi-linear transformation from vector space V_1 over Δ_1 to vector space V_2 over Δ_2 . Since τ is an isomorphism from abelian group V_1 to abelian group V_2 , the correspondence

$$\theta: \text{End}(V_1) \rightarrow \text{End}(V_2)$$

$$r_1 \mapsto \tau^{-1} r_1 \tau$$

is an isomorphism from ring $\text{End}(V_1)$ to ring $\text{End}(V_2)$ and $\theta(R_1) = R_2$. By Theorem 3 we know that the centralizer of R_i in $\text{End}(V_i)$ is Δ_i . Hence $\theta(\Delta_1) = \Delta_2$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (d_1 v_1) \tau &= v_1 L_{d_1} \tau = v_1 \tau \tau^{-1} L_{d_1} \tau = (v_1 \tau) L_{d_1} \\ &= d_2 (v_1 \tau) = (d_1 \varphi) (v, \tau), \end{aligned}$$

that is, (τ, φ) is a semi-linear one to one transformation from vector space V_1 to vector space V_2 .

Corollary 6. *If R is a right order of $M_n(D_i)$ ($i=1, 2$) where D_i is a division ring, then $D_1 \cong D_2$ and $n_1 = n_2$.*

Proof It is obvious by using above theorem, we omit the detail.

Theorem 7 *Let R be a ring with a faithful critically compressible right ideal. Then*

(i) *R is a left nonsingular ring.*

(ii) *If R has a uniform left ideal, then either R is a two side order in a matrix ring Δ_i for some division ring Δ , in case R contains a subring isomorphic to D_i for some two side order D of Δ ; or else for each positive integer t there exists a two side order D of Δ and a subring of R which maps homomorphically onto D_i .*

Proof (i) By the theorem of Zelmanowitz ([6, Theorem 4.1]) we know that R is a right nonsingular, prime ring with a uniform right ideal. Let I_R be a uniform right ideal of R and $S = \text{End}(I_R)$ and ${}_R M_S = \text{Hom}_R(I, R)$. By Lemma 2 we know that S is a right Ore domain, so $Z(S) = 0$. Let $x \in I$ and $f \in S$ with $f(x) = 0$.

Then $I/\ker f \hookrightarrow I_R$, and since R is right nonsingular and I_R is uniform, we have $f=0$, that is, ${}_SI$ is a faithful module.

Now we take $r' \notin Z_l(R)$. Then there is a large left ideal L of R with $Lr'=0$. Take any $x \in I$ and put $J = \{s \in S: sx \in IL\}$. This is a large left ideal of S ; indeed $sx \neq 0$ if $x \neq 0$ and $s \neq 0$. In this case there must exist some $g \in \text{Hom}_R(I, R)$ with $gs(x) \neq 0$. In fact, otherwise we would have $I/\ker g \hookrightarrow R$, but $I/\ker g$ is a singular module and R is nonsingular. Since L is a left large ideal of R , there exists some $r \in R$ such that $rgsx \in L$ and $rgsx \neq 0$, and then there exists some $x' \in I$ with $x'rgsx \neq 0$ by the prime of R . It is easy to verify that $x'rgs \in S$ and $x'rgsx \in IL$. Hence $x'rgs \in J$, that is, J is a large left ideal of S , and $Jxr' \subseteq ILr' = 0$. Then it must be $xr' = 0$ by the above discussion and x is arbitrary, so $Ir' = 0$. Thus $r' = 0$, i. e., $Z_l(R) = 0$.

(ii) In fact, we have proved that there exists a Morita context $(R, {}_RM_S, {}_SI_R, S)$ where I_R is a uniform right ideal of R , $S = \text{End } I_R$ and $M = \text{Hom}_R(I, R)$, and this Morita context is nondegenerate. Let ${}_RJ$ be a left uniform ideal of R . We assert that IJ as an S -module is a uniform module; if not, let J_1 and J_2 be two nonzero S -submodules of IJ with $J_1 \oplus J_2$ being a direct sum as S -modules in IJ , then $(M, J_1) \oplus (M, J_2)$ is a direct sum of left ideals of R . Indeed if $r_1 + r_2 = 0$, $r_i \in (M, J_i)$ then $Ir_1 + Ir_2 = 0$, but $Ir_i \subseteq I(M, J_i) = [I, M]J_i \subseteq J_i$, hence $Ir_i = 0$. Thus $r_i = 0$ since R is prime, but $(M, J_i) \subseteq (M, IJ) = (M, I)J \subseteq J$, which contradicts the fact that J is uniform.

We take $0 \neq x \in IJ$. Since IJ is a uniform module as S -module for every $s_1, s_2 \neq 0$ which are two elements of S , $0 \neq s_1x \in IJ$ and $0 \neq s_2x \in IJ$, we can choose s_3, s_4 which satisfy $s_3s_1x = s_4s_2x$. Then by Lemma 2 we know that it must be $s_3s_1 = s_4s_2$, that is, S is a left Ore domain.

Applying the dense theorem we know that R acts on R -lattice (Δ, V, M) densely where $M = I_R$, $V = \bar{I}_R$ and $\Delta = \text{End}(\bar{I}_R)$.

Suppose that $\dim \Delta V \geq t$ and choose $m_1, \dots, m_t \in M$ linear independent over Δ . For each $i=1, \dots, t$, set $A_i = \bigcap_{j \neq i} (0: M_j)$ by [6, Lemma 2.1], $A_i \not\subseteq (0: m_i)$ for each i , and so $N = \sum_{i=1}^t m_i A_i$ is a nonzero submodule of M . Put $D = \{a \in \Delta \mid aM \subseteq N\}$; an easy calculation proves that D is a two side order in Δ . For given $0 \neq \lambda \in \Delta$, $\lambda^{-1}(N) \cap N \neq 0$; so choosing $0 \neq a \in D$ such that $aM \subseteq \lambda^{-1}(N) \cap N$ yields $0 \neq \lambda a \in D$. And since S is a left order of Δ , there also exists $0 \neq b \in S$ such that $b\lambda \in S$. Then taking $0 \neq c \in D$, we would have $0 \in cb \in D$ and $cb\lambda \in D$.

Next we set $W = \sum_{i=1}^t Dm_i$, $W' = \sum_{i=1}^t D^1m_i$. Observe that $\text{Hom}_D(W', W) \cong D_t$. Now given $f \in \text{Hom}_D(W', W)$, f is completely determined by the values $m_i f = \sum_{j=1}^t d_{ij} m_j$, $d_{ij} \in D$, $i=1, \dots, t$. Since each $d_{ij} m_j \subseteq N$, we may write each $d_{ij} m_j = m_i r_{ij}$ for some r_{ij}

$\in A_i$. Thus $m_i f = m_i r_i$ where $r_i \in A_i$. Setting $r = \sum_{i=1}^t r_i$ yields $m_i f = m_i r$ for each i .

Thus by letting $S' = \{r \in R \mid W'r \subseteq W\}$, the assignment $r \mapsto$ right multiplication by r on W' yields a homomorphism of S' onto $\text{Hom}_D(W', W) \cong D_t$ whose kernel

$$K = \{r \in R \mid W'r = 0\}.$$

If, in fact, $\dim_{\Delta} V = t$, then m_1, \dots, m_t forms a basis for V and $K = 0$ since M_R is faithful. In this case then, R is a two side order in $\text{End } V$, and S' is a subring of R isomorphic to S_t .

Then we obtain the Theorem 1 of [4] again by using various methods.

Corollary 8. *Let R be a right prime Goldie. Then R is a left Goldie ring iff R has a uniform left ideal.*

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