

ON SUBMODULES INDUCING PRIME IDEALS OF ENDOMORPHISM RINGS

SOON-SOOK BAE

ABSTRACT In this paper, for any ring R with an identity, in order to study prime ideals of the endomorphism ring $End_R(M)$ of left R -module ${}_R M$, meet-prime submodules, prime radical, sum-prime submodules and the prime socle of a module are defined. Some relations of the prime radical, the prime socle of a module and the prime radical of the endomorphism ring of a module are investigated. It is revealed that meet-prime(or sum-prime) modules and semi-meet-prime(or semi-sum-prime) modules have their prime, semi-prime endomorphism rings, respectively.

0. Introduction

For an associative ring R and any left R -module ${}_R M$, its endomorphism ring $End_R(M)$ will act on the right side of ${}_R M$, in other words, ${}_R M_{End_R(M)}$ will be studied mainly. Thus the composite of endomorphisms preserves the order such that the composite $fg : M \rightarrow M$ of $f : M \rightarrow M$ and $g : M \rightarrow M$ defined by $mfg = (mf)g$ for every $m \in M$.

For any submodule $N \leq {}_R M$, we have ideals:

$$(N : M) = \{r \in R \mid rM \subseteq N\} \trianglelefteq R$$

$$Ann_R(N) = (0 : N) = \{r \in R \mid rN = 0\} \trianglelefteq R$$

Received October 27, 1999 Revised March 10, 2000

1991 Mathematics Subject Classification 16A20

Key words and phrases Meet-prime, sum-prime, open, closed submodule, semi-prime, prime.

of R and a left and a right ideals:

$$I^N = \{f \in \text{End}_R(M) \mid \text{Im}f = Mf \leq N\} \triangleleft_l \text{End}_R(M)$$

$$I_N = \{f \in \text{End}_R(M) \mid N \leq \ker f\} \triangleleft_r \text{End}_R(M)$$

of the endomorphism ring $\text{End}_R(M)$, briefly denoted by S . For any subset J of S , let $\text{Im}J = \sum_{f \in J} \text{Im}f = \sum_{f \in J} Mf$ and $\ker J = \bigcap_{f \in J} \ker f$ be the sum of images of endomorphisms in J and the intersection of kernels in J , respectively. Also we call N an *open* submodule if $N = N^\circ$, where $N^\circ = \sum_{\text{Im}f \leq N} \text{Im}f$, $f \in S$, is the sum of images of endomorphisms contained in N and call N a *closed* submodule if $N = \overline{N}$, where $\overline{N} = \bigcap_{N \leq \ker f} \ker f$, $f \in S$, is the intersection of kernels of endomorphisms containing N .

Here is the definition of a prime submodule that McCasland and Moore set up in their paper "Prime Submodules", 1992 [4].

For a proper submodule $P \leq {}_R M$, if $rm \in P$ ($r \in R$ and $m \in M$) implies that either $m \in P$ or $r \in (P : M)$, then P will be said to be *prime* in M .

LEMMA 0.1. [4] *Let R be any ring and M any R -module. Then a submodule $N \leq M$ is prime if and only if $P = (N : M)$ is a prime ideal of R and the (R/P) -module M/N is torsion-free.*

Comparing the definition of prime submodule with the following definition of meet-prime submodule, it looks very different. But for any integral domain R with identity if ${}_R M$ is a multiplication module ([3]), it follows immediately from the Lemma 0.1 and the Corollary 3.3 that P is a prime submodule of ${}_R M \iff P$ is meet-prime in ${}_R M$ defined in the next section §1. Also it follows immediately from the Lemma 0.1 and the Corollary 3.7 that P is a prime submodule of ${}_R M \iff P$ is sum-prime in ${}_R M$ defined in the next section §3.

1. Meet-Prime Submodules

It isn't easy to see the structure of prime ideals of R, S and the structures of prime submodule of ${}_R M$. In addition, there are operations $+$ and \cap on the family of all submodules of ${}_R M$. Using the fact that

under these $+$ and \cap , the family of all submodules of ${}_R M$ is closed. from the structure of submodules there may be some methods to find prime ideals of S and those of R .

The following definition is one of methods to see relations between submodules of ${}_R M$ and prime ideals of the ring R and the endomorphism ring S .

DEFINITION 1.1. For a submodule $P \leq {}_R M$ of a left R -module ${}_R M$, we will say that P is a meet-prime submodule of M if it satisfies the following conditions

For any open submodules $A, B \leq M$ with $P^\circ + A \neq M$ or $P^\circ + B \neq M$,

- (1) if $A \cap B \leq P$, then $A \leq P$ or $B \leq P$,
- (2) if $(P \cap A \cap B)^\circ \neq 0$, then $A \leq P$ or $B \leq P$,
- (3) if $P \cap A = 0$, then $A = 0$ or $P + A = M$.

Trivially every module M is meet-prime in ${}_R M$.

For example, we have that any prime ideal $\langle p \rangle$ with prime p of a commutative integer ring \mathbb{Z} is a meet-prime submodule of a left \mathbb{Z} -module ${}_Z \mathbb{Z}$. Clearly the zero submodule of any simple module is meet-prime.

REMARK 1.2. Every meet-prime submodule is not maximal, in general.

Since the non-maximal submodule $p\mathbb{Z}[x] \leq {}_{\mathbb{Z}[x]} \mathbb{Z}[x]$ (for prime p) is meet-prime.

PROPOSITION 1.3 For any left R -module ${}_R M$, we have the following.

- (1) For distinct nonzero open meet-prime submodules P and Q of a left R -module ${}_R M$, it follows that $P + Q = M$.
- (2) For a submodule $P \leq {}_R M$, P° is meet-prime if and only if P is meet-prime.

PROOF. (1) Assume $P + Q \neq M$. Since $P \cap (P + Q) = P \neq 0$ and $Q \cap (P + Q) = Q \neq 0$, the meet-primenesses of P and Q and the openness of $P + Q$ implies $P = Q$. Therefore we have $P + Q = M$.

(2) Since for any open submodule $U \leq M$, $U \leq P \iff U \leq P^\circ$ and $(P^\circ)^\circ = P^\circ$. The proof is easy from the definition of *meet-prime* submodule.

REMARK 1.4. In a \mathbb{Z} -left module ${}_Z\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ every proper submodule is meet-prime since ${}_Z\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ has a unique zero open submodule of it, in other words, no nontrivial submodule is open in ${}_Z\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ telling that 0 is a unique proper open meet-prime submodule.

The following are some criterior of meet-prime submodules of a module.

A submodule $P \leq {}_R M$ is maximal among open submodules whenever $K \leq M$ is open such that $P \leq K$. then $P = K$ or $K = M$ follows

LEMMA 1.5. If a submodule $P \leq {}_R M$ is maximal among open submodules, then P is meet-prime

PROOF. From the maximality of open submodule $P = P^\circ$ among the open submodules of M , the proof is easy.

It is well-known that not every module has a maximal submodule.

COROLLARY 1.6. For any left R -module ${}_R M$ we have the following.

- (1) If $P \leq {}_R M$ is any maximal submodule of M , then P is a meet-prime submodule of M .
- (2) If $I^P = J \triangleleft S$ is a maximal ideal of S , then P is a meet-prime submodule of M .
- (3) For an ideal $J \triangleleft S$, if the ideal $I^{M J}$ is a maximal ideal of S , then $M J$ is a fully invariant open meet-prime submodule.

PROOF. The proof is established easily.

2. Sum-Prime Submodules

As a dual way of meet-primeness of submodules of ${}_R M$, the following definition is one of methods to see relations between submodules of ${}_R M$, prime ideals of the ring R , and the endomorphism ring S .

DEFINITION 2.1. For a submodule $P \leq {}_R M$ of a left R -module ${}_R M$, we will say that P is a sum-prime submodule of M if it satisfies the following conditions:

For any closed submodules $A, B \leq M$ with $\overline{P} \cap A \neq 0$ or $\overline{P} \cap B \neq 0$

- (1) if $P \leq A + B$, then $P \leq A$ or $P \leq B$,
- (2) if $\overline{P + A + B} \neq M$, then $P \leq A$ or $P \leq B$.
- (3) if $P + A = M$, then $A = M$ or $P \cap A = 0$

Trivially the zero submodule 0 is sum-prime in ${}_R M$.

For example, we have that a prime ideal $\overline{2}\mathbb{Z}_6 = \overline{4}\mathbb{Z}_6 \trianglelefteq {}_{\mathbb{Z}_6}\mathbb{Z}_6$ of a commutative ring \mathbb{Z}_6 is a sum-prime submodule of a left \mathbb{Z}_6 -module ${}_{\mathbb{Z}_6}\mathbb{Z}_6$.

REMARK 2.2 The submodule $\{\overline{0}, \overline{1/p}, \overline{2/p}, \dots, \overline{(p-1)/p}\}$ is a sum-prime submodule of ${}_{\mathbb{Z}}\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ with a prime number p . However the submodule $\{\overline{0}, \overline{1/p}, \overline{2/p}, \dots, \overline{(p-1)/p}, \dots, \overline{1/p^n}, \overline{2/p^n}, \dots, \overline{(p-1)/p^n}\} (n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2)$ is not a sum-prime submodule of it.

Every sum-prime submodule is not minimal, in general. Each non-minimal submodule $n\mathbb{Z} \leq {}_{\mathbb{Z}}\mathbb{Z} (0 \neq n \in \mathbb{Z})$ of an integer module ${}_{\mathbb{Z}}\mathbb{Z}$ is sum-prime.

PROPOSITION 2.3 For any left R -module ${}_R M$, we have the following:

- (1) For distinct proper closed sum-prime submodules P and Q of a left R -module ${}_R M$, it follows that $P \cap Q = 0$.
- (2) For a submodule $P \leq {}_R M$, \overline{P} is sum-prime if and only if P is sum-prime.

PROOF

- (1) Assume $P \cap Q \neq 0$. Since $P + (P \cap Q) = P \neq M$ and $Q + (P \cap Q) = Q \neq M$, the sum-primenesses of P and Q and the closedness of $P \cap Q$ implies $P = Q$. Therefore we have $P \cap Q = 0$.
- (2) Since for any closed submodule $F \leq M$, $P \leq F \iff \overline{P} \leq F$ and $\overline{\overline{P}} = \overline{P}$. The proof is easy from the definition of sum-prime submodule.

REMARK 2.4. In a \mathbb{Z} -left module ${}_Z\mathbb{Z}_p \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p$ for prime p the closed sum-prime submodules which are not fully invariant are $0 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p$ and $\mathbb{Z}_p \oplus 0$. And ${}_Z\mathbb{Z}_p \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p$ is a unique closed fully invariant sum-prime submodule.

The following are some criterion of sum-prime submodules of a module.

A submodule $P \leq {}_R M$ is minimal among closed submodules whenever $K \leq M$ is closed such that $K \leq P$, then $P = K$ or $K = 0$ follows.

LEMMA 2.5. *If a submodule $P \leq {}_R M$ is minimal among closed submodules, then P is sum-prime.*

PROOF. From the minimality of closed submodule $P = \overline{P}$ among the closed submodules of M , the proof is easy.

It is well-known that not every module has a minimal submodule.

COROLLARY 2.6. *For any left R -module ${}_R M$ we have the following.*

- (1) *If $P \leq {}_R M$ is any minimal submodule of M , then P is a sum-prime submodule of M .*
- (2) *If $I_P = J \triangleleft S$ is a minimal ideal of S , then P is a sum-prime submodule of M .*
- (3) *For an ideal $J \triangleleft S$, if the ideal $I_{\ker J}$ is a minimal ideal of S , then $\ker J = \bigcap_{f \in J} \ker f$ is a closed fully invariant sum-prime submodule.*

PROOF. The proof is established easily.

3. Meet-Prime, Sum-Prime Submodules, and Prime Ideals

For any fully invariant submodule $N \leq M$ we have two-sided ideals $(N : M) \triangleleft R$ and $I^N \triangleleft S$. Thus it may be found relations between meet-prime submodules of ${}_R M$ and prime ideals of S (or R). Here are some results.

PROPOSITION 3.1. *If P is a fully invariant meet-prime submodule of ${}_R M$, then I^P is a prime ideal of S .*

PROOF Since P is meet-prime if and only if P° is meet-prime by (2) of the Proposition 1.3 it suffices to show that for any fully invariant open meet-prime submodule $P \leq M$, I^P is a prime ideal of S . Assume that P is a fully invariant open meet-prime submodule

Let $IJ \subseteq I^P = \{f \in S \mid Mf \leq P\}$ for subsets $I, J \subseteq S = \text{End}_R(M)$.

(I) First if $P = 0$, then $MIJ = 0$. If $MI \cap MJ = 0 \leq P = 0$, then $MI = 0$ or $MJ = 0$ follows from the meet-primeness of $P = 0$. Or if $MI \cap MJ \neq 0$, then $P \cap (MI \cap MJ) = 0$ and by (3) of the definition 1.1 we have $MI = MJ = M$ which can't make $MIJ = 0$. Therefore $I = 0$ or $J = 0$ follows. Hence $I^P = 0$ is a prime ideal of S .

(II) Secondly let P be a nonzero submodule of M . Then we have the following cases (i) and (ii) to be concerned. Here let $A = MJ$ and $B = P + MI$ as open submodules of ${}_R M$.

(i) for the case of $P + B = M$, from the fully invariantness of P it follows that

$$MJ = (P + MI)J \leq PJ + MIJ \leq P + P = P. \quad (*)$$

Hence we have that $J \subseteq I^P$.

(ii) for the case of $P + B \neq M$, we have to consider the following cases (a) and (b).

(a) if $(P \cap A \cap B)^\circ = P \cap A \cap B \neq 0$, then from (2) of the definition of meet-prime submodule P , it follows that

$$A = MJ \leq P \text{ or } B = P + MI \leq P, \text{ implying that } I \subseteq I^P \text{ or } J \subseteq P.$$

(b) if $(P \cap A \cap B)^\circ = P \cap A \cap B = 0$, then $P \cap (P + A \cap B) = P \neq 0$ with $P + A \cap B \neq M$ (otherwise, $P + A \cap B = M$ implies $P + B = M$ contradicted to $P + B \neq M$). Then by the meet-primeness of P we have that $P + A \cap B \leq P$. Hence $A \cap B \leq P$ and $A \leq P$ or $B \leq P$ follows from (1) of the definition 1.1. Therefore $I \subseteq I^P$ or $J \subseteq I^P$ for any $IJ \subseteq I^P$ and for $I, J \subseteq S$. Therefore the ideal I^P is a prime ideal of S .

REMARK 3.2. The fully invariantness of a meet-prime submodule P of ${}_R M$ inducing a prime ideal I^P of S is essential. For example, on a \mathbb{Z} -module $\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$ there are meet-prime submodules $2\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$ and $\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus 0$, the one is fully invariant and the other is not, which induce a prime ideal $I^{2\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3} \triangleleft' S$ and a non-prime ideal $I^{\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus 0} \triangleleft S$.

The converse of the Proposition 3.1 is not true in general. For example, the trivial ideal $0 = I^0 \triangleleft' \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}[x]}(\mathbb{Z}[x])$ is a prime ideal of $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}[x]}(\mathbb{Z}[x])$.

COROLLARY 3.3. *If P is a meet-prime submodule of ${}_R M$ over a commutative ring R with identity, then $(P : M)$ is a prime ideal of R .*

PROOF. Since R is a commutative ring with identity it follows immediately that for any $r \in R$, $rM = M\rho(r) \leq M$ is an open submodule of ${}_R M$, where $\rho(r) : M \rightarrow M$ is defined by $m\rho(r) = rm$ for each $m \in M$. And hence $(P : M)M$ is also an open submodule of M .

For any $rs \in (P : M)$ with $r, s \in R$, let $A = rM$ and $B = (P : M)M + sM$. Then by the same method of the proof of the Proposition 3.1 it follows that $r \in (P : M)$ or $s \in (P : M)$. Hence $(P : M)$ is a prime ideal of R .

COROLLARY 3.4. *If P is a fully invariant meet-prime submodule of ${}_R M$ over a commutative ring R with identity, then $(P : M)$ and the ideal I^P are prime ideals of R and S , respectively*

PROOF. By the Proposition 3.1 and the Corollary 3.3 it is proved

For any fully invariant submodule $N \leq M$ we have two-sided ideals $I_N \triangleleft S$ and $(0 : M) = \text{Ann}_R(K) \triangleleft R$. Thus it certainly can be found relations between sum-prime submodules of ${}_R M$ and prime ideals of S and R . Here is some result.

PROPOSITION 3.5. *If P is a fully invariant sum-prime submodule of ${}_R M$, then I_P is a prime ideal of S .*

PROOF. Since P is sum-prime if and only if \overline{P} is sum-prime by (2) of the Proposition 2.3 it suffices to show that for any fully invariant

closed sum-prime submodule P , I_P is a prime ideal of S . Assume that P is a fully invariant closed sum-prime submodule of M .

Let $IJ \subseteq I_P = \{f \in S \mid P \leq \ker f\}$ for subsets $I, J \subseteq S = \text{End}_R(M)$.

(I) If $P = M$, then $\ker IJ = M$. If $M = \ker I + \ker J$, then $M \leq \ker I$ or $M \leq \ker J$ from the sum-primeness of $P = M$. If $M \neq \ker I + \ker J$, then by (3) of the definition 2.1 it follows that $\ker I + \ker J = M$ contradicted. Therefore $I_M = 0$ is a prime ideal of S .

(II) For $P \neq M$, let $A = P \cap \ker I$ and $B = P \cap \ker J$ as closed submodules of ${}_R M$.

The cases of (i) $P \cap B = 0$ and (ii) $P \cap B \neq 0$ must be considered

(i) for $P \cap B = 0$. we have $P = 0$, then from the equation

$$0 = P \geq P \cap \ker IJ \geq \bigcap_{h \in I} h^{-1}(P \cap \ker J) = \bigcap_{h \in I} h^{-1}(0) = \ker I \quad (*)$$

we have that $\ker I = 0$ Thus $I \subseteq I_P = I_0$ follows

(ii) for the case of $P \cap B \neq 0$. $P \cap B = P \cap \ker J \neq 0$ and

$$P + \ker I + P \cap \ker J \leq \ker IJ.$$

(a) If $\ker IJ \neq M$. then from (2) of the sum-prime submodule P it follows that $P \leq \ker I$ or $P \leq P \cap \ker J$. Hence I or $J \subseteq I_P$.

(b) If $\ker IJ = M$. Then the following cases :

$$(\alpha) P + \ker I + P \cap \ker J = P + \ker I = M \text{ or}$$

$$(\beta) P + \ker I + P \cap \ker J = P + \ker I \neq M$$

are concerned. Since P is a sum-prime submodule, with (β) we have that $P \leq \ker I$ or $P \leq P \cap \ker J \leq \ker J$. Thus $I \subseteq I_P$ or $J \subseteq I_P$ follows

It remains to deal with (α) $P + \ker I = M$ Then by the sum-primeness of P we have that $\ker I = M$ or $P \cap (\ker I + P \cap \ker J) = 0$. respectively. Thus $I = 0 \subseteq I_P$ only follows. Otherwise if $P \cap (\ker I + P \cap \ker J) = 0$, then $P \cap \ker I = 0 = P \cap \ker J$ implies $P \not\leq \ker IJ = M$ which contradicts to $P \leq \ker IJ = M$.

Therefore the ideal I_P is a prime ideal of S .

REMARK 3.6. The fully invariantness of a sum-prime submodule P inducing a prime ideal I_P of S is essential. For example, on $\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$ there are sum-prime submodules $4\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus 0 \oplus 0$ and $0 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus 0$, the one

is fully invariant and the other is not, which induce a prime ideal $I_{4\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus 0 \oplus 0} \trianglelefteq S$ and a non-prime ideal $I_{0 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus 0} \trianglelefteq S$.

The converse of the Proposition 4.1 is not true in general. For example, the trivial ideal $0 = I_M \trianglelefteq \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty))$ is a prime ideal of $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty))$, however the trivial submodule $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty) \leq {}_{\mathbb{Z}}\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ is not sum-prime.

COROLLARY 3.7. *If P is a sum-prime submodule of ${}_R M$ over a commutative ring R with identity, then $\text{Ann}_R(P) = (0 : P)$ is a prime ideal of R .*

PROOF. Since R is a commutative ring with identity it follows immediately that for any $r \in R$, $rM = M\rho(r) \leq M$ is an open submodule of ${}_R M$, where $\rho(r) : M \rightarrow M$ is defined by $m\rho(r) = rm$ for each $m \in M$. And hence $\ker\rho(0 : P) = \bigcap_{r \in (0 : P)} \ker\rho(r)$ is also a closed submodule of M .

For $rs \in (0 : P)$ with $r, s \in R$, let $A = \ker\rho(r)$ and $B = \ker\rho(0 : P) \cap \ker\rho(s)$. Then by the same method of the proof of the Proposition 3.5 it follows that $r \in (0 : P)$ or $s \in (0 : P)$. Hence $(0 : P)$ is a prime ideal of R .

COROLLARY 3.8. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if P is a fully invariant sum-prime submodule of ${}_R M$, then $(0 : P)$ and the ideal I_P are prime ideals of R and S , respectively.*

PROOF. By the Proposition 3.5 and the Corollary 3.7 it is proved.

4. (Semi-)Meet-Prime Modules and (Semi-)Prime Rings

In order to see relations among semi-prime rings, semi-meet-prime modules and semi-prime endomorphism rings of left modules, and relations among the prime radicals of rings, endomorphism rings and the prime radicals of modules, we need a new definition as follows

DEFINITION 4.1. For a left R -module ${}_R M$, we define the prime radical $\text{rad}(M) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Lambda} P_\alpha$ to be the intersection of all fully invariant meet-prime submodules $P_\alpha \leq M$ for $\alpha \in \Lambda$. Consequently, if $\text{rad}(M) =$

$\cap P_\alpha$, then we have an open submodule $rad(M) = \cap P_\alpha = \cap P_\alpha^o$ of M by (2) of the Proposition 1.3.

A left R -module ${}_R M$ is said to be semi-meet-prime if the prime radical $rad(M) = 0$ i.e., the intersection $\cap P_\alpha = 0$ for all fully invariant meet-prime submodules $P_\alpha \leq M$.

THEOREM 4.2. *If a left R -module ${}_R M$ is semi-meet-prime, then its endomorphism ring S is semi-prime.*

PROOF. Let $rad(M) = \cap P_\alpha$ be the prime radical of ${}_R M$ for each fully invariant meet-prime submodule P_α of ${}_R M$. Assume that ${}_R M$ is semi-meet-prime.

Then $rad(M) = 0 = \cap P_\alpha$, P_α is a fully invariant meet-prime submodule of M . Thus the prime radical $rad(S) \leq \cap I^{P_\alpha} = I^{\cap P_\alpha} = I^{rad(M)} = I^0 = 0$ must be zero. Therefore S is semi-prime

THEOREM 4.3. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a faithful left R -module ${}_R M$ is semi-meet-prime, then the ring R and its endomorphism ring S are semi-prime.*

PROOF. The relation $(\cap P_\alpha : M) = \cap (P_\alpha : M)$ implies that $0 = (0 : M) = (rad(M) : M) = \cap (P_\alpha : M) \geq rad(R)$ since M is faithful.

Recall that a ring is said to be prime if its zero ideal is prime. Thus we can define in the same way, if ${}_R M$ has a zero meet-prime submodule of it. ${}_R M$ will be called a meet-prime module.

THEOREM 4.4 *For a commutative ring R with identity, if there is at least one faithful meet-prime module, say ${}_R M$, then R is a prime ring. And so is S .*

PROOF. Let ${}_R M$ be a left faithful meet-prime R -module. Since 0 is a fully invariant meet-prime submodule of a faithful module M we have that

$0 = (0 \cdot M) \trianglelefteq R$ and $0 = I^0 \trianglelefteq S$ are prime ideals of R and S , respectively. Hence R and S are prime rings.

THEOREM 4.5. *If a left R -module ${}_R M$ is meet-prime, then S is a prime ring.*

PROOF. Since $I^0 = 0 \trianglelefteq S$ is a prime ideal of S by the Proposition 2.1 it follows immediately that S is a prime ring.

PROPOSITION 4.6. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a left R -module ${}_R M$ is meet-prime, then $\text{Ann}_R(M) = (0 : M)$ is a prime ideal of R and S is a prime ring.*

PROOF. It is an immediate consequence of the Theorem 3.3 and the meet-primeness of the prime radical $\text{rad}(M) = 0$.

PROPOSITION 4.7. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a left faithful R -module ${}_R M$ is meet-prime, then R and S are prime rings.*

PROOF. It is clear.

APPLICATION 4.8. *Clearly semi-meet-primeness of ${}_{\mathbb{Z}[\sigma]}\mathbb{Z}[x]$ implies that its endomorphism ring is semi-prime.*

For any indexed family of $\{M_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Gamma}$ of R -modules M_α ($\alpha \in \Gamma$), a direct product $\prod_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ (a direct sum $\bigoplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$) is said to be of *invariant factor modules* M_α ($\alpha \in \Gamma$) if each homomorphism group

$$\text{Hom}_R(M_\alpha, M_\beta) = \{f \mid f : M_\alpha \rightarrow M_\beta \text{ is an } R\text{-homomorphism}\}$$

is a trivial additive group for each $\alpha \neq \beta$ in Γ , that is, zero.

PROPOSITION 4.9. *If $\prod_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ is a direct product of semi-meet-prime invariant factor R -modules M_α ($\alpha \in \Gamma$), then $\prod_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ is also semi-meet-prime. Hence S is semi-prime.*

PROOF. Considering the canonical projections (here they are endomorphisms) $\pi_i : \prod M_\alpha \rightarrow M_i$ defined by $(x_\alpha)\pi_i = x_i$ for each $(x_\alpha) \in \prod M_\alpha$, from the fact that

for every fully invariant meet-prime submodule $P_i \leq M_i$, it follows that every preimage $\pi_i^{-1}(P_i)$ is meet-prime in $\prod M_\alpha$ since $\prod M_\alpha$ is a direct product of invariant factors. The rest of the proof can be established easily.

COROLLARY 4.10 *If $\prod_{\alpha \in I} M_\alpha$ is a direct product of meet-prime invariant factor R -modules M_α , then $\prod_{\alpha \in I} M_\alpha$ is also semi-meet-prime. Moreover S is semi-prime.*

PROOF. The proof is an immediate consequence of the Proposition 5.9.

COROLLARY 4.11 *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a left semi-simple R -module ${}_R M$ is a direct sum of simple invariant factor modules, then its endomorphism ring S is semi-prime. Additionally, if ${}_R M$ is faithful, then R is also a semi-prime ring*

PROOF. The proof is elementary by the Theorem 4.3 and the Proposition 4.9 since every a direct sum of semi-simple invariant factor modules is semi-meet-prime.

5. (Semi-)Sum-Prime Modules and (Semi-)Prime Rings

In order to see relations among semi-prime rings, semi-sum-prime modules and semi-prime endomorphism rings of left modules, and relations among the prime radicals of rings, endomorphism rings and the prime socles of modules, we need a new definition as follows

DEFINITION 5.1. For a left R -module ${}_R M$, we define the prime socle

$soc(M) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} P_\alpha$ to be the sum of all fully invariant sum-prime submodules $P_\alpha \leq M$ for $\alpha \in \Lambda$. Consequently, if $soc(M) = \sum P_\alpha$, then we have a closed submodule $soc(M) = \sum P_\alpha = \sum \overline{P_\alpha}$ of M by (2) of the Proposition 2.3

A left R -module ${}_R M$ is said to be semi-sum-prime if the prime socle $soc(M) = M$ i.e., the sum $\sum P_\alpha = M$ for all fully invariant sum-prime submodules $P_\alpha \leq M$

THEOREM 5.2 *If a left R -module ${}_R M$ is semi-sum-prime, then its endomorphism ring S is semi-prime.*

PROOF. Let $soc(M) = \sum P_\alpha$ be the prime socle of ${}_R M$ for each fully invariant sum-prime submodule P_α of ${}_R M$. Assume that ${}_R M$ is semi-sum-prime.

Then $\text{soc}(M) = M = \sum P_\alpha$, P_α is a fully invariant sum-prime submodule of M . Thus the prime radical $\text{rad}(S) \leq \cap I_{P_\alpha} = I_{\sum P_\alpha} = I_{\text{soc}(M)} = I_M = 0$ must be zero. Therefore S is semi-prime.

Recall that a ring is said to be prime if its zero ideal is prime. Thus we can define in the dual way, if ${}_R M$ has a nonzero trivial sum-prime submodule M of itself M , ${}_R M$ will be called a sum-prime module.

THEOREM 5.3. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a faithful left R -module ${}_R M$ is semi-sum-prime, then the ring R and its endomorphism ring S are semi-prime.*

PROOF. The relation $(0 : \sum P_\alpha) = \cap (0 : P_\alpha)$ implies that $0 = (0 : \text{soc}(M)) = \cap (0 : P_\alpha) \geq \text{rad}(R)$ since M is faithful

THEOREM 5.4. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if there is at least one faithful sum-prime module, say ${}_R M$, then R is a prime ring. And so is S .*

PROOF. Let ${}_R M$ be a left faithful sum-prime R -module. Since M is a fully invariant sum-prime submodule of a faithful module M we have that

$0 = (0 : M) \trianglelefteq R$ and $0 = I_M \trianglelefteq S$ are prime ideals of R and S , respectively. Hence R and S are prime rings

THEOREM 5.5. *If a left R -module ${}_R M$ is sum-prime, then S is a prime ring.*

PROOF. Since $I_M = 0 \trianglelefteq S$ is a prime ideal of S by the Proposition 4.1 it follows immediately that S is a prime ring.

PROPOSITION 5.6. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a left R -module ${}_R M$ is sum-prime, then $\text{Ann}_R(M) = (0 : M)$ is a prime ideal of R and S is a prime ring.*

PROOF. It is an immediate consequence of the Theorem 5.3 and the sum-primeness of the prime socle $\text{soc}(M) = M$.

PROPOSITION 5.7. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a left faithful R -module ${}_R M$ is sum-prime, then R and S are prime rings.*

PROOF. It is clear.

APPLICATION 5.8. *Clearly semi-sum-primeness of a left \mathbb{Z} -module $\oplus_p \mathbb{Z}_p$ (prime number p) implies that its endomorphism ring is semi-prime.*

PROPOSITION 5.9 *If $\oplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ is a direct sum of semi-sum-prime invariant factor R -modules M_α ($\alpha \in \Gamma$), then $\oplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ is also semi-sum-prime. Hence S is semi-prime.*

PROOF Considering the canonical injections (here they are R -homomorphisms) $\iota_\alpha : M_\alpha \rightarrow \oplus M_\gamma$ defined by $x_\alpha \iota_\alpha = \oplus x_\gamma$ for each $x_\gamma = 0_\gamma$ if $\gamma \neq \alpha$, $x_\gamma = x_\alpha$ if $\gamma = \alpha$, there is an R -endomorphism $\oplus \iota_\alpha : \oplus M_\gamma \rightarrow \oplus M_\gamma$. From the fact that

for every fully invariant sum-prime submodule $P_\alpha \leq M_\alpha$, it follows that every image $\iota_\alpha(P_\alpha)$ is sum-prime in $\oplus M_\alpha$ since $\oplus M_\alpha$ is a direct sum of invariant factors. The rest of the proof can be established easily

COROLLARY 5.10. *If $\oplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ is a direct sum of sum-prime invariant factor R -modules M_α , then $\oplus_{\alpha \in \Gamma} M_\alpha$ is also semi-sum-prime. Moreover S is semi-prime.*

PROOF. The proof is an immediate consequence of the proposition 6.9.

COROLLARY 5.11. *For a commutative ring R with identity, if a left semi-simple R -module ${}_R M$ is a direct sum of simple invariant factor modules, then its endomorphism ring S is semi-prime. Additionally, if ${}_R M$ is faithful, then R is also a semi-prime ring.*

PROOF. The proof is elementary by the Theorem 6.3 and the Proposition 6.9 since every a direct sum of semi-simple invariant factor modules is semi-meet-prime.

REFERENCES

- [1] Soon-Sook Bae, *On Ideals of Endomorphism Ring of Projective Module*, Pusan Kyong nam Mathematical Journal **15** (1989), 81–86.
- [2] _____, *Certain Discriminations of Prime Endomorphism and Prime Matrix*, East Asian Mathematical Journal **14**, no **2** (1998), 259–218.
- [3] Z. A. El-Bast and P. F. Smith, *Multiplication Modules*, Communications in Algebra **16** (1988), 755–779.
- [4] R. L. McCasland and M. E. Moore, *Prime Submodules*, Communications in Algebra **20** (1992), 1803–1817.

Department of Mathematics
Kyungnam University
Masan 631-701, Korea
E-mail: ssb@hanma.kyungnam.ac.kr