

## ON $\pi$ -MORPHIC MODULES

A. Harmanci,<sup>\*</sup> H. Kose<sup>†</sup> and Y. Kurtulmaz<sup>‡</sup>

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### Abstract

Let  $R$  be an arbitrary ring with identity and  $M$  be a right  $R$ -module with  $S = \text{End}(M_R)$ . Let  $f \in S$ .  $f$  is called  $\pi$ -morphic if  $M/f^n(M) \cong r_M(f^n)$  for some positive integer  $n$ . A module  $M$  is called  $\pi$ -morphic if every  $f \in S$  is  $\pi$ -morphic. It is proved that  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and image-projective if and only if  $S$  is right  $\pi$ -morphic and  $M$  generates its kernel.  $S$  is unit- $\pi$ -regular if and only if  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and  $\pi$ -Rickart if and only if  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and dual  $\pi$ -Rickart.  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and image-injective if and only if  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic and  $M$  cogenerates its cokernel.

**Keywords:** Endomorphism rings;  $\pi$ -morphic rings;  $\pi$ -morphic modules; unit  $\pi$ -regular rings.

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### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper all rings have an identity, all modules considered are unital right modules and all ring homomorphisms are unital (unless explicitly stated otherwise).

A ring  $R$  is said to be *strongly  $\pi$ -regular* ( *$\pi$ -regular*, *right weakly  $\pi$ -regular*) if for every element  $x \in R$  there exists an integer  $n > 0$  such that  $x^n \in x^{n+1}R$  (respectively  $x^n \in x^n R x^n$ ,  $x^n \in x^n R x^n R$ ). It is called *unit- $\pi$ -regular* if for every  $a \in R$ , there exist a unit element  $x \in R$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $a^n = a^n x a^n$ . In the case of  $n = 1$  there exists a unit  $x$  such that  $a = axa$  for all  $a \in R$ , then  $R$  is *unit regular*. Clearly, a strongly  $\pi$ -regular ring is a  $\pi$ -regular ring.

We say also that the ring  $R$  is (von Neumann) *regular* if for each  $a \in R$  there exists  $x \in R$  such that  $a = axa$  for some element  $x$  in  $R$ , that is,  $a$  is regular.

A module  $M$  is said to satisfy Fitting's lemma if, for all  $f \in S$ , there exists an integer  $n \geq 1$ , depending on  $f$ , such that  $M = f^n M \oplus \text{Ker}(f^n)$ . Hence a module satisfies

<sup>\*</sup>Department of Mathematics, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey. E-mail: (A. Harmanci) [harmanci@hacettepe.edu.tr](mailto:harmanci@hacettepe.edu.tr)

<sup>†</sup>Department of Mathematics, Ahi Evran University, Kirsehir, Turkey. Email: (H. Kose) [hkose@ahievran.edu.tr](mailto:hkose@ahievran.edu.tr)

<sup>‡</sup>Bilkent University, Department of Mathematics, Ankara, Turkey. Email: (Y. Kurtulmaz) [yosum@fen.bilkent.edu.tr](mailto:yosum@fen.bilkent.edu.tr)

Fitting's lemma if and only if its endomorphism ring is strongly  $\pi$ -regular (see for detail [4]).

Let  $M$  be a module. It is a well-known theorem of Erlich [2] that a map  $\alpha \in S$  is unit regular if and only if it is regular and  $M/\alpha(M) \cong \ker(\alpha)$ . We say that the ring  $R$  is *left morphic* if every element  $a$  satisfies  $R/Ra \cong l(a)$ .

In what follows, by  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  we denote, respectively, integers, rational numbers, the ring of integers modulo  $n$  and the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of integers modulo  $n$ . We also denote  $r_M(I) = \{m \in M \mid Im = 0\}$  where  $I$  is any subset of  $S$ ;  $r_R(N) = \{r \in R \mid Nr = 0\}$  and  $l_S(N) = \{f \in S \mid fN = 0\}$  where  $N$  is any subset of  $M$ . The maps between modules are assumed to be homomorphisms unless otherwise stated in the context.

## 2. Morpnic Modules and $\pi$ -Morpnic Modules

Let  $M$  be a module with  $S = \text{End}(M_R)$ , the ring of endomorphisms of the right  $R$ -module  $M$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  be the identity endomorphism of  $M$ . Let  $f \in S$ .  $f$  is called *morpnic* if  $M/f(M) \cong r_M(f)$ . The module  $M$  is called *morpnic* if every  $f \in S$  is morpnic. Morpnic modules are studied in [5]. An endomorphism  $f \in S$  is called  *$\pi$ -morpnic* if  $M/f^n(M) \cong r_M(f^n)$  for some positive integer  $n$ . The module  $M$  is called  *$\pi$ -morpnic* if every  $f \in S$  is  $\pi$ -morpnic. In the sequel  $S$  will stand for  $\text{End}(M_R)$  for the right  $R$ -module  $M$  is considered.

It is clear that every morpnic module is  $\pi$ -morpnic.

**2.1. Example.** There exists a  $\pi$ -morpnic module which is not morpnic.

Let  $e_{ij}$  denote  $3 \times 3$  matrix units. Consider the ring  $R = \{(e_{11} + e_{22} + e_{33})a + e_{12}b + e_{13}c + e_{23}d \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_2\}$  and the right  $R$ -module  $M = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  where right  $R$ -module operation is given by

$$(x, y, z)((e_{11} + e_{22} + e_{33})a + e_{12}b + e_{13}c + e_{23}d) = (xa, xb + ya, xc + yd + za)$$

where  $(x, y, z) \in M$ ,  $(e_{11} + e_{22} + e_{33})a + e_{12}b + e_{13}c + e_{23}d \in R$ . Let  $f \in S = \text{End}(M)$ . It is a routine check that there exist  $x, z \in \mathbb{Z}_2$  such that

$f(1, 0, 0) = (x, 0, z)$ ,  $f(0, 1, 0) = (0, x, 0)$ ,  $f(0, 0, 1) = (0, 0, x)$ . For any  $(a, b, c) \in M$ ,  $f(a, b, c) = (xa, ya + xb, za + xc)$ .

(i) Let  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z = 1$ . Then  $f_1(a, b, c) = (0, 0, a)$  implies  $f_1^2 = 0$  which gives  $r_M(f_1^2) = M$ . Hence  $M/f_1^2(M) \cong r_M(f_1^2)$ .

(ii) Let  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z = 1$ . Then  $f_2(a, b, c) = (a, b, a + c)$  implies  $r_M(f_2) = 0$  and  $f_2(M) = M$ . Hence  $M/f_2(M) \cong r_M(f_2)$ .

(iii) Let  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $z = 0$ . Then  $f_3(a, b, c) = (a, b, c)$  and  $f_3$  is the identity endomorphism of  $M$ .

(iv) Let  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $z = 0$ . Then  $f_4(a, b, c) = (0, a, 0)$  and  $f_4^2 = 0$ .

(v) Let  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $z = 1$ . Then  $f_5(a, b, c) = (0, a, a)$  and so  $f_5^2 = 0$ .

(vi) Let  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $z = 0$ . Then  $f_6(a, b, c) = (a, a + b, c)$ . Hence  $f_6$  is an isomorphism.

(vii) Let  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 1$ ,  $z = 1$ . Then  $f_7(a, b, c) = (a, a + b, a + c)$ . Hence  $f_7$  is an isomorphism.

(viii) The last one  $f_8$  is the zero endomorphism.

It follows that  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morpnic. However  $r_M(f_1) = (0) \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and  $f_1(M) = (0) \times (0) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  shows that  $M$  is not morpnic since, otherwise,  $M/f_1(M) \cong r_M(f_1)$ , contrary to the fact that  $e_{12}\mathbf{1} + e_{13}\mathbf{1} \in R$  would annihilate  $r_M(f_1)$  from the right but not  $M/((0) \times (0) \times \mathbb{Z}_2) = M/f_1(M) = r_M(f_1) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times (0)$ .

**2.2. Lemma.** Let  $f \in S$ . If  $M/f^n(M) \cong r_M(f^n)$ , there exists  $g \in S$  such that  $f^n M = r_M(g)$  and  $g(M) = r_M(f^n)$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $M/f^n M \cong r_M(f^n)$ . Let  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} M/f^n M \xrightarrow{h} r_M(f^n)$  where  $\pi$  is the coset map and  $h$  is the isomorphism. Set  $g = h\pi$ . Then  $g(M) = r_M(f^n)$  and  $r_M(g) = f^n(M)$ .  $\square$

**2.3. Proposition.** *Let  $M$  be a module, and let  $f \in S$  be  $\pi$ -morphic. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $r_M(f) = 0$ .
- (2)  $f$  is an automorphism.

*Proof.* Assume that  $f$  in  $S$  is  $\pi$ -morphic. Then there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/f^n(M) \cong r_M(f^n)$ . By Lemma 2.2 there exists  $g \in S$  such that  $f^n M = r_M(g)$  and  $g(M) = r_M(f^n)$ . Assume (1) holds. Then  $r_M(f) = 0$  and so  $r_M(f^n) = 0$ . This shows that  $f^n(M) = M$ . Hence  $f(M) = M$  and  $f$  is an automorphism and (2) holds. (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) always holds.  $\square$

**2.4. Theorem.** *Let  $M$  be a  $\pi$ -morphic module. Then the following holds.*

- (1) *For any  $f \in S$ , if  $r_M(f) = 0$  then  $f^n$  is an automorphism of  $M$  for some positive integer  $n$ .*
- (2) *For any  $f \in S$ , if  $f(M) = M$  then  $f^n$  is an automorphism of  $M$  for some positive integer  $n$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Let  $f \in S$  with  $r_M(f) = 0$ . By hypothesis there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/f^n M \cong r_M(f^n)$  and  $r_M(f) = 0$  implies  $r_M(f^n) = 0$ . So  $M = f^n M$ . Hence  $f^n$  is an automorphism.

(2) Assume that  $f(M) = M$ . Then  $f^i(M) = M$  for all  $i \geq 1$ . By hypothesis there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/f^n M \cong r_M(f^n)$ . Then  $r_M(f^n) = 0$ . Hence  $f^n$  is an automorphism.  $\square$

Recall that the ring  $R$  is called *directly finite* if  $ab = 1$  implies  $ba = 1$  for any  $a, b \in R$ . A module  $M$  is called *directly finite* if its endomorphism ring is directly finite, equivalently for any endomorphisms  $f$  and  $g$  of  $M$ ,  $fg = 1$  implies  $gf = 1$  where 1 is the identity endomorphism of  $M$ .

**2.5. Corollary.** *Let  $M$  be a  $\pi$ -morphic module. Then it is directly finite.*

*Proof.* Let  $f, g \in S$  with  $fg = 1$ . By Proposition 2.3,  $g$  is an automorphism. Hence  $gf = 1$ .  $\square$

**2.6. Lemma.** *Let  $f$  be a  $\pi$ -morphic element. If  $h : M \rightarrow M$  is an automorphism, then there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n h$  and  $h f^n$  are both morphic. In particular, every  $\pi$ -unit regular endomorphism is morphic.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.2, there exist  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $g(M) = r_M(f^n)$  and  $r_M(g) = f^n(M)$ . Then  $(f^n h)(M) = f^n(h(M)) = f^n(M) = r_M(g) = r_M(h^{-1}g)$ . Next we show  $r_M(f^n h) = (h^{-1}g)(M)$ . For if  $m \in r_M(f^n h)$ , then  $(f^n h)(m) = 0$  or  $h(m) \in r_M(f^n)$ . Hence  $m \in (h^{-1}g)(M)$  since  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . So  $r_M(f^n h) \leq (h^{-1}g)(M)$ . For the converse inclusion, let  $m \in (h^{-1}g)(M)$ . Then  $h(m) \in g(M)$ . So  $h(m) \in r_M(f^n)$  since  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . Hence  $(f^n h)(m) = 0$  or  $m \in r_M(f^n h)$ . Thus  $(h^{-1}g)(M) \leq r_M(f^n h)$ . It follows that  $r_M(f^n h) = (h^{-1}g)(M)$ , and so  $f^n h$  is morphic. Similarly  $h f^n$  is morphic.  $\square$

**2.7. Examples.** (1) Every strongly  $\pi$ -regular ring is  $\pi$ -morphic as a right module over itself.

(2) Every module satisfying Fitting's lemma is  $\pi$ -morphic.

(3) Let  $R$  be an Artinian ring. Then every finitely generated  $R$  module is  $\pi$ -morphic.

*Proof.* (1) and (2) are clear. (3) Let  $R$  be an Artinian ring and  $M$  be a finitely generated module. Then  $M$  is both Artinian and Noetherian. By Proposition 11.7 in [1],  $M$  satisfies Fitting's lemma. Therefore  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic.  $\square$

**2.8. Theorem.** *Every direct summand of a  $\pi$ -morphic module is  $\pi$ -morphic.*

*Proof.* Let  $M = N \oplus K$  and  $S_N = \text{End}_R(N)$  and  $f \in S_N$ . Define  $M \xrightarrow{g} M$  by  $g(m) = f(n) + k$  where  $m = n + k$  and  $n \in N, k \in K$ . Clearly  $g \in S$  and  $g(M) = f(N) \oplus K$  and  $r_M(g) = r_N(f)$ . By hypothesis there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/g^n(M) \cong r_M(g^n)$ . It is apparent that  $g^n(M) = f^n(N) \oplus K$ . Hence  $N/f^n(N) \cong (N \oplus K)/(f^n(N) \oplus K) = M/g^n(M) \cong r_M(g^n) = r_N(f^n)$ .  $\square$

**2.9. Remark.** One may suspect that for  $\pi$ -morphic modules  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ ,  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$  is  $\pi$ -morphic module provided  $\text{Hom}(M_i, M_j) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ . But we cannot prove it.

Example 2.10 reveals that direct sum of  $\pi$ -morphic modules need not depend on the condition  $\text{Hom}(M_i, M_j) = 0$ .

**2.10. Example.** Consider the ring  $R = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ 0 & a & d \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \right\}$  and the right

$R$ -module  $M = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \right\}$ , and the submodules

$N = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \right\}$  and  $K = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid c \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \right\}$ .

Then  $M = N \oplus K$ . Clearly  $N$  and  $K$  are  $\pi$ -morphic right  $R$ -modules. Let  $e_{ij}$  denote the  $3 \times 3$  matrix units in  $M$  and for  $e_{23}c \in K$  define  $K \xrightarrow{h} N$  by  $h(e_{23}c) = e_{13}c \in N$ . Then  $0 \neq h \in \text{Hom}(K, N)$ . For any  $f \in S$ , there exist  $a, b, c, u, v \in \mathbb{Z}_2$  such that

$f$  is given by  $f \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & ax & bx + ay + cz \\ 0 & 0 & ux + vz \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . It is easily checked that

all  $f$ 's are morphic endomorphisms.  $\square$

**2.11. Proposition.** *Let  $M = K \oplus N$  be a  $\pi$ -morphic module and  $K \xrightarrow{f} N$  be a homomorphism. Then  $K$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $N$ .*

*Proof.* For  $k+n \in M$  where  $k \in K, n \in N$ , define  $g(k+n) = f(k)+n$ . Then  $g$  is a right  $R$ -module homomorphism of  $M$  and  $g^2 = g$ . So  $M = g(M) \oplus (1-g)(M) = (f(K)+N) \oplus \{k-f(k) \mid k \in K\}$ . Clearly  $r_M(g) = (1-g)(M) = \{k-f(k) \mid k \in K\}$  is a direct summand of  $N$ . By hypothesis there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/g^n(M) \cong r_M(g^n)$ . Since  $g^2 = g$ , so  $K \cong K \oplus (N/f(K) + N) \cong (K \oplus N)/(f(K) + N) \cong M/g(M) = r_M(g)$  is a direct summand of  $N$ .  $\square$

A right  $R$ -module  $M$  is called *generalized right principally injective* (briefly *right GP-injective*) if, for any nonzero  $a \in R$ , there exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $a$  such that  $a^n \neq 0$  and any right homomorphism from  $a^n R$  to  $M$  extends to one of  $R_R$  into  $M$ , equivalently,  $lr(a^n) = Ra^n$  (see, [6, Lemma 5.1]). Similarly,  $M$  is *left GP-injective*  $S$ -module means that for any  $f \in S$  there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n \neq 0$  and any map  $\alpha$  from  $Sf^n$  to  $M$  extends to one of  ${}_S S$  into  $M$ , equivalently, if for any  $f \in S$ , there exists a positive integer  $n$  with  $f^n \neq 0$  such that  $f^n M = r_M l_S(f^n)$ .

A module  $M$  is called *image-projective* if, whenever  $gM \leq fM$  where  $f, g \in S$ , then  $g \in fS$ , that is  $g = fh$  for some  $h \in S$ .

**2.12. Lemma.** *Let  $M$  be a module with  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$ .*

- (1) *If  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic, then  $M$  is left GP-injective  $S$ -module.*
- (2) *If  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and image-projective, then  $S$  is right  $\pi$ -morphic.*
- (3) *If  $S$  is right  $\pi$ -morphic and  $M$  generates its kernel, then  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic.*

*Proof.* (1) Let  $f \in S$ . By hypothesis there exist a positive integer  $n$  and  $g \in S$  such that  $f^n M = r_M(g)$  and  $r_M(f^n) = gM$ . Since  $l_S(f^n) = l_S(f^n M)$ ,  $r_M l_S(f^n) = r_M l_S(f^n M) = r_M l_S(r_M(g)) = r_M(g) = f^n M$ .

(2) Let  $f \in S$ . By hypothesis there exist  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n(M) = r_M(g)$  and  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . Then  $gf^n = 0$ . Hence  $f^n \in r_S(g)$  and so  $f^n S \leq r_S(g)$ . Let  $h \in r_S(g)$ . Then  $gh(M) = 0$  and  $h(M) \leq r_M(g) = f^n(M)$ . By image-projectivity of  $M$  there exists  $h' \in S$  such that  $f^n h' = h \in f^n S$  or  $r_S(g) \leq f^n S$ . Thus  $r_S(g) = f^n S$ . Next we prove  $r_S(f^n) = gS$ . If  $h \in r_S(f^n)$ , then  $f^n h = 0$  and  $f^n h(M) = 0$  and  $h(M) \leq r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . By image-projectivity of  $M$  there exists an  $h' \in S$  such that  $h = gh' \in gS$ . So  $r_S(f^n) \leq gS$ . Let  $h \in gS$ . There exists an  $h' \in S$  such that  $h = gh'$ .  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$  implies  $f^n g = 0$ . Hence  $g \in r_S(f^n)$ . Thus  $gS \leq r_S(f^n)$  and so  $gS = r_S(f^n)$ .

(3) Let  $f \in S$ . There exist  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n S = r_S(g)$  and  $r_S(f^n) = gS$ . We prove  $f^n(M) = r_M(g)$  and  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ .  $f^n S = r_S(g)$  implies  $gf^n = 0$  and so  $f^n(M) \leq r_M(g)$ . Let  $h \in S$  such that  $h(M) \leq r_M(g)$ . So  $gh = 0$  and  $h \in f^n S$ . There exists  $h' \in S$  such that  $h = f^n h'$ . Hence  $h(M) \leq f^n h'(M) \leq f^n(M)$ . Since  $M$  generates  $r_M(g)$ ,  $r_M(g) \leq f^n(M)$ ,  $r_M(g) = f^n(M)$ . Next we prove  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ .  $r_S(f^n) = gS$  implies  $f^n g = 0$ . Then  $g(M) \leq r_M(f^n)$ . Let  $h(M) \leq r_M(f^n)$ . Then  $f^n h(M) = 0$  and so  $f^n h = 0$  and  $h \in r_S(f^n) = gS$ . There exists  $h' \in S$  such that  $h = gh'$ . Hence  $h(M) \leq gh'(M) \leq g(M)$  and  $r_M(f^n) \leq g(M)$  since  $M$  generates  $r_M(f^n)$ . Thus  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . □

The following theorem generalizes Theorem 32 in [5] to  $\pi$ -morphic modules.

**2.13. Theorem.** *Let  $M$  be a module. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and image-projective.*
- (2)  *$S$  is right  $\pi$ -morphic and  $M$  generates its kernel.*

*Proof.* Clear by Lemma 2.12. □

Let  $M$  be a module. In [7], the module  $M$  is called  $\pi$ -Rickart if for any  $f \in S$ , there exist  $e^2 = e \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $r_M(f^n) = eM$ , while in [3],  $M$  is said to be *Rickart* if for any  $f \in S$ , there exists  $e^2 = e \in S$  such that  $r_M(f) = eM$ . Rickart module is named as kernel-direct in [5]. In [8],  $M$  is called *dual  $\pi$ -Rickart* if for any  $f \in S$ , there exist  $e^2 = e \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n(M) = eM$ , while in [3],  $M$  is said to be *dual Rickart* if for any  $f \in S$ , there exists  $e^2 = e \in S$  such that  $f(M) = eM$ . Dual-Rickart module is named as image-direct in [5]. Erlich [2] proved that a map  $f \in S$  is unit-regular if and only if  $f$  is regular and morphic. We state and prove this theorem for  $\pi$ -regular rings.

**2.14. Theorem.** *Let  $f \in S$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  *$f$  is unit- $\pi$ -regular.*
- (2)  *$f$  is  $\pi$ -regular and morphic.*

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Every unit- $\pi$ -regular ring is  $\pi$ -regular. There exist a unit  $g$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n = f^n g f^n$ . Then  $g f^n$  is an idempotent,  $r_M(f^n) = (1 - g f^n)M$  and

$M \cong f^n(M) \oplus (1 - gf^n)M$ . Hence  $M/f^n(M) \cong r_M(f^n)$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $f^n = f^n g f^n$  where  $g \in S$ . Then

$$M = f^n M \oplus (1 - f^n g)M = r_M(f^n) \oplus (gf^n)M.$$

Let  $h : f^n M \rightarrow gf^n(M)$  be defined by  $hf^n(m) = gf^n(m)$  where  $f^n(m) \in f^n(M)$ . Then  $h$  and  $f^n$  are isomorphisms and inverse each other. Now

$M = f^n(M) \oplus (1 - f^n g)(M)$  and  $M/r_M(f^n) \cong f^n(M)$ . By morphic condition we have  $M/f^n(M) \cong r_M(f^n)$ . Then  $M/f^n(M) \cong (1 - (f^n g))(M)$  gives rise to an isomorphism

$(1 - (f^n g))(M) \xrightarrow{h'} r_M(f^n)$ . Set  $\alpha = h \oplus h'$ . Let  $m = x + y$  with  $x \in f^n(M)$  and  $y \in (1 - f^n g)(M)$ . Then  $(f^n \alpha f^n)(x + y) = (f^n h f^n)(x) + (f^n h' f^n)(y) = (f^n g f^n)(y) + 0 = f^n(y) + f^n(x) = f^n(x + y)$ . Hence  $f^n \alpha f^n = f^n$ .  $\square$

**2.15. Theorem.** Let  $M$  be a module with  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$ . The following are equivalent:

- (1)  $S$  is unit- $\pi$ -regular.
- (2)  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and  $\pi$ -Rickart.
- (3)  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and dual  $\pi$ -Rickart.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $S$  be unit- $\pi$ -regular and  $f \in S$ . There exist a unit  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n = f^n g f^n$ . By virtue of Theorem 2.14,  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic.  $M$  is  $\pi$ -Rickart since  $1 - gf^n$  is an idempotent and  $r_M(f^n) = (1 - gf^n)M$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $f \in S$ . There exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/(f^n M) \cong r_M(f^n)$ . By Lemma 2.2 there exists a  $g \in S$  such that  $g(M) = r_M(f^n)$  and  $r_M(g) = f^n(M)$ . By (2),  $r_M(g)$  is  $\pi$ -Rickart, therefore  $f^n(M)$  is direct summand.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $f \in S$ . By (3), there exist a positive integer  $n$  and  $g \in S$  such that  $f^n M = r_M(g)$  and  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . By (3),  $f^n M$  and  $g(M)$  are direct summand and so is  $r_M(f^n)$ . Hence  $S$  is  $\pi$ -regular ring by [9, Corollary 3.2]. By Theorem 2.14,  $S$  is unit- $\pi$ -regular.  $\square$

Example 2.16 shows that there exists a  $\pi$ -Rickart module which is not  $\pi$ -morphic.

**2.16. Example.** Consider  $M = \mathbb{Z} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. It can be easily determined that  $S = \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{Z} & 0 \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 & \mathbb{Z}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ . For any  $f = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ \bar{b} & \bar{c} \end{bmatrix} \in S$ , we have the following cases.

Case 1. Assume that  $a = 0, \bar{b} = \bar{0}, \bar{c} = \bar{1}$  or  $a = 0, \bar{b} = \bar{c} = \bar{1}$ . In both cases  $f$  is an idempotent, and so  $r_M(f) = (1 - f)M$ .

Case 2. If  $a \neq 0, \bar{b} = \bar{0}, \bar{c} = \bar{1}$  or  $a \neq 0, \bar{b} = \bar{c} = \bar{1}$ , then  $r_M(f) = 0$ .

Case 3. If  $a \neq 0, \bar{b} = \bar{c} = \bar{0}$  or  $a \neq 0, \bar{b} = \bar{1}, \bar{c} = \bar{0}$ , then  $r_M(f) = 0 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

Case 4. If  $a = 0, \bar{b} = \bar{1}, \bar{c} = \bar{0}$ , then  $f^2 = 0$ . Hence  $r_M(f^2) = M$ .

Therefore  $M$  is a  $\pi$ -Rickart module. Now we prove it is not  $\pi$ -morphic. Let

$$f = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ \bar{0} & \bar{1} \end{bmatrix} \in S. \text{ For each positive integer } n, r_M(f^n) = 0 \text{ and}$$

$f^n(M) = 2^n \mathbb{Z} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ . Then  $M/f^n(M) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n$ . But  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n$  can not be isomorphic to  $r_M(f^n) = 0$ .

In [5],  $M$  is called an *image-injective module* if for each  $f \in S$ , every  $R$ -module homomorphisms from  $f(M)$  to  $M$  extends to  $M$ . By this definition we state and prove dual versions of Lemma 2.12.

**2.17. Lemma.** Let  $M$  be a module with  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$ .

- (1) If  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic, then  $M$  is image-injective.
- (2) If  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and image-injective, then  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic.
- (3) If  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic and  $M$  cogenerates its cokernel, then  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic.

*Proof.* (1) By Lemma 2.12,  $S$  is right GP-injective. Let  $f, g \in S$ . There exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $f$  such that  $f^n \neq 0$  and any map  $f^n S \xrightarrow{g'} S$  extends to an endomorphism of  $S$ . Let  $f^n(M) \xrightarrow{g} M$  be a right  $R$ -module homomorphism and set  $h = gf^n$ . Then  $r_S(f^n) \leq r_S(h)$ . The map  $f^n S \xrightarrow{t} hS$  defined by  $t(f^n s) = hs$  where  $s \in S$  is well defined right  $S$ -module homomorphism. By the GP-injectivity of  $S$ ,  $t$  extends to an endomorphism  $g'$  of  $S$  so that  $g'f^n = h$ . Let  $m \in M$ .  $g'f^n(m) = h(m) = gf^n(m)$ . Hence  $g$  extends to  $g' \in S$ . Thus  $M$  is image-injective.

(2) Let  $f \in S$ . There exist  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n(M) = r_M(g)$  and  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . We prove  $Sf^n = l_S(g)$  and  $l_S(f^n) = Sg$ .  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$  implies  $f^n g = 0$ . Then  $f^n \in l_S(g)$  and so  $Sf^n \leq l_S(g)$ . Let  $h \in l_S(g)$ . Then  $hg = 0$  or  $f^n(M) = g(M) \leq r_M(h)$ . Since  $f^n(M) = g(M)$ , the map defined  $t$  by  $f^n(M) \xrightarrow{t} h(M)$  extends to an endomorphism  $\alpha$  of  $M$ . Then  $\alpha f^n = h \in Sf^n$ . Hence  $l_S(g) \leq Sf^n$  and so  $l_S(g) = Sf^n$ .

$f^n(M) = r_M(g)$  implies  $gf^n = 0$ . So  $g \in l_S(f^n)$  and  $Sg \leq l_S(f^n)$ . Let  $h \in l_S(f^n)$ . Then  $hf^n = 0$ . Hence  $r_M(g) = f^n(M) \leq r_M(h)$ . So the map defined by  $g(M) \xrightarrow{t} h(M)$  is a module homomorphism and, by image-injectivity of  $M$  it extends to an endomorphism  $\alpha$  of  $M$ . Hence  $h = \alpha g \in Sg$ . Thus  $l_S(f^n) \leq Sg$  and so  $l_S(f^n) = Sg$  and  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic.

(3) Let  $f \in S$ . We prove that there exist  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $f^n(M) = r_M(g)$  and  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ . By hypothesis  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic, there exist  $g \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $Sf^n = l_S(g)$  and  $l_S(f^n) = Sg$ .  $Sf^n = l_S(g)$  implies  $f^n g = 0$  and  $g(M) \leq r_M(f^n)$ . Let  $m \in r_M(f^n) - g(M)$ . Then  $0 \neq \bar{m} \in M/g(M)$ . By hypothesis,  $M$  cogenerates  $M/g(M)$ . There exists a map  $M/g(M) \xrightarrow{t} M$  such that  $t(\bar{m}) \neq 0$ . Now define  $M \xrightarrow{\alpha} M$  by  $\alpha(x) = t(\bar{x})$ . Then  $t g(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . Hence  $\alpha g = 0$ . So  $\alpha \in l_S(g) = Sf^n$ . There exists  $s \in S$  such that  $\alpha = sf^n$ . This leads us a contradiction since  $0 \neq \alpha(m) = sf^n(m) = 0$ . Thus  $r_M(f^n) = g(M)$ .

On the other hand  $l_S(f^n) = Sg$  implies  $gf^n = 0$  and  $f^n(M) \leq r_M(g)$ . Let  $m \in r_M(g) - f^n(M)$ . As in the preceding paragraph there exist  $s, \alpha \in S$  such that  $\alpha = sg$  and  $\alpha(m) \neq 0$ . Since  $g(m) = 0$ , this would lead us to a contradiction again. Thus  $f^n(M) = r_M(g)$ . □

**2.18. Theorem.** *Let  $M$  be a module. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is  $\pi$ -morphic and image injective.
- (2)  $S$  is left  $\pi$ -morphic and  $M$  cogenerates its cokernel.

*Proof.* Clear from Lemma 2.17. □

A ring  $R$  is said to be *right Kasch* if every simple right  $R$ -module embeds in  $R$ , equivalently, if  $l(I) \neq 0$  for every proper (maximal) right ideal  $I$  of  $R$  (see also [6, page 51]). Let  $M$  be a module.  $M$  is called *Kasch module* if any simple module in  $\sigma[M]$  embeds in  $M$ , where  $\sigma[M]$  is the category consisting of all  $M$ -subgenerated right  $R$ -modules, while  $M$  is *strongly Kasch* if any simple right  $R$ -module embeds in  $M$ . It is easy to see that a ring  $R$  is right Kasch if and only if the right  $R$ -module  $R$  is Kasch if and only if the right  $R$ -module  $R$  is strongly Kasch since  $\sigma[R]$  is just the category of all right  $R$ -modules for details see [10].

**2.19. Proposition.** *Let  $M$  be a  $\pi$ -morphic module. If every maximal right ideal of  $S$  is principal, then  $S$  is a right Kasch ring.*

*Proof.* Let  $I$  be maximal right ideal of  $S$ . Then  $I = fS$  for some  $f \in S$ . There exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/f^n M \cong r_M(f^n)$ . Assume that  $r_M(f^n) = 0$ . Then  $f^n M = M = fM$ . Hence  $f^n$  is an isomorphism. Thus  $I = S$ . It is a contradiction.

It follows that for any nonzero  $0 \neq f \in I$  there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $M/f^n M \cong r_M(f^n) \neq 0$ . Consider the diagram  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} M/f^n M \xrightarrow{\varphi} r_M(f^n)$  where  $\pi$  is coset map and  $\varphi$  is the isomorphism. Then  $\varphi\pi f^n = 0$ . Hence  $0 \neq \varphi\pi f^{n-1} \in l_S(f)$ .  $\square$

**2.20. Corollary.** *Let  $R$  be a right  $\pi$ -morphic ring and every maximal right ideal be principal. Then  $R$  is right Kasch.*

*Proof.* Clear from Lemma 2.19 by considering  $M = R_R$  and  $S = \text{End}_R(R) \cong R$ .  $\square$

**2.21. Proposition.** *Let  $S$  be a right  $\pi$ -morphic ring. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $S$  is a right Kasch ring.
- (2) Every maximal right ideal of  $S$  is an annihilator.
- (3) Every maximal right ideal of  $S$  is principal.

*Proof.* Note that every  $\pi$ -morphic ring is directly finite by Corollary 2.5. In [6] it is noted that (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) always holds.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $I$  be a maximal right ideal of  $S$ . Then there exists a nonzero right ideal  $A$  of  $S$  such that  $I = l(A)$ . Let  $0 \neq a \in A$ , there exist  $b \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $a^n S = r(b)$  and  $r(a^n) = bS$ . Hence  $I \subseteq l(a^n) \neq S$ . Therefore,  $I = r(a^n)$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) To complete the proof we show that  $l(I) \neq 0$  for every maximal right ideal  $I$  of  $S$ . Let  $I$  be a maximal right ideal. By (3),  $I = aS$  for some  $a \in S$ . We invoke hypothesis here to find  $b \in S$  and a positive integer  $n$  such that  $a^n S = r(b)$  and  $r(a^n) = bS$ . Then  $a^n b = 0$  and  $ba^n = 0$ . If  $b = 0$ , then  $a^n S = S$ . By Corollary 2.5,  $a$  is invertible and so  $I = S$ . This contradicts being  $I$  maximal. It follows that  $b \neq 0$ . Let  $t$  be a nonzero positive integer such that  $ba^t = 0$  and  $ba^{t-1} \neq 0$ . Hence  $ba^t = 0$  implies  $0 \neq ba^{t-1} \in l(I)$ . So  $S$  is right Kasch.  $\square$

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