J. Korean Math. Soc. **0** (0), No. 0, pp. 1–0
https://doi.org/10.4134/JKMS.j170667
pISSN: 0304-9914 / eISSN: 2234-3008

ON Φ-FLAT MODULES AND Φ-PRÜFER RINGS

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Abstract. Let R be a commutative ring with non-zero identity and let $NN(R) = \{I \mid I$ is a nonnil ideal of $R\}$. Let M be an R-module and let ϕ-tor$(M) = \{x \in M \mid Ix = 0$ for some $I \in NN(R)\}$. If ϕ-tor$(M) = M$, then M is called a ϕ-torsion module. An R-module M is said to be ϕ-flat, if $0 \to A \otimes_R M \to B \otimes_R M \to C \otimes_R M \to 0$ is an exact R-sequence, for any exact sequence of R-modules $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$, where C is ϕ-torsion.

In this paper, the concepts of NRD-submodules and NP-submodules are introduced, and the ϕ-flat modules over a ϕ-Prüfer ring are investigated.

1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, it is assumed that all rings are commutative and associative with non-zero identity and all modules are unitary. Let R be a ring. Then $T(R)$ denotes the total quotient ring of R, $Nil(R)$ denotes the set of its nilpotent elements, and $Z(R)$ denotes the set of zero-divisors of R. An ideal I of a ring R is said to be a *nonnil ideal* if $I \nsubseteq Nil(R)$. Recall from [15] and [4] that a prime ideal P of R is called *divided* if $P \subset (x)$ for each $x \in R \backslash P$. Set $\mathcal{H} = \{R \mid R$ is a commutative ring and $Nil(R)$ is a divided prime ideal of $R\}$. If $R \in \mathcal{H}$, then R is called a ϕ-ring. If $R \in \mathcal{H}$ and $Nil(R) = Z(R)$, then R is called a strongly ϕ-ring, and denoted by $R \in S\phi R$. Recall from [5] that for a ring $R \in \mathcal{H}$ with total quotient ring $T(R)$, the map $\phi : T(R) \to R_{Nil(R)}$ such that $\phi(a/b) = a/b$ for $a \in R$ and $b \notin Z(R)$ is a ring homomorphism from $T(R)$ into $R_{Nil(R)}$, and ϕ restricted to R is also a ring homomorphism from R into $R_{Nil(R)}$ given by $\phi(x) = x/1$ for each $x \in R$.

Recently, the authors in [1, 2, 14], and [20] generalized the concept of Prüfer domains, Bezout domains, Dedekind domains, Krull domains, Mori domains, and strongly Mori domains to the context of rings that are in the class $\mathcal{H}$.

Received October 18, 2017; Accepted February 6, 2018.
2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 13C05, 13C11, 13C12.
Key words and phrases. ϕ-torsion module, ϕ-flat module, ϕ-Prüfer ring.
This work was financially supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China 11161006, the Project of Education Department in Sichuan 18ZB0005, ABa teachers university 20170902, 20171260, 20171410, 20171433.

Also, the authors in [4–8], and [10] investigated the following classes of rings: ϕ-CR, ϕ-PVR, and ϕ-$ZPUI$. Furthermore, in [12], the authors investigated going-down ϕ-rings. The authors in [9, 13] and [18], introduced the notion of nonnil-Noetherian rings (later called ϕ-Noetherian rings). This notion was also extended to noncommutative rings in [21]. The authors in [11], stated many of the main results on ϕ-rings.

In order to investigate modules and ϕ-rings, the authors in [24], introduced ϕ-torsion modules and ϕ-torsion free modules, and investigated ϕ-flat modules and ϕ-von Neumann regular rings. The authors in [3] gave the concepts of nonnil-coherent rings and ϕ-coherent rings.

We recall that a valuation domain is a commutative integral domain such that for any two elements r and s, either r divides s or s divides r. This clearly implies that any finitely generated ideal is principal (and hence flat) and that for any two ideals I and J, either $I \subseteq J$ or $J \subseteq I$. In particular, a valuation domain is a local ring. A ring R is said to be a chained ring if for every $a, b \in R$, either $a|b$ or $b|a$ in R. Recall from [7] that a ring $R \in \mathcal{H}$ is called a ϕ-chained ring (ϕ-CR) if $x^{-1} \in \phi(R)$ for every $x \in R_{Nil(R)} \setminus \phi(R)$; equivalently, if for every $a, b \in R \setminus Nil(R)$, either $a|b$ or $b|a$ in R. The author in [23] showed that a finitely presented module over a valuation domain is a direct sum of cyclically presented modules. In this paper, the following result is shown.

Theorem. *A finitely presented ϕ-torsion module over a ϕ-chain ring is a direct sum of cyclically presented ϕ-torsion modules.*

In this paper, a submodule N of an R-module M is said to be *nonnil relatively divisible* in M, if $rN = N \cap rM$ holds for any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$. We denote briefly that N is an NRD-*submodule* of M. A submodule N of an R-module M is said to be *nonnil pure* in M, if $IN = N \cap IM$ holds for any $I \in NN(R)$. We denote briefly that N is an NP-*submodule* of M.

A Prüfer domain is an integral domain such that every finitely generated ideal is invertible (and hence projective). It is well known that a local domain is a Prüfer domain if and only if it is a valuation domain, and therefore, R is a Prüfer domain if and only if for each maximal ideal m, R_m is a valuation domain. A ring R is called a Prüfer ring, in the sense of [17], if every finitely generated regular ideal of R is invertible. Recall from [1] that R is called a ϕ-Prüfer ring if every finitely generated nonnil ideal of R is ϕ-invertible. This generalized the definition of Prüfer domain in $\mathcal{H}$. Here a nonnil ideal I of R is ϕ-invertible if $\phi(I)$ is an invertible ideal of $\phi(R)$. The author in [23] showed that over Prüfer rings, relative divisibility and purity are equivalent. In this paper, the following result is shown, which generalizes the result in [16].

Theorem. *Over ϕ-Prüfer rings, nonnil relative divisibility and nonnil purity are equivalent.*

Anderson and Badawi showed in [1] that the following statements are equivalent for a ring R.

(1) R is a ϕ-Prüfer ring.
(2) $\phi(R)$ is a Prüfer ring.
(3) $\phi(R)/Nil(\phi(R))$ is a Prüfer domain.
(4) R_P is a ϕ-CR for each prime ideal P of R.
(5) $R_P/Nil(R_P)$ is a valuation domain for each prime ideal P of R.
(6) $R_M/Nil(R_M)$ is a valuation domain for each maximal ideal M of R.
(7) R_M is a ϕ-CR for each maximal ideal M of R.

In this paper, the ϕ-flat modules and ϕ-Prüfer rings are investigated, and the following result is shown.

Theorem. *Let $R \in \mathcal{H}$ and $Nil(R) = Z(R)$. The following statements are equivalent.*

(1) *R is a ϕ-Prüfer ring.*
(2) *All ϕ-torsion free R-modules are ϕ-flat.*
(3) *Each submodule of a ϕ-flat R-module is ϕ-flat.*
(4) *Each nonnil ideal of R is a ϕ-flat R-module.*
(5) *Each finitely generated nonnil ideal of R is a ϕ-flat R-module.*
(6) *If M is a ϕ-torsion R-module and N is a ϕ-torsion free R-module, then*
$$\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, N) = 0.$$
(7) *If M is a ϕ-torsion R-module and I is a nonnil ideal of R, then*
$$\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, I) = 0.$$
(8) *If M is a ϕ-torsion R-module and I is a finitely generated nonnil ideal of R, then*
$$\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M, I) = 0.$$

2. On ϕ-torsion modules and ϕ-flat modules

Let R be a ϕ-ring. Set $Ker(\phi) = \{x \in R \mid xy = 0$ for some $y \in Z(R)$ and $y \notin Nil(R)\}$, then $\phi(R) = R/Ker(\phi)$. Observe that if $R \in \mathcal{H}$, then $\phi(R) \in \mathcal{H}$, $Ker(\phi) \subseteq Nil(R)$, $Nil(T(R)) = Nil(R)$, $Nil(R_{Nil(R)}) = \phi(Nil(R)) = Nil(\phi(R)) = Z(\phi(R))$, $T(\phi(R)) = R_{Nil(R)}$ is quasilocal with the maximal ideal $Nil(\phi(R))$, and $R_{Nil(R)}/Nil(\phi(R)) = T(\phi(R))/Nil(\phi(R))$ is the quotient field of $\phi(R)/Nil(\phi(R)) \cong R/Nil(R)$.

Proposition 2.1. *Let $R \in \mathcal{H}$ and $\phi : R \to R_{Nil(R)}$ such that $\phi(a) = a/1$ for $a \in R$. Then ϕ is a monomorphism if and only if $Ker(\phi) = 0$, if and only if $Nil(R) = Z(R)$.*

Proof. Since $Nil(R)$ is a prime ideal of R, we have that $Ker(\phi) = 0$ if and only if $Nil(R) = Z(R)$. □

Set $NN(R) = \{I \mid I$ is a nonnil ideal of ring $R\}$. Let M be an R-module. We define
$$\phi - \mathrm{tor}(M) = \{x \in M \mid Ix = 0 \text{ for some } I \in NN(R)\}.$$

If ϕ-tor$(M) = M$, then M is called a *ϕ-torsion module*, and if ϕ-tor$(M) = 0$, then M is called a *ϕ-torsion free module*. Clearly, submodules and quotient modules of ϕ-torsion modules are still ϕ-torsion; submodules of ϕ-torsion free modules are still ϕ-torsion free.

Proposition 2.2. *Let R be a commutative ring with prime nil radical. Then R is a ϕ-torsion free R-module if and only if $Nil(R) = Z(R)$.*

Proof. Observe that $I \in NN(R)$ if and only if there is an element $r \in I \backslash Nil(R)$. Thus R is a ϕ-torsion free R-module if and only if $Ker(\phi) = 0$, if and only if $Nil(R) = Z(R)$. □

Example 2.3. If S is the multiplicative set of all non-zero-divisors in the ring R, then $S^{-1}R/R$ is a ϕ-torsion R-module. If the nil radical of R is prime, then $R_{Nil(R)}/R$ is ϕ-torsion R-module.

If $Nil(R)$ is a prime ideal, then ϕ-tor(M) is a submodule of M which is called the *total ϕ-torsion* submodule of M. Set $T = \phi$-tor(M). Then T is always ϕ-torsion and M/T is always ϕ-torsion free. If R is a commutative ring with prime nil radical, then

(1) A module T is ϕ-torsion if and only if $\mathrm{Hom}_R(T, F) = 0$ for any ϕ-torsion free module F.

(2) A module F is ϕ-torsion free if and only if $\mathrm{Hom}_R(T, F) = 0$ for any ϕ-torsion module T.

Proposition 2.4. *Let R be a commutative ring with prime nil radical and $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$ be an exact sequence of R-modules. Then B is ϕ-torsion if and only if A and C are both ϕ-torsion. Moreover, $\bigoplus_{i\in\Gamma} M_i$ is a ϕ-torsion module if and only if each M_i is a ϕ-torsion module.*

Proof. We only need to consider the long exact sequence

$$0 \to \mathrm{Hom}_R(C, F) \to \mathrm{Hom}_R(B, F) \to \mathrm{Hom}_R(A, F) \to \mathrm{Ext}^1_R(C, F) \to \cdots .$$ □

Recall from [24] that an R-module M said to be *ϕ-flat*, if $0 \to A \otimes_R M \to B \otimes_R M \to C \otimes_R M \to 0$ is an exact R-sequence, for any exact sequence of R-modules $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$, where C is ϕ-torsion. The following conditions are shown to be equivalent for an R-module M.

(a) M is ϕ-flat.

(b) $\mathrm{Tor}^R_1(P, M) = 0$ for any ϕ-torsion R-module P.

(c) $\mathrm{Tor}^R_1(R/I, M) = 0$ for any nonnil ideal I of R.

(d) $0 \to I \otimes_R M \to R \otimes_R M$ is an exact R-sequence for any nonnil ideal I of R.

(e) $I \otimes_R M \cong IM$ for any nonnil ideal I of R.

(f) $0 \to N \otimes_R M \to F \otimes_R M \to C \otimes_R M \to 0$ is an exact R-sequence, for any exact sequence of R-modules $0 \to N \to F \to C \to 0$, where N, F, C are finitely generated, C is ϕ-torsion, and F is free.

(g) $0 \to N \otimes_R M \to F \otimes_R M \to C \otimes_R M \to 0$ is an exact R-sequence, for any exact sequence of R-modules $0 \to N \to F \to C \to 0$, where C is ϕ-torsion, and F is free.

(h) $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(R/I, M) = 0$ for any finitely generated nonnil ideal I of R.

(i) $0 \to I \otimes_R M \to R \otimes_R M$ is an exact R-sequence for any finitely generated nonnil ideal I of R.

(j) $I \otimes_R M \cong IM$ for any finitely generated nonnil ideal I of R.

(k) $\mathrm{Ext}_R^1(I, M^+) = 0$ for any nonnil ideal I of R, where M^+ denotes the character R-module $\mathrm{Hom}_Z(M, Q/Z)$.

(l) Let $0 \to K \to F \stackrel{g}{\to} M \to 0$ be an exact sequence of R-modules, where F is free. Then $K \cap FI = IK$ for any nonnil ideal I of R.

(m) Let $0 \to K \to F \stackrel{g}{\to} M \to 0$ be an exact sequence of R-modules, where F is free. Then $K \cap FI = IK$ for any finite generated nonnil ideal I of R.

Proposition 2.5. (a) *Let R be a commutative ring with prime nil radical and $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$ be an exact sequence of R-modules. If A and C is ϕ-flat, then B is ϕ-flat.*

(b) *Let R be a strongly ϕ-ring. Then each ϕ-flat R-module is ϕ-torsion free.*

Proof. (a) We only need to consider the long exact sequence

$$\cdots \to \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(C, F) \to A \otimes_R F \to B \otimes_R F \to C \otimes_R F \to 0.$$

(b) If R is a strongly ϕ-ring, then R is a ϕ-torsion free R-module. $R_{Nil(R)}/R$ being a ϕ-torsion R-module implies that

$$0 \to M = R \otimes_R M \to R_{Nil(R)} \otimes_R M = M_{Nil(R)}$$

is exact sequence for an R-module M. If $J \in NN(R)$ and $x \in M$ such that $Jx = 0$, then there is an element $s \in R$, $s \notin Nil(R)$ such that $x = \frac{x}{1} = \frac{sx}{s} = 0$. Hence M is ϕ-torsion free. □

3. On NRD-submodules and NP-submodules

Recalled from [23] that a submodule N of an R-module M is said to be relatively divisible in M, if $rN = N \cap rM$ holds for any $r \in R$. Analogously, we have

Definition 3.1. A submodule N of an R-module M is said to be nonnil relatively divisible in M, if $rN = N \cap rM$ holds for any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$. We denote briefly that N is an NRD-*submodule* of M.

As the inclusion $rN \subseteq N \cap rM$ holds for all submodules N of M, nonnil relatively divisibility holding amounts to the reverse inclusion, i.e., if for any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$, the equation $rx = a \in N$ has a solution for x in M, then it is solvable in N as well. It is clear that a relatively divisible submodule N of R-module M is also nonnil relatively divisible in M, but the converse may be not true. For example, $Ker(\phi)$ is nonnil relatively divisible in R but not relatively divisible in R. The following properties are clear.

(a) Nonnil relatively divisibility is also transitive: if L is an NRD-submodule of N and N is an NRD-submodule of M, then L is an NRD-submodule of M.

(b) If $L \subseteq N \subseteq M$ and N is an NRD-submodule of M, then N/L is an NRD-submodule of M/L.

(c) If $L \subseteq N \subseteq M$ and L is an NRD-submodule of M, then N/L being an NRD-submodule of M/L implies N is an NRD-submodule of M.

Theorem 3.2. *Let $0 \to N \to M \overset{\beta}{\to} C \to 0$ be a short exact sequence of R-modules.*

(a) *If C is ϕ-torsion free, then N is an* NRD*-submodule of M.*

(b) *If M is ϕ-torsion free and N is an* NRD*-submodule of M, then C is ϕ-torsion free.*

Proof. (a) For any $r \in R\backslash Nil(R)$ and $rx = a \in N, x \in M$, we have $r\beta(x) = 0$ in C. Set $I = Rr \in NN(R)$, C being a ϕ-torsion free R-module implies $\beta(x) = 0$, and hence $x \in N$. So N is an NRD-submodule of M.

(b) If $I \in NN(R)$ and $Ix = 0$ in C, there is an element $y \in M$ such that $x = \beta(y)$. We have $Iy \subseteq N$, and there exists $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$ such that $ry = a \in N$. N being an NRD-submodule of M implies that there is an element $z \in N$ such that $rz = a$. Hence $r(y - z) = 0$, so $y = z \in N$, and $x = \beta(y) = 0$. Therefore C is ϕ-torsion free. □

Theorem 3.3. *Let $0 \to N \to M \overset{\beta}{\to} C \to 0$ be a short exact sequence of R-modules. If the natural homomorphism* $\mathrm{Hom}_R(R/Rr, M) \to \mathrm{Hom}_R(R/Rr, C)$ *is surjective for any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$, then N is an* NRD*-submodule of M. Moreover, if M is ϕ-torsion free, the converse holds.*

Proof. For any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$ and $rx = a \in N, x \in M$, consider the following commutative diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & (r) & \xrightarrow{i} & R & \xrightarrow{\pi} & R/(r) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle f} & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle g} & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle h} & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\beta} & C & \longrightarrow & 0, \end{array}$$

where π is the natural homomorphism, $f(r) = a, g(1) = x$, and h is the homomorphism induced by the left square. If the natural homomorphism $\mathrm{Hom}_R(R/Rr, M) \to \mathrm{Hom}_R(R/Rr, C)$ is surjective for any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$, then there exists a homomorphism $\rho : R/(r) \to M$ such that $h = \beta\rho$. By lemma 8.4 in [16], there is a homomorphism $\sigma : R \to N$ such that $f = \sigma i$. Set $\sigma(1) = c \in N$, we have $rc = a$. Hence N is an NRD-submodule of M.

Now assume that M is ϕ-torsion free. If $r \in R\backslash Nil(R)$ and $h \in \mathrm{Hom}_R(R/Rr, C)$, the projective property of R implies that there is a homomorphism $g : R \to M$ such that $\beta g = h\pi$. Hence the right square induces a homomorphism f. Set $f(r) = a, g(1) = x$, so $rx = a \in N, x \in M$. □

Theorem 3.4. *Let $0 \to N \to M \to C \to 0$ be a short exact sequence of R-modules. Then N is an* NRD*-submodule of M if and only if the natural homomorphism $R/rR \otimes_R N \to R/rR \otimes_R M$ is injective for any $r \in R \setminus Nil(R)$.*

Proof. Because of the natural isomorphism $R/Rr \otimes_R M \cong M/rM$, we only consider the homomorphism $N/rN \xrightarrow{f} M/rM$ with $f : x + rN \to x + rM$. If $x + rM = 0$, i.e., $x = ry$ for some $y \in M$, N being an NRD-submodule of M implies $x = ry'$ for some $y' \in N$, and hence $x + rN = 0$, so f is injective.

For the converse, $x = ry, y \in M, x \in N$ implies $x + rM = 0$ in M/rM. If the homomorphism f is injective, then $x + rN = 0$ in N/rN. Therefore, $x = ry'$ for some $y' \in N$, and hence N is an NRD-submodule of M. □

Theorem 3.5. *An R-module N is an* NRD*-submodule of R-module M if and only if N_m is an* NRD*-submodule of M_m as R_m-module for any $m \in \mathrm{Max}(R)$.*

Proof. We have that N is an NRD-submodule of M if and only if the natural homomorphism $R/rR \otimes_R N \to R/rR \otimes_R M$ is injective, if and only if $R/rR \otimes_R N \otimes R_m \to R/rR \otimes_R M \otimes R_m$ is injective for any maximal ideal m of R, if and only if N_m is an NRD-submodule of M_m for any m. □

Definition 3.6. A submodule N of an R-module M is said to be nonnil pure in M, if $IN = N \cap IM$ holds for any $I \in NN(R)$. We denote briefly that N is an NP-*submodule* of M.

As the inclusion $IN \subseteq N \cap IM$ holds for all modules N of M, nonnil relatively divisibility holding amounts to the reverse inclusion, i.e., if for any $I \in NN(R)$, the equation $\sum_{i=1}^{n} r_i x_i = a \in N$ has a solution for x_i in M, then it is solvable in N as well. It is clear that N being an NP-submodule of M implies N being an NRD-submodule of M.

Theorem 3.7. *Let $0 \to N \to M \xrightarrow{\beta} C \to 0$ be a short exact sequence of R-modules.*

(a) *If C is ϕ-flat, then N is an* NP*-submodule of M.*

(b) *If M is ϕ-flat and N is an* NP*-submodule of M, then C is ϕ-flat.*

Proof. (a) Consider the following homomorphism

$$\beta_0 : IM \to IC, \ \beta_0\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g(x_i),$$

where $a_i \in I, x_i \in M$. It is clear that $\ker(\beta_0) = N \cap IM$, and there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \to N \cap IM \to IM \to IC \to 0.$$

Consider the following commutative diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
N & \longrightarrow & I \otimes N & \longrightarrow & I \otimes M & \longrightarrow & I \otimes C & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow g & & \downarrow h & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & N \cap IM & \longrightarrow & IM & \xrightarrow{\beta_0} & IC & \longrightarrow & 0,
\end{array}$$

where f, g, h are the natural homomorphisms. The R-module C being ϕ-flat implies by Theorem 3.2 in [24] that h is an isomorphism for any nonnil ideal I of R. The Snake lemma implies that f is an epimorphism. So $N \cap IM = IN$, and hence N is an NP-submodule of M.

(b) If N is an NP-submodule of M, then $N \cap IM = IN$ for any nonnil ideal I of R. There is a short exact sequence

$$0 \to IN \to IM \to IC \to 0.$$

Consider the following commutative diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} & & I \otimes N & \longrightarrow & I \otimes M & \longrightarrow & I \otimes C & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle f} & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle g} & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle h} & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & IN & \longrightarrow & IM & \longrightarrow & IC & \longrightarrow & 0. \end{array}$$

The R-module M being ϕ-flat implies that g is an isomorphism for any nonnil ideal I of R. Therefore, h is an isomorphism, and hence C is ϕ-flat. $\square$

Theorem 3.8. *Let $0 \to N \to M \to C \to 0$ be a short exact sequence of R-modules. Then N is an* NP*-submodule of M if and only if the natural homomorphism $T \otimes_R N \to T \otimes_R M$ is injective for any finitely presented ϕ-torsion R-module T.*

Proof. We suppose N is an NP-submodule of M, so C is a ϕ-flat R-module, hence $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(T, C) = 0$ implies that the natural homomorphism $T \otimes_R N \to T \otimes_R M$ is injective for any finitely presented ϕ-torsion R-module T.

For the converse, if T is a finitely presented ϕ-torsion R-module, then there is a short exact sequence of R-modules $0 \to K \to F \to T \to 0$, where F, K are finitely generated and F is free. If the natural homomorphism $T \otimes_R N \to T \otimes_R M$ is injective for any finitely presented ϕ-torsion R-module T, i.e., $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(T, C) = 0$, then C is ϕ-flat by theorem 3.2 in [24], hence N is a NP-submodule of M. $\square$

Theorem 3.9. *An R-module N is an* NP*-submodule of an R-module M if and only if N_m is an* NP*-submodule of M_m as an R_m-module for any $m \in \mathrm{Max}(R)$.*

Proof. We have that N is an NP-submodule of M if and only if the natural homomorphism $R/I \otimes_R N \to R/I \otimes_R M$ is injective, if and only if $R/I \otimes_R N \otimes R_m \to R/I \otimes_R M \otimes R_m$ is injective for any maximal ideal m of ring R. Noted that for every nonnil ideal J of R_m, there is a nonnil ideal I of R such that $J = I_m$. This implies that N_m is an NP-submodule of M_m for any m. $\square$

4. On ϕ-Prüfer rings

A valuation domain is a commutative integral domain such that for any two elements r and s, either r divides s or s divides r. A ring R is said to be a chained ring if for every $a, b \in R$, either $a|b$ or $b|a$ in R. Recall from [7] that a ring $R \in \mathcal{H}$ is called a ϕ-chained ring (ϕ-CR) if $x^{-1} \in \phi(R)$ for every $x \in R_{Nil(R)}$ $\phi(R)$. The author in [23] showed that a finitely presented module over a valuation domain is a direct sum of cyclically presented modules. Similarly, we have the following result.

Theorem 4.1. *A finitely presented ϕ-torsion module over a ϕ-chain ring is a direct sum of cyclically presented ϕ-torsion modules.*

Proof. The proof is completed by the following several steps.

(1) If R is a ϕ-chain ring, then $R/Nil(R)$ is a valuation domain. Hence the nilradical $Nil(R)$ is the only minimal prime ideal and the Jacobson radical $J = J(R)$ is the only maximal ideal of R. If M is a finitely presented ϕ-torsion R-module, then M/JM is a finitely generated R/J-module. Set

$$M/JM = \sum_{i=1}^{n} R/J \cdot y_i,$$

where $y_i = x_i + JM$, and $x_i \in M$ are representative elements of y_i for $1 \leqslant i \leqslant n$. By Nakayama lemma, we have $M = \sum_{i=1}^{n} R \cdot x_i$.

(2) We show that a finitely generated module M over $R \in \mathcal{H}$ is ϕ-torsion if and only if the annihilator $Ann(M) \supset Nil(R)$. If $Ann(M) \supset Nil(R)$, then there is an element $r \notin Nil(R)$ such that $rM = 0$, and hence M is ϕ-torsion. For the converse, if $M = \sum_{i=1}^{n} R \cdot x_i$ is ϕ-torsion, then there are elements $r_i \notin Nil(R)$ such that $r_i x_i = 0$, and hence $r = \prod_{i=1}^{n} r_i \notin Nil(R)$ (note $Nil(R)$ is a prime ideal of R) such that $rM = 0$, so $Ann(M) \supset Nil(R)$.

(3) We show that there exists a coset y_i, say y_1, such that for any representative element a of y_1 ($y_i = a + JM$), $Ann(M) = Ann(a)$. Otherwise, for any y_i, there exists $a_i \in M$ such that $Ann(a_i) \supset Ann(M) \supset Nil(R)$ for all $1 \leqslant i \leqslant n$. R being a ϕ-chain ring implies a contradiction to $Ann(M) = \cap_{i=1}^{n} Ann(a_i)$.

(4) We show that $M_1 = Ra$ is an NRD-submodule of M. Suppose that $r \notin Nil(R), rx = sa \in Ra, sa \neq 0$, then $s \notin Nil(R)$ by $Ann(M) \supset Nil(R)$. If $s = rt$ for some $t \in R$, then $x = ta \in Ra$ is a solution, and hence M_1 is an NRD-submodule of M. If $r = sp$ for some $p \in J(R)$, then $s(a - px) = 0$, so $s \in Ann(a - px) = Ann(M) = Ann(a)$, this is a contradiction to $sa \neq 0$.

(5) We continue with an induction on the number of generators. Applying the induction hypothesis to M/M_1, we note that the preimages of NRD-submodules of M/M_1 are NRD-submodules in M. Therefore, there exists a finite chain

$$0 = M_0 < M_1 < \cdots < M_n = M$$

of submodules such that each M_i is an NRD-submodule of M, and the factor M_{i+1}/M_i is a cyclic ϕ-torsion R-module for each $0 \leqslant i \leqslant n-1$.

(6) Let T be a finitely presented cyclic ϕ-torsion R-module. We show that $T \cong R/(a)$ for some $a \notin Nil(R)$. Because, there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \to K \to R \to T \to 0,$$

where $K = Ann(a)$ is a finitely generated nonnil ideal of R. R being a ϕ-chain ring implies that K is a principal ideal, say $K = Ra, a \notin Nil(R)$, hence $T \cong R/(a)$.

(7) Consider the short exact sequence

$$0 \to M_{n-1} \to M \to M/M_{n-1} \to 0.$$

The projective property of M/M_{n-1} relative to this exact sequence implies that M/M_{n-1} is a summand of M, i.e., $M \cong M_{n-1} \bigoplus M/M_{n-1}$. Here M_{n-1} is likewise finitely generated and has a smaller number of generators, so induction infers that

$$M \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} R/Ra_i, a_i \notin Nil(R).$$

□

A Prüer domain is an integral domain such that every finitely generated ideal is invertible. A domain R is a Prüer domain if and only if for each maximal ideal m, R_m is a valuation domain. A ring R is called a Prüfer ring, in the sense of [17], if every finitely generated regular ideal of R is invertible. Recall from [1] that R is called a ϕ-Prüfer ring if every finitely generated nonnil ideal of R is ϕ-invertible. This generalized the definition of Prüfer domain in $\mathcal{H}$. The author in [23] showed that over Prüfer rings, relative divisibility and purity are equivalent. Similarly, by Theorem 4.1 we have the following result.

Theorem 4.2. *Over ϕ-Prüfer rings, nonnil relative divisibility and nonnil purity are equivalent.*

Proof. By passing to the local case, we may as well assume that R is a ϕ-chain ring. We show that an NRD-submodule A is also an NP-submodule of B in the exact sequence $0 \to A \to B \to C \to 0$. For any finitely presented ϕ-torsion R-module T, we have that

$$T \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} R/Ra_i$$

for some $a_i \notin Nil(R)$. Therefore,

$$\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(T, C) \cong \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(\bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} R/Ra_i, C) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Tor}_1^R(R/Ra_i, C) = 0.$$

So C is ϕ-flat, and hence A is an NP-submodule of B. □

We know from [22] that the following statements are equivalent for a domain.
(1) R is a Prüfer domain;
(2) R_M is a valuation domain for each maximal ideal M of R;
(3) All torsion free R-modules are flat;
(4) Each submodule of a flat R-module is flat;
(5) Each ideal of R is flat;
(6) Each finitely generated ideal of R is flat.

Anderson and Badawi showed in [1] that the following statements are equivalent for a ϕ-ring.
(1) R is a ϕ-Prüfer ring;
(2) $\phi(R)$ is a Prüfer ring;

(3) $\phi(R)/Nil(\phi(R))$ is a Prüfer domain;
(4) R_P is a ϕ-CR for each prime ideal P of R;
(5) $R_P/Nil(R_P)$ is a valuation domain for each prime ideal P of R;
(6) $R_M/Nil(R_M)$ is a valuation domain for each maximal ideal M of R;
(7) R_M is a ϕ-CR for each maximal ideal M of R.

Theorem 4.3. *Let $R \in \mathcal{H}$ and $Nil(R) = Z(R)$. Then the following statements are equivalent.*
(1) *R is a ϕ-Prüfer ring.*
(2) *All ϕ-torsion free R-modules are ϕ-flat.*
(3) *Each submodule of a ϕ-flat R-module is ϕ-flat.*
(4) *Each nonnil ideal of R is a ϕ-flat R-module.*
(5) *Each finitely generated nonnil ideal of R is a ϕ-flat R-module.*
(6) *If M is a ϕ-torsion R-module and N is a ϕ-torsion free R-module, then* $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M,N) = 0$.
(7) *If M is a ϕ-torsion R-module and I is a nonnil ideal of R, then* $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M,I) = 0$.
(8) *If M is a ϕ-torsion R-module and I is a finitely generated nonnil ideal of R, then* $\mathrm{Tor}_1^R(M,I) = 0$.

Proof. (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) Let $R \in \mathcal{H}$ with $Nil(R) = Z(R)$. Then R is ϕ-torsion free as an R-module, and all ϕ-flat R-modules are ϕ-torsion free. Consider the exact sequence $0 \to K \to F \to M \to 0$, where F is a ϕ-torsion free R-module, we infer that M is ϕ-flat if and only if K is an NP-submodule of F, if and only if K is an NRD-submodule of F, if and only if M is ϕ-torsion free.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3) Let K be a submodule of a ϕ-flat R-module F. Then F is a ϕ-torsion free R-module. So K is also ϕ-torsion free, and hence K is ϕ-flat.

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4) $\Rightarrow$ (5) Notice that R is a ϕ-torsion free R-module.

(5) $\Rightarrow$ (1) For each finitely generated nonzero ideal J of $R/Nil(R)$, there exists a finitely generated nonnil ideal I of R such that $J = I + Nil(R)$. Owing to I being ϕ-flat, we have J is a flat $R/Nil(R)$-module. Therefore $R/Nil(R)$ is a Prüfer domain, and hence R is a ϕ-Prüfer ring.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (6) $\Rightarrow$ (7) $\Rightarrow$ (8) It is clear.

(8) $\Rightarrow$ (2) Observe Lemma 2.5. □

Notice that if R is not a strongly ϕ-ring, then the above results may not be true, because R is not a ϕ-torsion free R-module.

Also, we have the following result.

Theorem 4.4. *Let $R \in \mathcal{H}$. If each finitely generated nonnil ideal of R is flat, then R is a ϕ-Prüfer ring.*

Proof. It is true that I being flat implies that $J = I + Nil(R)$ is a flat $R/Nil(R)$-module. □

Recall from [19] that a ring R is said to be von Neumann regular if every R-module is flat and R is said to be π-regular if for each $r \in R$ there is a positive integer n and an element $x \in R$ such that $r^{2n}x = r^n$. The authors in [24] defined a ϕ-ring R to be a ϕ-von Neumann regular ring if every R-module is ϕ-flat. They showed that a ϕ-ring R is ϕ-von Neumann regular if and only if R is π-regular if and only if $R/Nil(R)$ is von Neumann regular. By above theorem, all ϕ-von Neumann regular rings are regarded as rings of dimension zero, and all ϕ-Prüfer rings are regarded as rings of dimension one.

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