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A NOTE ON KRULL DIMENSION OF SKEW  
POLYNOMIAL RINGS

(submitted by M. M. Arslanov)

ABSTRACT. Let  $A$  be a commutative Noetherian ring such that Krull dimension of  $A$  is  $\alpha$ . Let  $M$  be a finitely generated critical module over  $A[x, \sigma]$ , (where  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $A$ ) and Krull dimension of  $M$  is  $\alpha + 1$ . Then  $M$  has a prime annihilator.

1. INTRODUCTION

All rings are with identity, and all modules unitary. If a module  $M$  over a ring  $R$  has a Krull dimension  $\alpha$ , we denote it by  $|M| = \alpha$ . Classical Krull dimension of a ring  $R$  is denoted by  $cl.K(R)$ . For a module  $M$  over a ring  $R$  with  $|M| = \alpha$ , we say  $M$  is  $\alpha$ -homogeneous if  $M$  contains no non-zero submodule of Krull dimension less than  $\alpha$ . For more details and some concerning results on Krull dimension, the reader is referred to [3]. Let  $B$  be a right Noetherian ring,  $T_N(B)$  denotes the torsion submodule of  $B$  at the prime radical  $N(B)$  of  $B$ . We use a similar notation for  $T_N(B[x, \sigma])$ , which is the torsion submodule of  $B[x, \sigma]$ , where  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $B$  and  $B[x, \sigma]$  is the usual skew polynomial ring of  $B$  in which coefficients of polynomials are taken on the right, and therefore  $B[x, \sigma] = \{\sum x^i a_i, a_i \in B, 0 \leq i \leq n, \text{ for some positive integer } n\}$ ,

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subject to the relation  $ax = x\sigma(a)$ .  $C(N(B))$  denotes the set of elements of  $B$  regular modulo  $N(B)$ .

Let now  $A$  be a commutative Noetherian ring with  $|A| = \alpha$ . Then  $|A[x, \sigma]| = \alpha + 1$ , where  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $A$ . We show that any finitely generated critical module  $M$  over  $A[x, \sigma]$  with  $|M| = \alpha + 1$  has a prime annihilator.

## 2. CRITICAL MODULES OVER $R[x, \sigma]$

We begin this section with the following Proposition:

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $B$  be a right Noetherian ring and  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $B$ . Then  $\sigma(T_N(B)) = T_N(B)$ .*

*Proof.* Using the fact that  $\sigma(B) = B$  and if  $c \in C(N)$ , then  $\sigma(c) \in C(N)$ , it can be easily proved that  $\sigma(T_N(B)) = T_N(B)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $B$  be a right Noetherian ring and  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $B$ . If  $N$  is the prime radical of  $B$ , then  $\sigma(N) = N$ .*

*Proof.*  $\sigma(N) \subseteq N$  because  $\sigma(N)$  is a nilpotent ideal of  $B$ . Let  $n \in N$ . Then  $n = \sigma(a)$  for some  $a \in B$ . Therefore  $\sigma^{-1}(n) = a$ , and  $\sigma^{-1}(N) = \{a \in B, \text{ such that } a = \sigma^{-1}(n), \text{ some } n \in N\} = I$  (say) is an ideal of  $B$ . Now  $\sigma(I) \subseteq \sigma(N)$ . Hence  $\sigma(N) = N$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $B$  be a semiprime Noetherian ring. Let  $f \in B[x, \sigma]$  be regular in  $B[x, \sigma]$ . Then there exists  $g \in B[x, \sigma]$  such that  $gf$  has leading coefficient regular in  $B$ .*

*Proof.* Note that  $ax = x\sigma(a)$  for all  $a \in B$ . Let  $S = \{x^m a_m + \dots + a_0 \in B[x, \sigma]f, \text{ some } m\} \cup \{0\}$ . Let  $a_m \in S$  and  $c \in R$ . Then we have some  $g = \sum x^i a_i \in B[x, \sigma]$ , ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) and  $f = \sum x^j d_j$ , ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ ) regular in  $B[x, \sigma]$  such that leading coefficient of  $gf$  is  $a_m$ ; i.e.  $\sigma^t(a_n)d_t = a_m$ . Now  $h = \sum x^j \sigma^{-t}(c)a_j \in B[x, \sigma]$ , ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ ), and therefore  $hf$  has leading coefficient in  $S$ ; i.e.  $c\sigma^t(a_n)d_t \in S$ . Thus  $S$  is a left ideal. We now show that  $S$  is essential. Let  $0 \neq I \subseteq B$  be a left ideal of  $B$ . Then it is easy to see that  $I[x, \sigma]$  is a left ideal of  $B[x, \sigma]$ . Now  $f \in B[x, \sigma]$  is regular, therefore  $B[x, \sigma]f$  is an essential left ideal of  $B[x, \sigma]$ ; i.e.  $I[x, \sigma] \cap B[x, \sigma]f \neq (0)$ . Let  $\sum x^i a_i \in I[x, \sigma] \cap B[x, \sigma]f$ , ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ). Then  $a_k \in I$  and  $a_k \in S$ , and therefore  $S$  is essential as a left ideal. So  $S$  contains a left regular element by Goldie's Theorem, see for example [1, Theorem (1.37)]. Now  $B$  is semiprime Noetherian implies that  $S$  contains a regular element. Hence there exists  $g \in B[x, \sigma]$  such that  $gf$  has leading coefficient regular in  $B$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Let  $B$  be a right Noetherian ring and  $f \in B[x, \sigma]$  regular modulo  $N^*$ , where  $N^*$  is the prime radical of  $B[x, \sigma]$ . Then there exists  $g \in B[x, \sigma]$  such that  $gf$  has leading coefficient regular in  $B/N$ , where  $N$  is the prime radical of  $B$ .*

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $B$  be a right Noetherian ring, and  $\sigma$  an automorphism of  $B$ . Then  $(T_N(B))[x, \sigma]$  is a right ideal of  $B[x, \sigma]$ , and  $(T_N(B))[x, \sigma] = (T_N(B[x, \sigma]))$ .*

*Proof.* By 2.1 above  $\sigma(T_N(B)) = T_N(B)$ , therefore  $(T_N(B))[x, \sigma]$  is a right ideal of  $B[x, \sigma]$ . Now on the same lines as in [6, Proposition (1.1)] with some manipulations on  $\sigma$ , it can be easily proved that  $T_N(B[x, \sigma]) \subseteq (T_N(B))[x, \sigma]$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $A$  be commutative Noetherian ring with  $|A| = \alpha$ . If  $M$  is a finitely generated critical right module over  $A[x, \sigma]$  with  $|M| = \alpha + 1$ . Then  $M$  has a prime annihilator, where  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $F_\alpha = \text{Sum of all submodules of } A \text{ of Krull dimension less than } \alpha$ . Then as in [6, Theorem(1.2)],  $F_\alpha = \cap A_\alpha$ , where  $A_\alpha$  are ideals of  $A$  such that  $A/A_\alpha$  is  $\alpha$ -homogeneous. Also observe that  $A/\sigma(F_\alpha)$  is isomorphic to  $A/F_\alpha$ . Therefore  $A/\sigma(F_\alpha)$  is  $\alpha$ -homogeneous. So  $\sigma(F_\alpha) \subseteq F_\alpha$ . Now let  $F_\alpha^* = \text{Sum of submodules of } A[x, \sigma] \text{ having Krull dimension less than } \alpha + 1$ . Then  $F_\alpha[x, \sigma] \subseteq F_\alpha^*$  and  $F_\alpha^* = \cap A_\alpha^*$ , where  $A[x, \sigma]/A$  is  $\alpha + 1$ -homogeneous. Let  $\text{Ann}(M) = B$ , where  $\text{Ann}(M)$  denotes the annihilator of  $M$ . Then  $M$  is a critical  $A[x, \sigma]/B$  module, which is also faithful since  $|M| = \alpha + 1$ , therefore  $|A[x, \sigma]/B| = \alpha + 1$ . Now  $M$  is critical with  $|M| = \alpha + 1$ , so by [2]  $A[x, \sigma]/B$  is isomorphic to a submodule of direct sum of  $n$  copies of  $M$ . This easily yields that  $A[x, \sigma]/B$  is  $\alpha + 1$ -homogeneous. Hence  $F_\alpha[x, \sigma] \subseteq B$ . Thus  $M$  is an  $A[x, \sigma]/F_\alpha[x, \sigma]$  module. If  $N(A/F_\alpha)$  is the prime radical of  $A/F_\alpha$ , then since  $A/F_\alpha$  is  $\alpha$ -homogeneous,  $(A/F_\alpha)/N(A/F_\alpha)$  is also  $\alpha$ -homogeneous, because  $A$  is a commutative ring. Now using [6, Theorem (1.2)] and the fact that every critical module is compressible over  $A/F_\alpha$  by [4, Theorem (2.5)], we get by [2, Proposition (3.6)] that  $(A/F_\alpha)/T_N(A/F_\alpha)$  has an artinian quotient ring, therefore by [5, Theorem (3.1)]  $(A/F_\alpha)[x, \sigma]/(T_N(A/F_\alpha))[x, \sigma]$  has an artinian quotient ring. Now 2.5 implies that

$$(A/F_\alpha)[x, \sigma]/T_N((A/F_\alpha)[x, \sigma]) = (A/F_\alpha)[x, \sigma]/(T_N(A/F_\alpha))[x, \sigma].$$

Now since

$$(A/F_\alpha)[x, \sigma]/(N(A/F_\alpha))[x, \sigma]$$

is  $\alpha + 1$ -homogeneous as  $(A/F_\alpha)/N(A/F_\alpha)$  is  $\alpha$ -homogeneous, so again by an application of [2, Proposition (3.6)], we get that  $M$  as a module over  $(A/F_\alpha)[x, \sigma]$  is compressible. Hence  $M$  has a prime annihilator.  $\square$

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