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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 α . Let M be a finitely generated critical module over $A[x, \sigma]$, (where σ 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 α , 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 α -homogeneous if M contains no non-zero submodule of Krull dimension less than α . 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 σ 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 σ 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 σ 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 σ 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 σ 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 σ , 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 σ 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_α are ideals of A such that A/A_α is α -homogeneous. Also observe that $A/\sigma(F_\alpha)$ is isomorphic to A/F_α . Therefore $A/\sigma(F_\alpha)$ is α -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_α , then since A/F_α is α -homogeneous, $(A/F_\alpha)/N(A/F_\alpha)$ is also α -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_α 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 α -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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