# **Quasi- Secondary Submodules**

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#### Abstract

Let R be a commutative ring with non-zero identity and M be a unitary R-module. Then the concept of quasi-secondary submodules of M is introduced and some results concerning this class of submodules is obtained.

## **1. Introduction**

Throughout this paper all rings are commutative with non-zero identity and all modules are unitary. In [4] L.Fuchs introduced and studied the concept of quasi-primary ideals (see also [5]). An ideal I of a ring R is called a *quasi-primary* ideal of R if the radical of I is a prime ideal of R. This concept then generalized to modules, i.e., the concept of quasi-primary submodules of a module introduced and developed in [3]. Here, we introduce the dual notation, that is, the quasi-secondary submodules of a module and obtain some results concerning this class of submodules. In section 2, we obtain some preliminary properties of quasi-secondary submodules. Section 3 is devoted to the quasi-secondary submodules of a multiplication module. Now we define some concepts which will be needed in sequel.

Let *M* be an R-module and *N* a submodule of it. The ideal  $\{r \in R | rM \subseteq N\}$  will be denoted by  $(N_R^iM)$ ; in particular  $(0_R^iM)$  is called the annihilator of *M*. A non-zero submodule *N* of *M* is called a *secondary* (*resp.second*) submodule of *M* if for each  $r \in R$  the homothety  $N \xrightarrow{r} N$  is surjective or nilpoten (resp. surjective or zero). In this case  $\sqrt{(0_R^iN)}$  is a prime ideal, say *p*, and we call *N* a *p-secondary* (resp.*a p- second*) submodule of *M*. We refer readers for more details concerning secondary (resp.second) submodule to [9] (resp. [12]).

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An R-module *M* is said to be a *multiplication* module if for each submodule *N* of *M* there exists an ideal *I* of *R* such that N = IM. It is easy to see that in this case  $N = (N_R^*M)M$ . Also the ideal  $\theta(M)$  is defined as  $\theta(M) := \sum_{m \in M} (Rm_R^*M)$ . If *M* is a multiplication module and *N* is a submodule of it, then  $M = \theta(M)M$  and  $N = \theta(M)N$ . (see [1]). An R-module *M* is *sum-irreducible* if *M* 0 and the sum of any two proper submodules of *M* is always a proper submodule. Finally a proper submodule *N* of an R-module *M* is called a *prime submodule* if for each  $r \in R$  the homothety  $M/_N \xrightarrow{r} M/_N$  is either injective or zero. This implies that  $Ann(M/_N) = p$  is a prime ideal of *R*, and *N* is said to be a *p-prime submodule* (c.f. [7], [8], [10] and [11]).

## 2. Quasi-Secondary Submodules

The starting point of this section is the definition of quasi-secondary submodules of a module.

Definitian 2.1. Let *M* be a non-zero R-module. Then the non-zero submodule *N* of *M* is said to be *quasi-secondary* if  $\sqrt{(0 \cdot N)} = p$  where *p* is a prime ideal of R. It is obvious that every secondary (or second) submodule of a module is a quasi-secondary submodule, but the converse is not true in general. For example, 2Z is a 0-quasi-secondary submodule of the Z-module Z but it is not 0-secondary (or 0-second) submodule. (Here Z denotes the set of all integers.)

#### Remark 2.2.

(i) Let M be a non-zero R-module and N a submodule of it such that

 $\sqrt{(0_R^{\pm}N)} = m(m \in Max(R))$ . Then N is m-secondary (m-second).

(ii) Every quasi-secondary submodule of a module over a zero-dimentional ring (i.e.,

a ring in which every prime ideal is a maximal ideal) is secondary.

(iii) Every quasi-secondary submodule of a module over a D.V.R is secondary.

Definition 2.3. Let M be an R-module and N a submodule of M. An element r of R is called *co-primal* to N if rN = N. Denote by W(N) the set of all elements of R that are not co-primal to N. The submodule N is said to be a co-primal submodule of M if W(N) is an ideal of R. This ideal is always a prime ideal. In this case we say that N is a *p-co-primal* submodule of M. The class of co-primal submodules of a module is a

fairly large class. For example, all secondary (second) submodules are co-primal. Also it is easy to see that a sum-irreducible submodule of a module is co-primal. But, in general, a quasi-secondary submodule of a module may not be a co-primal submodule. (consider the Z-module Z.). It is worth to mention that in [2] the term secondal is used for co-primal submodules. The next proposition characterizes those p-quasi- secondary submodules which are p-co-primal.

Proposition 2 4. Let N be a p-quasi-secondary submodule of an R-module M. Then N is a proprimal submodule of M if and only if it is a p-secondary submodule of M.

Proof  $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $N \xrightarrow{r} N$  be the R-endomorphism of N given by multiphication by r of R and  $rN \neq N$ . Then by our assumption  $r \in p = \{s \in R \mid s N \neq N\}$ . On the other hand,  $p = \sqrt{0} \frac{1}{R}N$  and so there exists a positive integer t such that  $r^t N = 0$ . The result follows.  $\Leftarrow$ ) Is obvious.

The proof of two next propositions is easy and so we state them without proof.

Proposition 2.5. Let M be a module over an integral domain and N be a 0- co-primal submodule of M. Then  $\mathbb{N}$  is 0-secondary.

Proposition 2.6. Let M be an R-module and  $N_1, N_2, \dots, N_t$  be submodules of M. Then

- (i) Suppose that for  $i = 1, 2, N_i$  is  $p_i$ -quasi-secondary. Then  $N_1 + N_2$  is quasisecondary if and only if  $p_1 \subseteq p_2$  or  $p_2 \subseteq p_1$
- (ii) If  $N_1, ..., N_t$  are p-quasi-secondary, then  $N_1 + \cdots + N_t$  is a p-quasi-secondary submodule of M.
- (iii) If  $N_1 + \dots + N_2$  is a p-quasi-secondary submodule of M.Then  $N_j$  is p-quasi-secondary for some  $j, 1 \le j \le t$ .

#### **3. Multiplication Modules**

In this short section we give a property of quasi-secondary submodules of a multiphication module.

**Lemma 3.1.** let *M* be a multiplication module and *N* be a p-quasi-secondary submodule of *M*. Then  $\theta(M) \not\subseteq p$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that  $\theta(M) \subseteq p$  and  $0 \neq n \in N$ . Then  $Rn = \theta(M)Rn \subseteq pn$ . Hence  $n = p_0 n$  for some  $p_0 \in p$ . By our assumption there exists a positive integer t such that  $p_0^t N = 0$ . Therefore  $n = p_0^t n = 0$ , a contradiction.

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**Theorem 3.2.** Suppose that M is a faithfull multiplication module and N a p-quasisecondary submodule of M. Then pM is a prime submodule of M. In particular, if  $p \in \max(R)$ , then pM is a maximal submodule of M.

**Proof.** By Lemma 3.1,  $\theta(M) \not\subseteq p$ . Now suppose that pM = M = RM. Then by [1, Theorem 1.5]  $R \cap \theta(M) = \theta(M) = p \cap \theta(M)$  and hence  $\theta(M) \subseteq p$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $pM \neq M$  and the result of the first part follows from [6, Lemma 2.4(2)]. The last part can be deduced from the first part and [6, Corollary 2.7]

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