

## ENDOMORPHISMS OF A MULTIPLICATION MODULE

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ABSTRACT. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module. The ideal  $\theta(M) = \sum_{x \in M} (Rx : M)$  of  $R$  has proved to be useful in studying multiplication modules. We prove that if  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  are ideals of  $R$ , then  $\text{Hom}_R(M/IM, M/JM) \cong \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$  and  $\text{Hom}_R(IM, JM) \cong \text{Hom}_R(I, J)$ . As applications of these results, we prove the following: (i)  $M/IM$  is quasi-projective if and only if  $\theta(M)/I$  is quasi-projective. (ii) If  $R/I$  is self-injective then any endomorphism of  $M/IM$  is trivial.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper all rings are commutative rings with identity  $1 \neq 0$  and all modules are unital left modules. Let  $R$  be a ring. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a multiplication module if for each submodule  $N$  of  $M$ ,  $N = IM$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $R$ . In this case we can take  $I = (N : M) = \{r \in R \mid rM \subseteq N\}$ . As defined by Anderson [1],  $\theta(M) = \sum_{x \in M} (Rx : M)$ . The ideal  $\theta(M)$  of  $R$  has proved to be useful in studying multiplication modules. In [5] it is proved that  $\text{Hom}_R(M, M) \cong \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M), \theta(M))$ . In this paper we give some generalizations of this result. Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module and  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ . In Section 2, Theorem 2.2, it is proved that there exists a canonical isomorphism  $\lambda$  from  $\text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$  onto  $\text{Hom}_R(M/IM, M/JM)$  such that for any  $\eta : \theta(M)/I \rightarrow \theta(M)/J$ ,  $x \in M$ ,  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $\lambda(\eta)(\bar{a} \bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x}$ . In Theorem 2.3, it is proved that there

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exists a canonical isomorphism  $\lambda$  from  $\text{Hom}_R(I, J)$  onto  $\text{Hom}_R(IM, JM)$  such that for any  $\eta : I \rightarrow J$ ,  $x \in M$ ,  $a \in I$ ,  $\lambda(\eta)(ax) = \eta(a)x$ . In Section 3, we give some applications. In Theorem 3.1, it is proved that  $M/IM$  is quasi-projective if and only if  $\theta(M)/I$  is quasi-projective. In Theorem 3.2, it is proved that if  $R/I$  is self-injective, then any endomorphism of  $M/IM$  is trivial and if  $R$  is self-injective, then any endomorphism of  $IM$  is trivial.

## 2. ENDOMORPHISM RINGS

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module.*

- (i)  $N = \theta(M)N$  for any submodule  $N$  of  $M$ .
- (ii)  $A = \theta(M)A$  for any ideal  $A \subseteq \theta(M)$ .
- (iii)  $aM$  is a finitely generated multiplication  $R$ -module for all  $a \in \theta(M)$ .

*Proof.* (i) follows from [1, Theorem 2.1, (3)]. (ii) follows from (i) as  $\theta(M)$  is a faithful multiplication ideal and  $\theta(\theta(M)) = \theta(M)$  by [2, Theorems 2.3 and 2.6]. (iii) follows from [2, Lemma 2.1]. □

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module and  $J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be an ideal of  $R$ .*

- (i)  $(JM : M) \cap \theta(M) = J$ .
- (ii) For  $\overline{M} = M/JM$ ,  $\overline{\theta(M)} = \theta(M)/J$ ,  $[\overline{0} :_{\overline{R}} \overline{M}] \cap \overline{\theta(M)} = \overline{0}$ , where  $\overline{R} = R/J$
- (iii)  $(0 :_M J) = (0 : J)M$

*Proof.* (i) Since  $M$  is a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module, by [3, Theorem 1.6], we have  $((JM : M) \cap \theta(M))M = (JM : M)M \cap \theta(M)M = JM \cap \theta(M)M = JM$ . Hence, by cancellation law [5, Theorem 1.4],  $(JM : M) \cap \theta(M) = J$ . (ii) follows from (i). (iii) As  $M$  is faithful,  $(0 : JM) = (0 : J)$  and as  $M$  is a multiplication  $R$ -module,  $(0 :_M J) = ((0 :_M J) : M)M = (0 : JM)M = (0 : J)M$ . □

**Theorem 2.1** ([5, Theorem 2.5]). *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module. Then  $\text{Hom}_R(M, M) \cong \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M), \theta(M))$ .*

An  $R$ -module  $N$  is said to be quasi-projective, if for any submodule  $L$  of  $N$  and any  $R$ -homomorphism  $f : N \rightarrow N/L$  there exists an  $R$ -endomorphism  $g$  of  $N$  such that  $\pi \circ g = f$  where  $\pi$  is the natural projection of  $N$  onto  $N/L$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module,  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be two ideals of  $R$  and let  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}_R(M/IM, M/JM)$ . Then for any  $a \in \theta(M)$  there exists  $r_a \in R$  such that  $\sigma(\overline{ax}) = r_a \overline{ax}$  for all  $x \in M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a \in \theta(M)$ . Then, by Lemma 2.1 (iii),  $aM$  is a finitely generated multiplication  $R$ -module. Hence, by [6, Theorem 11],  $aM$  is a quasi-projective  $R$ -module. So there exists an  $R$ -endomorphism  $\sigma_a : aM \rightarrow aM$  such that  $\sigma(\overline{ax}) = \overline{\sigma_a(ax)}$ . However  $aM$  is a finitely generated faithful multiplication  $\overline{R}$ -module where  $\overline{R} = R/\text{ann}_R aM$  and  $\sigma_a \in \text{Hom}_R(aM, aM)$ , so it follows, from Theorem 2.1, that there exists an  $r_a \in R$  such that  $\overline{\sigma_a(ax)} = \overline{r_a ax} = r_a \overline{ax}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.1.** If  $x \in M$ , then by Lemma 2.1 (i), there exists an  $a \in \theta(M)$  such that  $x = ax$ . Hence  $\sigma(\overline{x}) = \sigma(\overline{ax}) = r_a \overline{ax} = r_a \overline{x}$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module,  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$  and let  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$ . Then  $\eta(\overline{a}) \overline{x} = \eta(\overline{b}) \overline{x}$  for all  $x \in M, a, b \in \theta(M)$  such that  $ax = bx$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $ax = bx, (a - b) \in (0 : x) \cap \theta(M)$ . Hence  $\overline{a} - \overline{b} = \overline{r}$  for some  $r \in (0 : x) \cap \theta(M)$ . Therefore  $\eta(\overline{a}) \overline{x} - \eta(\overline{b}) \overline{x} = \eta(\overline{r}) \overline{x} = \eta(\overline{r}) \overline{ax} = \eta(\overline{a}) \overline{rx} = 0$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module and  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ . Let  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}_R(M/IM, M/JM)$ . Then there exists a unique  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$  such that  $\sigma(\overline{a} \overline{x}) = \eta(\overline{a}) \overline{x}$  for any  $a \in \theta(M), x \in M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a \in \theta(M)$ . Then, by Lemma 2.3, there exists an  $r_a \in R$  such that  $\sigma(\overline{a} \overline{x}) = r_a \overline{a} \overline{x}$  for all  $x \in M$ . Define  $\eta : \theta(M)/I \rightarrow \theta(M)/J$  such that  $\eta(\overline{a}) = r_a \overline{a}$  for all  $a \in \theta(M)$ . Suppose  $\overline{a} = \overline{b}$  in  $\theta(M)/I$  for some  $a, b \in \theta(M)$ . Then, for any  $x \in M, \overline{a} \overline{x} = \overline{b} \overline{x}$  in  $M/IM$ . Thus  $\sigma(\overline{a} \overline{x}) = \sigma(\overline{b} \overline{x})$  which implies that  $r_a \overline{a} \overline{x} = r_b \overline{b} \overline{x}$  in  $M/JM$ . So in  $\overline{R} = R/J, r_a \overline{a} - r_b \overline{b} \in$

$(\bar{0} :_{\bar{R}} M/JM) \cap \overline{\theta(M)} = \bar{0}$  by Lemma 2.2 (ii). Thus  $r_a \bar{a} = r_b \bar{b}$  in  $\theta(M)/J$ ,  $\eta$  is well defined and  $\sigma(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x}$  for any  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x \in M$ . And if  $a, b \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x \in M$  then,  $\eta(\bar{a} + \bar{b})\bar{x} = \sigma((\bar{a} + \bar{b})\bar{x}) = \sigma(\bar{a}\bar{x}) + \sigma(\bar{b}\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x} + \eta(\bar{b})\bar{x} = (\eta(\bar{a}) + \eta(\bar{b}))\bar{x}$ . So,  $\eta(\bar{a} + \bar{b}) - (\eta(\bar{a}) + \eta(\bar{b})) \in (\bar{0} :_{\bar{R}} \overline{M}) \cap \overline{\theta(M)} = \bar{0}$ . Hence,  $\eta(\bar{a} + \bar{b}) = \eta(\bar{a}) + \eta(\bar{b})$ . Similarly if  $r \in R$ ,  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $\eta(r\bar{a}) = r\eta(\bar{a})$ . Therefore  $\eta$  is an  $R$ -homomorphism such that  $\sigma(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x}$  for any  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x \in M$ . That  $\eta$  is uniquely determined by  $\sigma$  follows from Lemma 2.2 (ii).  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module,  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ . Let  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$ . Then there exists a unique  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}_R(M/IM, M/JM)$  such that  $\sigma(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x}$  for any  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x \in M$ .*

*Proof.* Define  $\sigma : M/IM \rightarrow M/JM$  such that for any  $x \in M$ ,  $\sigma(\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{b})\bar{x}$  whenever  $x = bx$  for some  $b \in \theta(M)$ . If  $x \in M$ , then there exists  $b \in \theta(M)$  such that  $x = bx$ . Hence, by Lemma 2.4,  $\sigma$  is a well-defined map. Now if  $x, y \in M$  then, by Lemma 2.1 (ii), there exist  $s, t \in \theta(M)$  such that  $sx = x$ ,  $ty = y$ . This gives that  $(s + t - st)(x + y) = x + y$ . Hence  $\sigma(\overline{(s + t - st)}(x + y)) = \eta(\overline{(s + t - st)}(x + y)) = (\eta(\bar{s}) + \eta(\bar{t}) - \eta(\overline{st}))(\overline{(s + t - st)}(x + y)) = \eta(\bar{s})\bar{x} + \eta(\bar{t})\bar{y} + \eta(\bar{s})\bar{y} + \eta(\bar{t})\bar{x} - \eta(\bar{t})\bar{s}\bar{x} - \eta(\bar{s})\bar{t}\bar{y} = \sigma(\bar{x}) + \sigma(\bar{y})$ . And for any  $r \in R$ ,  $rx = srx$  gives  $\sigma(r\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{s})r\bar{x} = r\eta(\bar{s})\bar{x} = r\sigma(\bar{x})$ . Hence  $\sigma$  is an  $R$ -homomorphism. The uniqueness of  $\sigma$  follows from its definition.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module and  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ . Then there exists an isomorphism  $\lambda$  from  $\text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$  onto  $\text{Hom}_R(M/IM, M/JM)$  with the following properties:  
For any  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$ , we have,*

- (i)  $\lambda(\eta)(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x}$  for all  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x \in M$ .
- (ii)  $\text{range } \lambda(\eta) = (\text{range } \eta)M/JM$  and  $\text{Ker } \lambda(\eta) = (\text{Ker } \eta)M/IM$ .
- (iii)  $\eta$  is one-to-one (onto) if and only if  $\lambda(\eta)$  is.

*Proof.* (i) follows from Corollaries 2.1 and 2.2. For (ii), we have  $\text{range } \eta = K/J$ ,  $\text{Ker } \eta = L/I$  where  $K, L$  are ideals of  $R$  contained in  $\theta(M)$ . Now let  $x \in M$ . As  $\theta(M)M = M$ ,  $x = \sum a_i x_i$ ,  $a_i \in \theta(M)$ . So,  $\lambda(\eta)(\bar{x}) = \sum \eta(\bar{a}_i)\bar{x}_i \in (\text{range } \eta)M/JM$ . Hence  $\text{range } \lambda(\eta) \subseteq (\text{range } \eta)M/JM$ . And for any  $\bar{c} \in \text{range } \eta$ , there exists an element  $b \in \theta(M)$  such that  $\eta(\bar{b}) = \bar{c}$ . So,

$\bar{c} \bar{x} = \eta(\bar{b}) \bar{x} = \lambda(\eta)(\bar{b} \bar{x}) \in \text{range } \lambda(\eta)$ ,  $(\text{range } \eta) \overline{M} \subseteq \text{range } \lambda(\eta)$ . Hence,  $\text{range } \lambda(\eta) = (\text{range } \eta) \overline{M}$ .

To prove that  $\text{Ker } \lambda(\eta) = (\text{Ker } \eta) \overline{M}$ , let  $x \in M$ . For any  $a \in L$ ,  $\lambda(\eta)(\bar{a} \bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a}) \bar{x} = \bar{0}$ . So,  $(\text{Ker } \eta) \overline{M} \subseteq \text{Ker } \lambda(\eta)$ . Now  $\text{Ker } \lambda(\eta) = TM/IM$  for some ideal  $T$  of  $R$  such that  $I \subseteq T \subseteq \theta(M)$ . For any  $b \in T$ ,  $\bar{0} = \lambda(\eta)(\bar{b} \bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{b}) \bar{x}$ . But  $\eta(\bar{b}) = \bar{c}$  for some  $c \in K$ . So,  $\bar{c} \overline{M} = \bar{0}$ ,  $cM \subseteq JM$ . Hence, by cancellation law [5, Theorem 1.4],  $c \in J$ . So,  $\eta(\bar{b}) = \bar{0}$ ,  $\bar{b} \in \text{Ker } \eta$  and  $\text{Ker } \lambda(\eta) \subseteq (\text{Ker } \eta) \overline{M}$ . Therefore,  $\text{Ker } \lambda(\eta) = (\text{Ker } \eta) \overline{M}$ . (iii) is immediate from (ii) and the cancellation law.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module,  $I, J, K \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ . For any  $\eta_1 \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/I, \theta(M)/J)$ ,  $\eta_2 \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)/J, \theta(M)/K)$ ,  $\lambda(\eta_2 \circ \eta_1) = \lambda(\eta_2) \circ \lambda(\eta_1)$ .*

*Proof.* It follows from Theorem 2.2 (i).  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module and  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ .*

- (i) *For any  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(I, J)$  there exists a unique  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}_R(IM, JM)$  such that  $\sigma(ax) = \eta(a)x$  for all  $a \in I, x \in M$ .*
- (ii) *For any  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}_R(IM, JM)$  there exists a unique  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(I, J)$  such that  $\sigma(ax) = \eta(a)x$  for all  $a \in I, x \in M$ .*

*Proof.* (i) Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be any  $n$  elements of  $I$ ,  $A = \sum_{i=1}^n Ra_i$ . Define  $\sigma_A : AM \rightarrow JM$  such that  $\sigma_A(\sum a_i x_i) = \sum \eta(a_i) x_i$ . We will prove by induction on  $n$  that  $\sigma_A$  is an  $R$ -homomorphism such that for any  $a \in A, x \in M$ ,  $\sigma_A(ax) = \eta(a)x$ . Let  $n = 1$ . By Lemma 2.2 (iii),  $(0 :_M a_1) = (0 : a_1) M$ ,  $(0 :_M \eta(a_1)) = (0 : \eta(a_1)) M$ . If  $a_1 x = 0$ , then,  $x \in (0 :_M a_1) = (0 : a_1) M \subseteq (0 : \eta(a_1)) M = (0 :_M \eta(a_1))$ . Hence  $\eta(a_1)x = 0$  and hence  $\sigma_A$  is a well defined  $R$ -homomorphism. Let  $x \in M, b \in A$ . Then  $b = ra_1$ ,  $bx = ra_1 x = a_1 r x$  gives  $\sigma_A(bx) = \sigma_A(a_1 r x) = \eta(a_1) r x = \eta(ra_1) x = \eta(b)x$ . So the result holds for  $n = 1$ . Now let the result holds for  $n - 1$  and let  $B = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} Ra_i, C = B \cap Ra_n$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $\sigma_B$  is an  $R$ -homomorphism of  $BM$  into  $JM$ . Let  $a \in C, x \in M$ . As  $C = \theta(M)C$ ,  $a = \sum b_i c_i$  for some  $b_i \in \theta(M), c_i \in C$

and  $ax = \sum c_i b_i x$ . By induction hypothesis,  $\sigma_B(c_i b_i x) = \eta(c_i) b_i x$ . Also, as  $c_i \in Ra_n$ ,  $\sigma_{Ra_n}(c_i b_i x) = \eta(c_i) b_i x$ . This gives  $\sigma_B(ax) = \sigma_{Ra_n}(ax)$ . Since  $A = B + Ra_n$ , it follows that  $\sigma_A$  is a well defined  $R$ -homomorphism of  $AM$  into  $JM$ . And if  $a \in A$ ,  $x \in M$  then,  $a = b + ra_n$  for some  $b \in B$ ,  $r \in R$ . Hence,  $\sigma_A(ax) = \sigma_A(bx + ra_n x) = \eta(b)x + \eta(a_n)rx = (\eta(b) + \eta(ra_n))x = \eta(b + ra_n)x = \eta(a)x$ . Hence,  $\sigma_A(ax) = \eta(a)x = \sigma_{Ra}(ax)$ . This proves that given any  $a \in A$ ,  $\sigma_A$  extends  $\sigma_{Ra}$ . Thus for any two finitely generated ideals  $A, B$  contained in  $I$ ,  $\sigma_B$  extends  $\sigma_A$ , whenever  $A \subseteq B$ . As  $I$  is a direct limit of ideals of type  $A$ , we get an  $R$ -homomorphism  $\sigma$  of  $IM$  into  $JM$  such that  $\sigma(ax) = \eta(a)x$  for any  $a \in I$ ,  $x \in M$ . The uniqueness of  $\sigma$  is clear. (ii) follows from [5, Lemma 2.6] as  $\Gamma(IM) := (IM : M) \cap \theta(M) = I$  by Lemma 2.2 (i).  $\square$

The following Theorem is a dual of Theorem 2.2.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module and  $I, J \subseteq \theta(M)$  be ideals of  $R$ . There exists an isomorphism  $\lambda$  of  $\text{Hom}_R(I, J)$  onto  $\text{Hom}_R(IM, JM)$  such that for any  $\eta \in \text{Hom}_R(I, J)$ ,  $a \in I$ ,  $x \in M$ ,  $\lambda(\eta)(ax) = \eta(a)x$ .*

*Proof.* Follows from Lemma 2.5.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module. If  $I$  is a finitely generated ideal of  $R$  with  $I \subseteq \theta(M)$ , then  $\text{Hom}_R(M, IM) \cong I$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.1 (ii),  $I = \theta(M)I$ . As  $I$  is finitely generated, by a standard determinant argument,  $R = \theta(M) + (0 : I)$ . So,  $1 = a + b$  for some  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $b \in (0 : I)$ . Let  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M), I)$ . For any  $x \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x = ax + bx$ ,  $\sigma(x) = \sigma(ax) + \sigma(bx)$ . As  $\sigma(x) \in I$ ,  $\sigma(bx) = b\sigma(x) = 0$ . So  $\sigma(x) = \sigma(a)x$  for every  $x \in \theta(M)$ . It follows that  $\text{Hom}_R(\theta(M), I) \cong I$ . Hence, by Theorem 2.3,  $\text{Hom}_R(M, IM) = \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M)M, IM) \cong \text{Hom}_R(\theta(M), I) \cong I$ .  $\square$

### 3. APPLICATIONS

As an application of Theorem 2.2, we have the following Theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module,  $I \subseteq \theta(M)$  be an ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\theta(M)/I$  is quasi-projective if and only if  $M/IM$  is.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\theta(M)/I$  is quasi-projective. Any homomorphic image of  $M/IM$  is isomorphic to  $M/JM$  for some ideal  $J$  of  $R$  such that  $I \subseteq J \subseteq \theta(M)$ . Now consider an  $R$ -homomorphism  $f : M/IM \rightarrow M/JM$ . By Theorem 2.2, there exists  $\lambda^{-1}(f) : \theta(M)/I \rightarrow \theta(M)/J$  such that  $f(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \lambda^{-1}(f)(\bar{a})\bar{x}$ , in  $M/JM$ , for any  $x \in M$ ,  $a \in \theta(M)$ . As  $\theta(M)/I$  is quasi-projective, there exists an  $R$ -homomorphism  $\eta : \theta(M)/I \rightarrow \theta(M)/I$  such that  $\lambda^{-1}(f) = \pi \circ \eta$ , where  $\pi : \theta(M)/I \rightarrow \theta(M)/J$  is the natural homomorphism. By Theorem 2.2, there exists an  $R$ -homomorphism  $\mu : M/IM \rightarrow M/IM$  such that  $\mu(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \eta(\bar{a})\bar{x}$  for any  $a \in \theta(M)$ ,  $x \in M$ . Hence,  $f(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \lambda^{-1}(f)(\bar{a})\bar{x} = (\pi \circ \eta)(\bar{a})\bar{x} = \pi'(\eta(\bar{a})\bar{x})$ , by Corollary 2.2, where  $\pi' : M/IM \rightarrow M/JM$  is the natural homomorphism. Thus,  $f(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \pi'(\mu(\bar{a}\bar{x}))$  and that gives  $f = \pi' \circ \mu$ . This proves that  $M/IM$  is quasi-projective. Similarly one can prove the converse.  $\square$

**Remark 3.1.** There exists a faithful multiplication ideal which is not projective. To construct the example, let  $R$  be any non noetherian self-injective commutative von Neumann regular ring. Suppose that every faithful ideal of  $R$  is projective. Let  $A$  be any ideal of  $R$ ,  $C$  a complement of  $A$  in  $R$  and  $B = A + C = A \oplus C$ . Since  $R$  is an essential extension of  $B$  and  $R$  is von Neuman regular ring,  $B$  is a faithful ideal. Hence it is projective and hence  $A$  is projective. Therefore  $R$  is hereditary. So, by [4, Theorem 4.23], every homomorphic image of  ${}_R R$  is injective. Hence, by [4, Corollary 6.47],  $R$  is semisimple, which is a contradiction. Hence there exists a faithful ideal  $A$  of  $R$  which is not projective. This  $A$  is a multiplication ideal.

An endomorphism  $\sigma$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be trivial if there exists an element  $r \in R$  such that  $\sigma(x) = rx$  for all  $x \in M$ .

It is well known that if  $M$  is a finitely generated multiplication  $R$ -module, then any endomorphism of  $M$  is trivial. In the following result  $M$  need not be finitely generated.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $M$  be a faithful multiplication  $R$ -module,  $I \subseteq \theta(M)$  be an ideal of  $R$ .*

- (i) If  $R/I$  is self-injective, then any  $R$ -endomorphism of  $M/IM$  is trivial.  
(ii) If  $R$  is self-injective, then any endomorphism of  $IM$  is trivial.

*Proof.* To prove (i), let  $\sigma$  be an endomorphism of  $M/IM$ . By Theorem 2.2 (i),  $\sigma(\bar{a}\bar{x}) = \lambda^{-1}(\sigma)(\bar{a})\bar{x}$  for all  $a \in \theta(M), x \in M$ . Since  $R/I$  is self-injective, there exists  $\bar{r} \in R/I$  such that  $\lambda^{-1}(\sigma)(\bar{a}) = \bar{r}\bar{a}$  for all  $a \in \theta(M)$ . Now for any  $x \in M$ , there exists  $b_x \in \theta(M)$  such that  $x = b_x x$ . Hence,  $\sigma(\bar{x}) = \sigma(\overline{b_x x}) = \lambda^{-1}(\sigma)(\overline{b_x})\bar{x} = \bar{r}\overline{b_x}\bar{x} = \bar{r}\bar{x}$  and  $\sigma$  is trivial. (ii) follows by a similar argument using Theorem 2.3.  $\square$

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