

# On lifting and extending properties on direct sums of hollow uniform modules

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**ABSTRACT.** A module  $M$  is said to be *lifting* if, for any submodule  $N$  of  $M$ , there exists a direct summand  $X$  of  $M$  contained in  $N$  such that  $N/X$  is small in  $M/X$ . A module  $M$  is said to satisfy the *finite internal exchange property* if, for any direct summand  $X$  of  $M$  and any finite direct sum decomposition  $M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M_i$ , there exists a direct summand  $M'_i$  of  $M_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) such that  $M = X \oplus (\bigoplus_{i=1}^n M'_i)$ . In this paper, we first give characterizations for the square of a hollow and uniform module to be lifting (extending). In addition, we solve negatively the question “Does any lifting module satisfy the finite internal exchange property?” as an application of this result.

## 1. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper,  $R$  is a ring with identity and modules are unitary right  $R$ -modules. Let  $M$  be a module and  $N, K$  submodules of  $M$  with  $K \subseteq N$ .  $N$  is said to be *small* in  $M$  (or a *small submodule* of  $M$ ) if  $N + X \neq M$  for any proper submodule  $X$  of  $M$  and we denote by  $N \ll M$  in this case. A pair  $(Q, f)$  of a module  $Q$  and an epimorphism  $f : Q \rightarrow M$  is said to be a *small cover* of  $M$  if  $\ker f \ll Q$ .  $K$  is said to be a *coessential submodule* of  $N$  in  $M$  if  $N/K \ll M/K$  and we write  $K \subseteq_c N$  in  $M$  in this case. A module  $M$  is said to satisfy the *finite internal exchange property*

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(or briefly, *FIEP*) if, for any direct summand  $X$  of  $M$  and any finite direct sum decomposition  $M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M_i$ , there exists a direct summand  $M'_i$  of  $M_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) such that  $M = X \oplus (\bigoplus_{i=1}^n M'_i)$ . Let  $M = A \oplus B$  be a module and  $h : A \rightarrow B$  a homomorphism. Then  $\{a + h(a) \mid a \in A\}$  is called a *graph* of  $h$  and denoted by  $\langle h \rangle$ . It is clear that  $M = \langle h \rangle \oplus B$ ,  $M = A + \langle h \rangle$  if  $h$  is an epimorphism, and  $A \cap \langle h \rangle = \ker h$ .

A module  $M$  is said to be *extending* (or *CS*) if, for any submodule  $N$  of  $M$ , there exists a direct summand  $X$  of  $M$  such that  $N$  is an essential submodule of  $X$ . An indecomposable extending module is called *uniform*. A lifting module is defined as a dual concept of an extending module, that is, a module  $M$  is said to be *lifting* if, for any submodule  $N$  of  $M$ , there exists a direct summand  $X$  of  $M$  such that  $X$  is a coessential submodule of  $N$  in  $M$ . An indecomposable lifting module is called *hollow*. It is well-known that uniform modules (hollow modules, resp.) are closed under nonzero submodules and essential extensions (nonzero factor modules and small covers, resp.). A module  $M$  is said to be *uniserial* if its submodules are linearly ordered by inclusion. Clearly, any uniserial module is hollow and uniform. However the converse is not true. We consider

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} K & K & K & K \\ 0 & K & 0 & K \\ 0 & 0 & K & K \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & K \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_R = (K, K, K, K)$$

where  $K$  is a field. Then  $M$  has only 6 submodules

$$M, (0, K, K, K), (0, K, 0, K), (0, 0, K, K), (0, 0, 0, K), 0.$$

Hence  $M$  is hollow and uniform but not uniserial.

Extending modules and lifting modules are important because they characterize right noetherian rings, right perfect rings, semiperfect rings, right (co-)H-rings and Nakayama rings (cf. [2]).

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be modules.  $A$  is called *generalized B-injective* if, for any module  $X$ , any homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow A$  and any monomorphism  $g : X \rightarrow B$ , there exist direct sum decompositions  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$  and  $B = B_1 \oplus B_2$ , a homomorphism  $h_1 : B_1 \rightarrow A_1$  and a monomorphism  $h_2 : A_2 \rightarrow B_2$  such that  $p_1 f = h_1 q_1 g$  and  $q_2 g = h_2 p_2 f$ , where  $p_i : A = A_1 \oplus A_2 \rightarrow A_i$  and  $q_i : B = B_1 \oplus B_2 \rightarrow B_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are canonical projections ([5]).  $A$  is called *generalized B-projective* if, for any module  $X$ , any homomorphism  $f : A \rightarrow X$  and any epimorphism  $g : B \rightarrow X$ , there exist direct sum decompositions  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$  and  $B = B_1 \oplus B_2$ ,

a homomorphism  $h_1 : A_1 \rightarrow B_1$  and an epimorphism  $h_2 : B_2 \rightarrow A_2$  such that  $f|_{A_1} = gh_1$  and  $g|_{B_2} = fh_2$ . It is already known that, a finite direct sum of lifting modules (extending modules, resp.) with the FIEP  $M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M_i$  is lifting (extending, resp.) with the FIEP if and only if  $K$  and  $L$  are relative generalized projective (relative generalized injective, resp.) for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , any direct summand  $K$  of  $M_k$  and any direct summand  $L$  of  $\bigoplus_{i \neq k} M_i$  by [6, Theorem 3.7] ([5, Theorem 2.15], resp.).

In this paper, we first give characterizations for the square of a hollow and uniform module to be a lifting module (an extending module) which does not necessarily satisfy the FIEP, by certain projectivities (injectivities). Using this result, we give an example of a lifting module not satisfying the FIEP in order to solve the question ‘‘Does any lifting module satisfy the finite internal exchange property?’’ negatively.

For undefined terminologies, the reader is referred to [1], [2], [3], [7] and [8].

## 2. Main results

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be modules and put  $M = A \oplus B$ . For any nonzero proper direct summand  $X$  of  $M$ , the following holds:*

- (1) *If  $A$  and  $B$  are hollow, then so is  $X$ .*
- (2) *If  $A$  and  $B$  are uniform, then so is  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p : M = A \oplus B \rightarrow A$  and  $q : M = A \oplus B \rightarrow B$  be canonical projections.

(1) Since  $A$  and  $B$  are hollow and  $X$  is non-small,  $X$  satisfies either  $p(X) = A$  or  $q(X) = B$ . Without loss of generality, we can take  $X$  with  $p(X) = A$ . By  $X \neq M$ , we see  $X \cap B \ll B$  because  $B$  is hollow. Since  $X$  is a proper direct summand of  $M$ , we obtain  $\ker p|_X = X \cap B \ll X$ . Hence  $(X, p|_X)$  is a small cover of  $A$ . Therefore  $X$  is hollow.

(2) Since  $A$  and  $B$  are uniform and  $X$  is non-essential,  $X$  satisfies either  $X \cap A = 0$  or  $X \cap B = 0$ . Without loss of generality, we can take  $X$  with  $X \cap A = 0$ . Then  $q|_X : X \rightarrow B$  is a nonzero monomorphism. Therefore  $X$  is uniform because it is isomorphic to a submodule of a uniform module  $B$ .  $\square$

Now we give a key lemma in this paper.

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $U$  be a hollow and uniform module and put  $M = U^2$ ,  $U_1 = U \times 0$  and  $U_2 = 0 \times U$ . Then for any submodule  $N_1$  of  $U_1$  and any epimorphism  $h_1$  from  $N_1$  to  $U_2$ ,  $\langle h_1 \rangle$  is a direct summand of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* If  $N_1 = U_1$  or  $\ker h_1 = 0$ , it is clear  $M = \langle h_1 \rangle \oplus U_2$  or  $M = \langle h_1 \rangle \oplus U_1$ . We assume  $N_1 \neq U_1$  and  $\ker h_1 \neq 0$ , and take a submodule  $N_2$  of  $U_2$  which is a natural isomorphic image of  $N_1$  and an epimorphism  $h_2$  from  $N_2$  to  $U_1$ . Now we prove  $M = \langle h_1 \rangle \oplus \langle h_2 \rangle$ .

First we show  $M = \langle h_1 \rangle + \langle h_2 \rangle$ . Let  $\iota_i : h_i^{-1}(N_j) \rightarrow U_i$  ( $i \neq j$ ) be the inclusion mapping. Then  $\text{Im } \iota_i = h_i^{-1}(N_j) \subseteq h_i^{-1}(U_j) = N_i \subsetneq U_i$  ( $i \neq j$ ). We define a homomorphism  $h'_i$  from  $h_i^{-1}(N_j)$  to  $U_i$  by  $h'_i(x) = h_j h_i(x)$  for  $x \in h_i^{-1}(N_j)$  ( $i \neq j$ ). Clearly  $h'_i$  is onto ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Since  $U_i$  is hollow, we obtain that  $\iota_i - h'_i : h_i^{-1}(N_j) \rightarrow U_i$  is onto ( $i \neq j$ ). For any element  $u_1 + u_2$  of  $M$  ( $u_i \in U_i$ ), there exists an element  $x_i$  of  $h_i^{-1}(N_j)$  such that  $(\iota_i - h'_i)(x_i) = u_i$  ( $i \neq j$ ). Hence  $u_1 + u_2 = ((x_1 - h_2(x_2)) + h_1(x_1 - h_2(x_2))) + ((x_2 - h_1(x_1)) + h_2(x_2 - h_1(x_1))) \in \langle h_1 \rangle + \langle h_2 \rangle$ . Therefore  $M = \langle h_1 \rangle + \langle h_2 \rangle$ .

Next we show  $\langle h_1 \rangle \cap \langle h_2 \rangle = 0$ . We see

$$(\langle h_1 \rangle \cap \langle h_2 \rangle) \cap \ker h_1 = ((\langle h_1 \rangle \cap \langle h_2 \rangle) \cap (\langle h_1 \rangle \cap N_1)) \subseteq \langle h_2 \rangle \cap N_1 = 0.$$

Since  $\langle h_1 \rangle \cong N_1$  is uniform and  $\ker h_1 \neq 0$ , we obtain  $\langle h_1 \rangle \cap \langle h_2 \rangle = 0$ .  $\square$

The following is one of our main results.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $U$  be a hollow and uniform module and put  $M = U^2$ ,  $U_1 = U \times 0$  and  $U_2 = 0 \times U$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a)  *$M$  is lifting,*
- (b) *for any module  $X$ , any homomorphism  $f : U_1 \rightarrow X$  and any epimorphism  $g : U_2 \rightarrow X$ , one of the following holds:*
  - (i) *there exists a homomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $f = gh$ ,*
  - (ii) *there exist a submodule  $N$  of  $U_2$  and an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U_1$  such that  $g|_N = fh$ ,*
- (c) *for any module  $X$ , any homomorphism  $f : U_1 \rightarrow X$  and any epimorphism  $g : U_2 \rightarrow X$ , one of the following holds:*
  - (i) *there exists a homomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $f = gh$ ,*
  - (ii) *there exist a submodule  $K$  of  $\ker g$  and a monomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2/K$  such that  $g'h = f$ , where  $g' : U_2/K \rightarrow X$  is defined by  $g'(\bar{u}) = g(u)$  for  $\bar{u} \in U_2/K$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p_i : M = U_1 \oplus U_2 \rightarrow U_i$  be the canonical projection ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): Let  $f : U_1 \rightarrow X$  be a nonzero homomorphism and  $g : U_2 \rightarrow X$  an epimorphism. We define a homomorphism  $\varphi : M \rightarrow X$  by  $\varphi(u_1 + u_2) = f(u_1) - g(u_2)$  for  $u_i \in U_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Since  $M$  is lifting, there exists a direct summand  $A$  of  $M$  such that  $A \subseteq_c \ker \varphi$  in  $M$ . Then  $M = \ker \varphi + U_2 = A + U_2$  because  $g$  is onto. So  $p_1(A) = U_1$ .

If  $A \cap U_2 = 0$ , we can define a homomorphism  $h : U_1 = p_1(A) \rightarrow U_2$  by  $h(p_1(a)) = p_2(a)$  for  $a \in A$ , and  $h$  satisfies  $f = gh$ . Therefore (i) holds.

Otherwise we see  $A \cap U_1 = 0$  since  $U$  is uniform. Hence we can define an epimorphism  $h : p_2(A) \rightarrow p_1(A) = U_1$  by  $h(p_2(a)) = p_1(a)$  for  $a \in A$ , and  $h$  satisfies  $g|_{p_2(A)} = fh$ . Therefore (ii) holds.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Let  $X$  be a submodule of  $M$ . We may assume that  $X$  is a proper non-small submodule of  $M$ . Since  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are hollow with  $U_1 \cong U_2$ , we only consider the case  $p_1(X) = U_1$ . Then  $M = X + U_2$ . Let  $\pi : M \rightarrow M/X$  be the natural epimorphism. Since  $\pi|_{U_2}$  is onto, one of the following (i) or (ii) holds:

- (i) there exists a homomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $\pi|_{U_1} = \pi|_{U_2}h$ , that is, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & U_1 & \\
 & \swarrow h & \downarrow \pi|_{U_1} \\
 U_2 & \xrightarrow{\pi|_{U_2}} & M/X
 \end{array}$$

commutes,

- (ii) there exist a submodule  $N$  of  $U_2$  and an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U_1$  such that  $\pi|_N = \pi|_{U_1}h$ , that is, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 N & \xrightarrow{h} & U_1 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi|_{U_1} \\
 U_2 & \xrightarrow{\pi|_{U_2}} & M/X
 \end{array}$$

commutes.

In either case, we see  $\langle -h \rangle$  is a direct summand of  $M$  by Lemma 2, and  $\langle -h \rangle \subseteq X$  by the commutativity of the diagram. Put  $M = \langle -h \rangle \oplus T$  using a direct summand  $T$  of  $M$ . Since  $T$  is hollow by Lemma 1, we obtain  $T \cap X \ll T$ . Hence  $\langle -h \rangle \subseteq_c X$  in  $M$ . Therefore  $M$  is lifting.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): It is enough to show (b)(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)(ii). For any homomorphism  $f : U_1 \rightarrow X$  and any epimorphism  $g : U_2 \rightarrow X$ , we assume that there exist a submodule  $N$  of  $U_2$  and an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U_1$  such that  $g|_N = fh$ . Then  $\ker h \subseteq \ker g$ , hence we can define an epimorphism  $g' : U_2/\ker h \rightarrow X$  by  $g'(\bar{u}) = g(u)$  for  $\bar{u} \in U_2/\ker h$ . Let  $\bar{h} : N/\ker h \rightarrow U_1$  be the natural isomorphism and  $\iota : N/\ker h \rightarrow U_2/\ker h$  the inclusion mapping, and put  $h' = \iota\bar{h}^{-1}$ . Clearly,  $h'$  is a monomorphism and  $g'h' = f$ .

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): We show (c)(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (b)(ii). For any homomorphism  $f : U_1 \rightarrow X$  and any epimorphism  $g : U_2 \rightarrow X$ , we assume that there exist a submodule  $K$  of  $\ker g$  and a monomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2/K$  such that  $f = g'h$ , where  $g' : U_2/K \rightarrow X$  is defined by  $g'(\bar{u}) = g(u)$  for  $\bar{u} \in U_2/K$ . We express  $\text{Im } h = N/K$ . Let  $\varphi : N/K \rightarrow U_1$  be the inverse map of  $h$  and  $\pi : N \rightarrow N/K$  the natural epimorphism, and put  $h' = \varphi\pi$ . Then  $h'$  is onto and  $g|_N = fh'$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $U$  be a uniform and hollow module and put  $M = U^2$ ,  $U_1 = U \times 0$  and  $U_2 = 0 \times U$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (a)  $M$  is extending,
- (b) for any module  $X$ , any homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow U_2$  and any monomorphism  $g : X \rightarrow U_1$ , one of the following holds:
  - (i) there exists a homomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $f = hg$ ,
  - (ii) there exist a submodule  $K$  of  $U_1$  and a monomorphism  $h : U_2 \rightarrow U_1/K$  such that  $hf = \pi g$ , where  $\pi$  is the natural epimorphism from  $U_1$  to  $U_1/K$ ,
- (c) for any module  $X$ , any homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow U_2$  and any monomorphism  $g : X \rightarrow U_1$ , one of the following holds:
  - (i) there exists a homomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $f = hg$ ,
  - (ii) there exist a submodule  $N$  of  $U_1$  containing  $\text{Im } g$  and an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $f = hg$ .

*Proof.* Let  $p_i : M = U_1 \oplus U_2 \rightarrow U_i$  be the canonical projection ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): Let  $f : X \rightarrow U_2$  be a nonzero homomorphism and  $g : X \rightarrow U_1$  a monomorphism. We define a homomorphism  $\varphi : X \rightarrow M$  by  $\varphi(x) = g(x) + f(x)$  for  $x \in X$ . Since  $M$  is extending, there exists a direct summand  $A$  of  $M$  such that  $\text{Im } \varphi \subseteq_e A$ . By  $\text{Im } \varphi \cap U_2 = 0$ ,  $A \cap U_2 = 0$ .

If  $p_1(A) = U_1$ , we can define a homomorphism  $h : U_1 = p_1(A) \rightarrow U_2$  by  $h(p_1(a)) = p_2(a)$  for  $a \in A$ , and  $h$  satisfies  $f = hg$ . Therefore (i) holds.

Otherwise, we see  $p_2(A) = U_2$  since  $U$  is hollow. We see  $\text{Im } g \subseteq p_1(A)$ , and we can define an epimorphism  $h : p_1(A) \rightarrow p_2(A) = U_2$  by  $h(p_1(a)) = p_2(a)$  for  $a \in A$ . Then  $h$  satisfies  $f = hg$ . Therefore (ii) holds.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Let  $X$  be a submodule of  $M$ . We may assume that  $X$  is a nonzero non-essential submodule of  $M$ . Since  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are uniform with  $U_1 \cong U_2$ , we only consider the case  $X \cap U_2 = 0$  because  $U$  is uniform. Since  $p_1|_X$  is a monomorphism, one of the following (i) or (ii) holds:

- (i) there exists a homomorphism  $h : U_1 \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $p_2|_X = hp_1|_X$ , that is, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{p_1|_X} & U_1 \\ p_2|_X \downarrow & & \swarrow h \\ & & U_2 \end{array}$$

commutes,

- (ii) there exist a submodule  $N$  of  $U_1$  containing  $p_1(X)$  and an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $p_2|_X = hp_1|_X$ , that is, the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{p_1|_X} & N \subseteq U_1 \\ p_2|_X \downarrow & & \swarrow h \\ & & U_2 \end{array}$$

commutes.

In either case,  $\langle h \rangle$  is a direct summand of  $M$  by Lemma 2, and  $X \subseteq \langle h \rangle$  by commutativity of the diagram. Since  $\langle h \rangle$  is uniform by Lemma 1, we obtain  $X \subseteq_e \langle h \rangle$ . Therefore  $M$  is extending.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): It is enough to show (c)(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (b)(ii). For any homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow U_2$  and any monomorphism  $g : X \rightarrow U_1$ , we assume that there exist a submodule  $N$  of  $U_1$  containing  $\text{Im } g$  and an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U_2$  such that  $f = hg$ . Let  $\bar{h} : N/\ker h \rightarrow U_2$  be the natural isomorphism and  $\iota : N/\ker h \rightarrow U_1/\ker h$  the inclusion mapping, and put  $h' = \iota\bar{h}^{-1}$ . Then  $h'$  is a monomorphism and  $h'f = \pi g$ , where  $\pi : U_1 \rightarrow U_1/\ker h$  is the natural epimorphism.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): We show (b)(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)(ii). For any homomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow U_2$  and any monomorphism  $g : X \rightarrow U_1$ , we assume that there exist a submodule  $K$  of  $U_1$  and a monomorphism  $h : U_2 \rightarrow U_1/K$  such that  $hf = \pi g$ , where  $\pi : U_1 \rightarrow U_1/K$  is the natural epimorphism. We express  $\text{Im } h = N/K$ . Let  $\varphi : N/K \rightarrow U_2$  be the inverse map of  $h$  and  $\eta : N \rightarrow N/K$  the natural epimorphism, and put  $h' = \varphi\eta$ . Then we see  $\text{Im } g \subseteq N$ ,  $h'$  is an epimorphism and  $f = h'g$ .  $\square$

**Remark 1.** In Theorem 2, the assumption ‘‘hollow’’ cannot be removed. In fact,  $U_{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{Z}$  is uniform and  $U^2$  is extending. However it does not hold neither (i) nor (ii) in Theorem 2 (b) for a homomorphism  $f : 2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow U$  defined by  $f(2n) = 3n$  and the inclusion mapping  $g : 2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow U$ .

Lifting modules do not necessarily satisfy the FIEP. We can make an example of a lifting module without the FIEP, using Theorem 1.

**Example 1.** Let  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_{(q)}$  be the localizations of  $\mathbb{Z}$  at two distinct prime numbers  $p$  and  $q$  respectively. We consider a semiperfect ring  $R = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{Z}_{(p)} & \mathbb{Q} \\ 0 & \mathbb{Z}_{(q)} \end{pmatrix}$  and its right ideal  $L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{Z}_{(q)} \\ 0 & \mathbb{Z}_{(q)} \end{pmatrix}$ , and put  $U_R = R/L$ . Then  $U$  is uniserial whose the endomorphism ring is not local (see. [4]). According to [1, Proposition 12.10],  $U^2$  does not satisfy the FIEP. We show  $U^2$  is lifting. For any nonzero homomorphism  $f : U \rightarrow U/X$  where  $X$  is a submodule of  $U$ , we can express

$$f\left(\overline{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}\right) = \overline{\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}} + X$$

for some  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ . If  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{(q)}$ , we can define a homomorphism  $h : U \rightarrow U$  with  $h\left(\overline{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}\right) = \overline{\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}$ , and  $h$  satisfies  $\pi h = f$ , where  $\pi$  is the natural epimorphism from  $U$  to  $U/X$ . Otherwise we can express  $x = p^m \frac{1}{q^n} \frac{t}{s}$ , where  $m \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus (p\mathbb{Z} \cup q\mathbb{Z})$ . Put  $N = \overline{\begin{pmatrix} p^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}R$ . We can define an epimorphism  $h : N \rightarrow U$  with  $h\left(\overline{\begin{pmatrix} p^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}\right) = \overline{\begin{pmatrix} q^n \frac{s}{t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}$ , and  $h$  satisfies  $fh = \pi|_N$ , where  $\pi$  is the natural epimorphism from  $U$  to  $U/X$ . Therefore  $U^2$  is lifting by Theorem 1 (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a).

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