Algebra and Discrete Mathematics Number 4. (2005). pp. 93 – 100 © Journal "Algebra and Discrete Mathematics"

# Rings which have (m, n)-flat injective modules

RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Communicated by V. M. Futorny

ABSTRACT. A ring R is said to be a left IF - (m, n) ring if every injective left R-module is (m, n)-flat. In this paper, several characterizations of left IF - (m, n) rings are investigated, some conditions under which R is left IF - (m, n) are given. Furthermore, conditions under which a left IF - 1 ring (i.e., IF - (1, 1) ring) is a field, a regular ring and a semisimple ring are studied respectively.

## 1. Introduction

Throughout R is an associative ring with identity and all modules are unitary. The character module  $Hom_Z(M, Q/Z)$  of a module M will be denoted by  $M^*$  and the injective hull of M by E(M).

Let m, n be two fixed positive integers. Let G an abelian group. We write  $G^n(G_n)$  for the set of all formal *n*-dimensional row(column) vectors over G. An R-module M is said to be n-generated if it has a generating set of cardinality at most n[6]. A left R-module M is called (m, n)injective if for every n-generated submodule K of the left R-module  $R^m$ , each R-homomorphism from K to M can be extended to  $R^m[3]$ . Note that (1, n)-injective modules are also called n-injective in [10],[12]. The ring R is left (m, n)-injective if  $_RR$  is (m, n)-injective. It is obvious that  $_RM$  is FP-injective if and only if  $_RM$  is (m, n)-injective for all positive integers m and n, and  $_RM$  is P-injective if and only if  $_RM$  is (1, 1)injective. We also recall that a module M is FP-injective if and only if M is absolutely pure, M is flat if and only if  $M^*$  is FP-injective. A submodule U' of a module  $_RU$  is pure in U if and only if the canonical

<sup>2000</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification: 16D50, 16E65.

**Key words and phrases:** injective modules; (m, n)-flat modules; left IF - (m, n) rings; left IF - 1 rings.

map  $V \otimes_R V \to V \otimes_R U$  is monic for every finitely presented module  $V_R$ . Indicated by these results we have following definition.

**Definition 1.1.** Let m, n be two fixed positive integers.

(1) A right *R*-module *V* is said to be (m, n)-presented if there exists an exact sequence of right *R*-modules  $0 \to K \to R^m \to V \to 0$  with *n*-generated *K*.

(2) Given a left *R*-module *U*, a submodule *U'* of *U* is called (m, n)-pure in *U* if for every (m, n)-presented right *R*-module *V*, the canonical map  $V \otimes_R U' \to V \otimes_R U$  is monic.

(3) A left *R*-module *M* is (m, n)-flat if for every n-generated submodule *K* of the right *R*-module  $R^m$ , the canonical map  $K \otimes_R M \to R^m \otimes_R M$  is monic.

(4) A module M is called  $(\aleph_0, n)$ -injective  $((\aleph_0, n)$ -flat) if M is (k, n)injective ((k, n)-flat) for all positive integers k. Module M is called  $(m, \aleph_0)$ -injective if M is (m, k)-injective for all positive integers k. A
submodule U' of a module U is said to be  $(\aleph_0, n)$ -pure  $((m, \aleph_0)$ -pure) in U if U' is (k, n)-pure ((m, k)-pure) in U for all positive integers k.

An exact sequence  $0 \to U' \to U \to M \to 0$  is called (m, n)-pure if U' is (m, n)-pure in U, and a module L is called (m, n)-pure projective if L is projective with respect to every (m, n)-pure exact sequence.

Using a standard technique we can prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2.** (1) An exact sequence of left *R*-modules  $0 \to U' \to U \to M \to 0$  is (m, n)-pure if and only if every (n, m)-presented module is projective with respect to this exact sequence if and only if  $(U')^m \bigcap KU = KU'$  for every n-generated submodule *K* of the right *R*-module  $R^m$ .

(2) A module M is (m, n)-injective if and only if M is (n, m)-pure in every module containing M if and only if M is (n, m)-pure in E(M).

(3) A module M is (m, n)-flat if and only if  $M^*$  is (m, n)-injective if and only if every exact sequence  $0 \to U' \to U \to M \to 0$  is (m, n)-pure. Every  $(n, \aleph_0)$ -pure submodule of a (m, n)-flat module is (m, n)-flat.

(4) If  $U' \leq U$  and U is (m, n)-flat, then U/U' is (m, n)-flat if and only if U' is (m, n)-pure in U.

Recall that a ring R is called left IF ring if every injective left Rmodule is flat [4],[9]. In this paper we shall generalize this notion and introduce left IF-(m, n) rings providing several characterizations of such rings. We also discuss left IF-(1, 1) rings in a number of special cases.

## 2. Results

In this section, m and n will be two fixed positive integers. We start with the following

**Definition 2.1.** A ring R is called left IF-(m, n) ring if every injective left R-module is (m, n)-flat.

**Theorem 2.2.** For any ring R, the following conditions are equivalent:

(1) R is a left IF-(m, n) ring.

(2) Every FP-injective left R-module is (m, n)-flat.

(3) Every  $(\aleph_0, n)$ -injective left *R*-module is (m, n)-flat.

(4) If  $_RN_1 \leq _RN, N_1$  is  $(\aleph_0, m)$ -injective and N is  $(\aleph_0, n)$ -injective, then  $N/N_1$  is (m, n)-flat.

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (3)$ . If  $_RN$  is  $(\aleph_0, n)$  -injective then it is  $(n, \aleph_0)$ -pure in E(N). Thus, from the (m, n)-flatness of E(N), we have that N is (m, n)-flat.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ . Since  $N_1$  is  $(\aleph_0, m)$ -injective, so  $N_1$  is  $(m, \aleph_0)$ -pure in N and hence (m, n)-pure in N. But N is (m, n)-flat, so  $N/N_1$  is (m, n)-flat.

The implications  $(4) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (1)$  are clear.

Let P and M be left R-modules. There is a natural homomorphism  $\sigma = \sigma_{P,M} : Hom_R(P, R) \otimes M \to Hom_R(P, M)$  defined by  $\sigma(f \otimes m)(p) = f(p)m$  for  $f \in Hom(P, R), m \in M, p \in P$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Let M be a left R-module. If  $\sigma_{P,M}$  is an epimorphism for every (n, m)-presented left R-module P, then M is (m, n)-flat.

Proof. For every (n, m)-presented left R-module P and  $u \in Hom_R(P, M)$ , suppose  $u = \sigma(\sum_{i=1}^k f_i \otimes m_i), f_i \in Hom_R(P, R), m_i \in M$ . Let  $F = R^k$ , and define  $v : P \to F$  by  $v(p) = (f_1(p), \cdots, f_k(p)); w : F \to M$  by  $w(r_1, \cdots, r_k)$ , then u = wv. It follows that P is projective with respect to every exact sequence of left R-modules  $0 \to M' \to M'' \to M \to 0$ . Consequently, M is (m, n)-flat by Theorem 1.2(1),(3).

**Lemma 2.4.** Suppose that  $_{R}U$  is (m, n)-flat. The following statements are equivalent

(1)  $_{R}U^{I}$  is (m, n)-flat for every set I.

(2) For every n-generated submodule K of the right R-module  $R^m$ , the natural homomorphism  $\varphi_K : K \otimes_R U^I \to (K \otimes_R U)^I$  defined by  $\varphi_K(x \otimes u)(\alpha) = x \otimes u(\alpha), \alpha \in I, u \in U^I, x \in K$ , is an isomorphism.

*Proof.* (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2). Assume (1) holds. Then the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K - R^m \rightarrow R^m/K \rightarrow 0$  induces the commutative diagram

which has exact rows, since  $_{R}U$  and  $_{R}U^{I}$  are (m, n)-flat. The maps  $\varphi_{R^{m}}$  and  $\varphi_{R^{m}/K}$  are isomorphisms since  $R^{m}$  and  $R^{m}/K$  are finitely presented. Hence  $\varphi_{K}$  is an isomorphism.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$ (1). For every n-generated submodule K of  $R^m$  we have the commutative diagram



which has exact bottom row, and  $\varphi_K$  and  $\varphi_{R^m/K}$  are isomorphism by (2). Hence the top row is also exact, and thus  $U^I$  is (m, n)-flat.

**Theorem 2.5.** For any ring R the following conditions are equivalent

(1) R is left IF-(m, n).

(2) The injective hull of every finitely presented left R-module is (m, n)-flat.

(3) Every (n, m)-presented left R-module is a submodule of a free module.

(4) For every free right *R*-module F,  $F^*$  is (m, n)-flat.

(5) For every *n*-generated submodule K of the left R-module  $R^m$ , the map  $\varphi_k : K \otimes_R (R^*)^I \to (K \otimes_R R^*)^I$  is an isomorphism.

(6) For every *m*-generated submodule *K* of the left *R*-module  $R^n$  there exist finite elements  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_p$  in  $R^n$  such that  $K = l_{R^n} \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_p\}$ .

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$  is trivial.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ . Let u be the injection of a given (n, m)-presented module  ${}_{R}P$  into E(P), and let  $0 \to K \to F \xrightarrow{w} E(P) \to 0$  be an exact sequence with F being free. Then there exists  $v : P \to F$  such that u = wv, which implies that v is monic, and (3) holds.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ . Let  $F_R$  be any free *R*-module, then  $F^*$  is injective. Let  ${}_RP$  be (n, m)-presented and  ${}_RL$  is a finitely generated free module contain-

ing P. The following diagram is commutative

$$\begin{array}{cccc} Hom(L,R)\otimes F^{*} & \stackrel{\sigma_{L}}{\longrightarrow} & Hom(L,F^{*}) \\ & & & & \downarrow^{\beta} \\ Hom(P,R)\otimes F^{*} & \stackrel{\sigma_{P}}{\longrightarrow} & Hom(P,F^{*}) \end{array}$$

Since  $F^*$  is injective,  $\beta$  is an epimorphism. Besides,  $\sigma_L$  is an isomorphism since L is finitely generated and free. Therefore  $\sigma_P$  is epic, and thus  $F^*$  is (m, n)-flat by Lemma 2.3.

 $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$ . Let E be any injective left R-module. There is a free module F and an epimorphism  $F \to E^*$ , which give a monomorphism  $E^{**} \to F^*$ . Since  $F^*$  is (m, n)-flat and  $E \subseteq E^{**}$ , then E is a direct summand of  $F^*$  and hence E is (m, n)-flat.

 $(4) \Leftrightarrow (5)$ . Follows from Lemma 2.4.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (6)$ . Since K is a m-generated submodule of the left R-module  $R^n$ , by (3),  $R^n/K$  can be embedded in  $R^p$  for some positive integer p. Let  $f : R^n/K \to R^p$  be a monomorphism and suppose that  $f(\overline{e_i}) = (a_{i1}, a_{i2}, \cdots, a_{ip})$ , where  $e_i$  is the element in  $R^n$  with 1 in the *i*th position and 0's in all other positions,  $i = 1, 2, \cdots, n$ . Write  $\beta_j = (a_{1j}, a_{2j}, \cdots, a_{nj})^T$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \cdots, p$ , then  $K = l_{R^n} \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_p\}$ .

 $(6) \Rightarrow (3).$  Let  $K = l_{R^n} \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_p\}$ , where  $\beta_j = (a_{1j}, a_{2j}, \cdots, a_{nj})^T \in R^n, j = 1, 2, \cdots, p$ . Write  $\alpha_i = (a_{i1}, a_{i2}, \cdots, a_{ip}), i = 1, 2, \cdots, n$ , and define  $f : R^n/K \to R^p$  by

$$(r_1, r_2, \cdots, r_n) + K \longmapsto (r_1, r_2, \cdots, r_n) \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1p} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2p} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{np} \end{pmatrix}$$

then f is a left R-monomorphism.

We call a ring R right (m, n)-coherent if every n-generated submodule of  $R_R^m$  is finitely presented. A straightforward modification of Chase's proof of [2, Theorem 2.1] shows that R is right (m, n)-coherent if and only if the direct product of any family of (m, n)-flat left R-modules is (m, n)-flat.

**Corollary 2.6.** If R is right (m, n)-coherent then R is left IF-(m, n) if and only if  $_{R}(R^{*})$  is (m, n)-flat.

*Proof.* Follows from Theorem 2.5(4).

**Corollary 2.7.** If  $_RR$  is a cogenerator and R is right (m, n)-coherent then R is left IF-(m, n).

*Proof.* Since R is right (m, n)-coherent,  $_{R}R^{I}$  is (m, n)-flat for every set I. Since  $_{R}R$  is a cogenerator, every left R-module can be imbedded in an (m, n)-flat module. Consequently, every injective left R-module is a direct summand of an (m, n)-flat module and hence is (m, n)-flat.

**Corollary 2.8.** If R is a left IF(m,n) ring then R is right (m,n)-injective.

*Proof.* Let K be any m-generated submodule of the left R-module  $R^n$ . Since R is left IF-(m, n),  $K = l_{R^n} \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_p\}$  for some  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_p$ in  $R_n$  by Theorem 2.5. This implies  $l_{R^n}r_{R^n}(K) = K$ , and thus R is right (m, n)-injective by [3,Theorem 2.4].

Corollary 2.9 [9, Theorem 3.3] A left *IF*-ring is right *FP*-injective.

According to [4], a right *R*-module *N* is called T-finitely generated (resp. H-finitely generated) if *N* contains a finitely generated submodule  $N_0$  such that  $N/N_0 \otimes R^* = 0(resp.Hom_R(N/N_0, R) = 0)$ . A right *R*module *M* is called T-finitely presented (resp. H-finitely presented) if there exists a finitely generated free module *F* and an epimorphism of *F* onto *M* with T-finitely generated (resp. H-finitely generated) kernel. We call a ring *R* right T - (m, n)-coherent (resp. H - (m, n)-coherent) if every *n*-generated submodule *K* of  $R_R^m$  is *T*-finitely presented (resp. *H*-finitely presented).

**Theorem 2.10.** Suppose that  $_R(R^*)$  is flat. The following statements are equivalent

- (1) R is left IF-(m, n).
- (2) R is right T-(m, n)-coherent.
- (3) R is right H-(m, n)-coherent.

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ . Follows from Theorem 2.5(5) and [5,Lemma 1.2].  $(2) \Leftrightarrow (3)$ . Follows from [4,Lemma 3,4].

We call a ring R left IF-n ring if every injective left R-module is n-flat (i.e. (1, n)-flat).

**Remark 2.11.** In general, the classes of left IF(m, n) rings are different for different pairs (m, n). For example, let K be a field and L a proper subfield of K such that  $\rho: K \to L$  is an isomorphism. Let  $K[x, \rho]$ be the ring of twisted left polynomials over K, where  $xk = \rho(k)x$  for all  $k \in K$ . Set  $R = K[x, \rho]/(x^2)$ . It is readily verified that the only proper left ideal of R is Rx = Kx. Thus R is left artinian and so satisfies the ascending chain condition on annihilator right ideals. It is easy to check that Rx = l(x), so R is a left IF-1 ring by Theorem 2.5. As in [11, Example 1], we can show that R is not QF, and thus R is not right 2-injective by [11,Corollary 3]. Therefore, R is not a left IF-2 ring by Corollary 2.8.

We characterize left IF-1 rings in some special cases.

### **Theorem 2.12.** Let R be a left IF-1 ring.

(1) R is a field if and only if R is a domain.

(2) R is a regular ring if and only if every principally left ideal is flat.

(3) R is a semisimple ring if and only if R is a semiprime left Goldie ring.

*Proof.* We only need to prove the sufficiency.

(1) Over a domain, 1-flat modules are torsion free [7, Theorem,3.3]. Thus every injective module, being 1-flat, is torsion free. Hence for every essential ideal I, R/I is torsion free, and so I = R. This means that R is semisimple, and hence is a field.

(2) If every principally left ideal is flat then submodules of 1-flat left R-modules are 1-flat by [12, §5, (f)]. We conclude that every left R-module is 1-flat since R is a left IF-1 ring. In particular, R/Ra is 1-flat for each  $a \in R$ . It follows that Ra is (1, 1)-pure in R, and thus  $aR \cap Ra = aRa$ . Consequently,  $a \in aRa$  and R is regular.

(3) Since R is left IF - 1, then  $R_R$  is P-injective and hence divisible. This implies that every regular element of R has a left inverse and thus is invertible. Observe that in a semiprime Goldie ring, every essential left ideal has a regular element [8,Theorem 3.9], which is invertible in our case. Therefore R has no proper essential left ideals and hence, R is semisimple.

# Acknowledgment

We are indebted to the referee for several comments that improved the paper.

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Received by the editors: 01.07.2004 and final form in 06.05.2005.