

# A NOTE ON DIRECT-INJECTIVE MODULES

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we study some more properties on direct-injective modules in the context of endoregular, SSP and SIP modules. We find the equivalent condition for a direct-injective module to be divisible. We also show that the endomorphism ring of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is a division ring if and only if  $M$  is a direct-injective module with (\*) property. Finally, we study  $dc$ -rings and find their connections with hereditary rings and SSI-rings.

## 1 Introduction

Throughout this paper, all rings are associative rings with unity and all modules are unitary right  $R$ -modules. For a right  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$  denotes the endomorphism ring of  $M$ . For  $\phi \in S$ ,  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  and  $\text{Im}(\phi)$  stand for kernel and image of  $\phi$  respectively. The notations  $N \leq M$ ,  $N \leq^{ess} M$  and  $N \leq^{\oplus} M$  means that  $N$  is a submodule, an essential submodule and a direct summand of  $M$  respectively.  $\text{Mat}_n(R)$  denotes the  $n \times n$  matrix ring over  $R$  and  $r_M(I) = \{m \in M \mid Im = 0\}$ .

The notion of direct-injective modules was introduced by W. K. Nicholson [10] in 1976. This notion is the generalization of quasi-injective module. A right  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be direct-injective if given a direct summand  $N$  of  $M$  with inclusion  $i_N : N \rightarrow M$  and any monomorphism  $g : N \rightarrow M$  there exist  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$  such that  $f \circ g = i_N$ . Recall that a module  $M$  is called a  $C2$ -module if every submodule of  $M$  that is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $M$  is itself a direct summand of  $M$ . Nicholson and Yousif [11, Theorem 7.13] showed that the class of direct-injective modules is equivalent to the class of  $C2$ -modules.

According to Rizvi et al. [8], a right  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be an endoregular module if  $\text{End}_R(M)$  is a von Neumann regular ring. For any right  $R$ -module  $M$  if  $\text{End}_R(M)$  is a von Neumann regular ring then  $M$  is a direct-injective module. Thus, every endoregular module is a direct-injective module but the converse need not be true. We give an example of a direct-injective module that is not an endoregular module.

In Section 2 of this paper, we discuss the conditions under which every direct-injective module is an endoregular module. We also show that a projective module  $M$  is endoregular if and only if  $M$  is direct-injective and  $\text{Im}(s)$  is projective for all  $s \in S$ . According to Wilson [16], a right  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to have summand sum property (summand intersection property) called SSP-module (SIP-module) if sum (intersection) of two direct summands of  $M$  is a direct summand of  $M$ . In this Section, we also characterize direct-injective modules in terms of SSP and SIP module.

According to Sharpe and Vamos [12], an element  $e$  of  $E$  is said to be 'divisible' if for every  $r$  of  $R$  which is not a right zero-divisor, there exist  $e' \in E$  such that  $e = re'$ . If every element of  $E$  is divisible, then  $E$  is said to be a divisible module. In [6], Han and Choi proved that every direct-injective module is divisible; however we can show that their result is incorrect, since  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is a direct-injective module but not divisible. In this Section, we find the condition for a direct-injective module to be divisible. According to Tiwari and Pandeya [13], a right  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to satisfy (\*) property if every non-zero endomorphism of  $M$  is a monomorphism and any module with (\*) property is indecomposable. In this Section, we show that the endomorphism ring of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is a division ring if and only if  $M$  is a

direct-injective module with (\*) property.

In Section 3, we investigate some other properties of direct-injective modules. In this Section, we give the condition under which a direct-injective module satisfies finite exchange property. We also find the condition for a submodule of a direct-injective module to be direct-injective. We show that the class of co-Hopfian, weakly co-Hopfian and Dedekind finite modules are equivalent for a class of direct-injective module. We also show that every singular module in  $\sigma[M]$  is direct-injective if and only if it is injective in  $\sigma[M]$ , where  $\sigma[M]$  is the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all  $R$ -modules subgenerated by  $M$  [17]. At the end of this section, we also study about  $dc$ - rings. A ring  $R$  is said to be  $dc$ - ring if every cyclic  $R$ -module is direct-injective. A ring  $R$  is said to be an  $SSI$  ring if every semisimple  $R$ -module is injective. Finally, we show that a commutative  $SSI$  ring is a  $dc$ -ring and every self-injective hereditary ring is a  $dc$ -ring.

## 2 Characterization of Direct-injective Modules in terms of Endoregular, SSP and SIP Modules

Nicholson and Yousif [11, Theorem 7.13] showed that the class of direct-injective modules are equivalent to the class of  $C2$ -modules. Throughout the paper, we consider direct-injective modules as a  $C2$ -modules. We need the following lemmas for clarity.

**Lemma 2.1.** [1, Theorem 16] *Let  $M$  be a right  $R$ -module then,  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$  is a von Neumann regular ring if and only if  $\text{Ker}(s)$  and  $\text{Im}(s)$  are direct summands of  $M$  for all  $s \in S$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** [5, Lemma 2.1] *Let  $M$  be a module and  $S = \text{End}(M)$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $M$  is a  $C2$ -module (or direct-injective).
- (ii) For any  $s \in S$ ,  $\text{Im}(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$  if  $\text{Ker}(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$ .

According to Rizvi et al. [8], a right  $R$ -module  $M$  is an endoregular module if  $\text{End}_R(M)$  is a von Neumann regular ring. By Lemma 2.1, every endoregular module is direct-injective but the converse need not be true. Here, we give a counterexample which shows that a direct-injective module need not be an endoregular module.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $M = \mathbb{Z}_4$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. Then  $M$  is a direct-injective module because it is a quasi-injective module but  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}_4)$  is not a von Neumann regular ring hence it is not an endoregular module.

Now we discuss the conditions under which direct-injective modules are endoregular. According to G. Lee et al. [9], a right  $R$ -module  $M$  is a Rickart module if  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  is a direct summand of  $M$  for all  $\phi \in \text{End}_R(M)$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** *The following conditions are equivalent for a module  $M$  and  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$*

- (i)  $M$  is an endoregular module;
- (ii)  $M$  is a direct-injective module and  $M \oplus M$  is an SIP module;
- (iii)  $M$  is a direct-injective module and a Rickart module.

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). It is easy to see that  $M$  is an endoregular module implies that  $M$  is a direct-injective module. Now, we show that  $M \oplus M$  is an SIP module. Set  $S' = \text{End}_R(M \oplus M) \cong \text{Mat}_2(S)$ ,  $\text{Mat}_2(S)$  is von Neumann regular ring as  $S$  is von Neumann regular ring and has SSP due to the fact that every von Neumann regular ring has the SSP. So  $S'$  has SSP. Then by [3, Lemma 2.1], for the any pair of idempotents  $\alpha, \beta \in S'$  there exist idempotents  $e, e' \in S'$  such that  $\alpha\beta S' = eS'$  and  $S'\alpha\beta = S'e'$ . Since,  $\text{Ker}(\alpha\beta) = r_M(S'\alpha\beta) = r_M(S'e') = (1 - e')M \oplus M$ . So  $\text{Ker}(\alpha\beta) \leq^{\oplus} (M \oplus M)$  which shows that  $M \oplus M$  is an SIP modules.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Since  $M \oplus M$  is an SIP module therefore  $\text{Ker}(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$  for all  $s \in S$ . Hence,  $M$  is a Rickart module.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Since  $M$  is a Rickart module so  $\text{Ker}(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$  for all  $s \in S$ . Also given that  $M$  is direct-injective then, by Lemma 2.2  $\text{Im}(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$  for all  $s \in S$ . Hence, by Lemma 2.1  $M$  is an endoregular module.

**Corollary 2.5.** *A module  $M$  is an endoregular module if  $M$  is a Rickart module and  $M \oplus M$  is a C3 module.*

We have observed that a projective module need not be an endoregular module. For example,  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  is not an endoregular module for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . In the next proposition, we give an equivalent condition for a projective module to be an endoregular module.

**Proposition 2.6.** *A projective module  $M$  is an endoregular module if and only if  $M$  is direct-injective and  $Im(s)$  is projective for all  $s \in S = End_R(M)$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose a projective module  $M$  is an endoregular module then  $M$  is a direct-injective module because  $Ker(s)$  and  $Im(s)$  are direct summands of  $M$  for all  $s \in S$ . Since  $M$  is projective there exist a projective submodule  $K$  of  $M$  such that  $M = Ker(s) \oplus K$  and  $Im(s) \cong \frac{M}{Ker(s)} \cong K$ . Therefore,  $Im(s)$  is projective.

Conversely, suppose that  $Im(s)$  is projective for all  $s \in S$ . Then  $Ker(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$  but  $M$  is direct-injective implies that  $Im(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M$ , so by Lemma 2.1,  $M$  is an endoregular module.

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $M$  is a direct-injective module then the following assertions hold.*

- (i)  $S = End_R(M)$  is a right SSP ring if  $M$  is a Rickart module.
- (ii)  $Mat_2(S)$  is a right SSP ring if  $M$  is a Rickart module.

**Proof.**

- (i) Let  $M$  be a Rickart module then  $Ker(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M \forall s \in S = End(M)$ . Since  $M$  is a direct-injective module, hence  $Im(s)$  is a direct summand of  $M \forall s \in S = End(M)$ . Then by [1, Theorem 16],  $S$  is a von Neumann regular ring. Since every von Neumann regular ring is a right SSP ring, so  $S$  is a right SSP ring.
- (ii) Since  $S$  is a von Neumann regular ring, therefore  $Mat_2(S)$  is a von Neumann regular ring. Hence,  $Mat_2(S)$  is a right SSP ring.

**Remark 2.8.** Since every right SSP ring is also a right SIP ring, therefore  $S$  and  $Mat_2(S)$  are also right SIP ring if  $M$  is a Rickart module and a direct-injective module.

An element  $m$  of a module  $M$  over a ring  $R$  is said to be torsion element there exist a regular element  $r \in R$  such that  $rm = 0$ . A module  $M$  over a ring  $R$  is called a torsion module if all its elements are torsion element and  $M$  is called torsion-free if zero is the only torsion element of  $M$ . Every torsion-free module need not be direct injective. For example,  $\mathbb{Z}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is a torsion-free module but not a direct-injective module. A module  $M$  over a ring  $R$  is said to be divisible if  $rM = M$  for all regular element  $r \in R$ .

**Proposition 2.9.** *Let  $R$  be a commutative domain and  $M$  be a torsion-free module. Then  $M$  is a direct-injective module if and only if  $M$  is a divisible module.*

**Proof.** Suppose  $M$  is a direct-injective module and let  $r$  be a non-zero element of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is a commutative domain, so  $r$  is a regular element of  $R$ . Let us define  $f : M \rightarrow M$  by  $f(m) = rm, m \in M$ . Then  $f$  is clearly a monomorphism. As  $M$  is a direct-injective module,  $f(M) \leq^\oplus M$ . Then there exist a submodule  $K$  of  $M$  such that  $M = f(M) \oplus K = rM \oplus K$ . Then  $rK = 0$  implies that  $K = 0$ . Thus,  $rM = M$  for all regular  $r \in R$ . Hence,  $M$  is a divisible module.

Conversely, let  $M$  is a divisible  $R$ -module. Since  $M$  is also a torsion-free module over a commutative domain, therefore by [12, Proposition 2.7],  $M$  is an injective module and so  $M$  is a direct-injective module.

**Remark 2.10.** It is observed that every direct-injective module need not be divisible. For example,  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  is a direct-injective module but not a divisible module. This shows that [6, Theorem 2.1] is incorrect.

An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to satisfy (\*) property if each non-zero endomorphism of  $M$  is a monomorphism [13]. With the help of this property, we find the condition under which the endomorphism ring of a direct-injective module is a division ring. Recall that a module  $M$  is called co-Hopfian [14], if every injective endomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow M$  is an automorphism. In the next result, we generalize Schur's, Lemma.

**Proposition 2.11.** *Let  $M$  be a right  $R$ -module and  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $S$  is a division ring;
- (ii)  $M$  is a direct-injective module with (\*) property;
- (iii)  $M$  is a co-Hopfian module with (\*) property;
- (iv)  $S$  is a von-Neumann regular ring and  $M$  is an indecomposable module.

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Since every division ring is von Neumann regular ring, therefore,  $S$  is a von Neumann regular ring and hence,  $M$  is a direct-injective module. Also  $S$  is a division ring, so every non-zero endomorphism  $f \in S$  is an automorphism, hence a monomorphism. Therefore,  $M$  satisfy (\*) property.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $f \in S$  is an injective endomorphism. Then  $f(M) \cong M \leq \bigoplus M$ , so  $f(M) \leq \bigoplus M$ , as  $M$  is direct-injective. Since every module with (\*) property is indecomposable, therefore  $f(M) = M$ . Thus,  $f$  is an automorphism implies  $M$  is co-Hopfian.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Let  $f$  is a non-zero endomorphism in  $S$ . Since  $M$  has (\*)property, therefore  $f$  is a monomorphism. Since,  $M$  is a co-Hopfian module, therefore  $f$  becomes an automorphism. Hence,  $\text{Ker}(f) = 0$  and  $\text{Im}(f) = M$ . This implies that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  and  $\text{Im}(f)$  are direct summands of  $M$ . Therefore,  $S$  is a von Neumann regular ring. It is easy to see that every module with (\*) property is indecomposable.

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Since  $S$  is a von Neumann regular ring, so  $\text{Ker}(f)$  and  $\text{Im}(f)$  are direct summands of  $M$  for each  $f \in S$ . To show that  $S$  is a division ring we have to show that each non-zero endomorphism  $f \in S$  is an automorphism. Since,  $M$  is an indecomposable module,  $\text{Ker}(f) = 0$  and  $\text{Im}(f) = M$ . Hence,  $f$  is an automorphism as desired.

**Corollary 2.12.** (i) *Let  $M$  be a cyclic torsion-free direct-injective module, then  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$  is a division ring.*

(ii) *Let  $M$  be an uniform torsion-free direct-injective module, then  $S = \text{End}_R(M)$  is a division ring.*

**Proof.** Since every cyclic torsion-free and uniform torsion-free modules satisfy (\*) property. Therefore, the proof follows from Proposition (2.11).

A ring is said to be an *abelian* ring if all its idempotents are central. A module  $M$  is said to be an abelian module if its endomorphism ring is an abelian ring.

**Proposition 2.13.** *Let  $M$  be an abelian endoregular module with (\*) property. Then  $\text{End}_R(M)$  is a division ring.*

**Proof.** Since  $M$  has the (\*) property, each non-zero endomorphisms are monomorphisms. Since  $M$  is an abelian endoregular module,  $M = \text{Ker}(s) \oplus \text{Im}(s)$  for all  $s \in \text{End}_R(M)$  [8]. So each injective endomorphism becomes an automorphism. Thus, each non-zero endomorphism is invertible so  $\text{End}_R(M)$  is a division ring.

### 3 Some Properties of Direct-injective Modules

In this section, we give the condition under which every direct-injective module satisfies the finite exchange property. We also find the condition under which a submodule of a direct-injective module is a direct-injective module. We also study about the ring for which every cyclic  $R$ -module is a direct-injective module.

A right  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to satisfy the exchange property if for every right  $R$ -module  $A$  and any two direct sum decompositions  $A = M' \oplus N = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{I}} A_i$  with  $M' \cong M$ , there exist submodules  $B_i$  of  $A_i$  such that  $A = M' \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{I}} B_i)$ .  $M$  is said to satisfy finite exchange property if this hold only for any finite index set  $\mathcal{I}$ . A ring  $R$  is said to be an exchange ring if the module  $R_R$  satisfy the exchange property. Warfield [15] proved that a module  $M$  has the finite exchange property if and only if  $End_R(M)$  is an exchange ring.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a direct-injective module such that  $Ker(s)$  lies under a direct summand of  $M$  for any  $s \in End_R(M)$ . Then  $M$  satisfies the finite exchange property.*

**Proof.** Let  $M$  be a direct-injective module and  $S = End_R(M)$ . Since  $Ker(s)$  lies under a direct summand of  $M$  for every  $s \in End_R(M)$ , therefore,  $S$  is a semiregular ring [10]. Since every semiregular ring is an exchange ring, hence  $S$  is an exchange ring. This proves that  $M$  has the finite exchange property.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Every endoregular module has the finite exchange property.*

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $M$  be a direct-injective module and  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Then  $N$  is a direct-injective module if  $\frac{M}{N}$  is a free module.*

**Proof.** Since  $\frac{M}{N}$  is free module then the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M \rightarrow \frac{M}{N} \rightarrow 0$  splits. So  $N$  is a direct summand of  $M$ . Hence,  $N$  is a direct injective module.

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated direct-injective module over a principle ideal domain, then the torsion submodule of  $M$  is a direct-injective module.*

Haghani and Vedadi [4] called an  $R$ -module  $M$  weakly co-Hopfian if for any injective endomorphism  $f$  of  $M$ ,  $f(M) \leq^{ess} M$ . An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called Dedekind-finite if  $M \cong M \oplus N$  for some module  $N$ , then  $N = 0$ . Co-Hopfian modules are weakly co-Hopfian and weakly co-Hopfian modules are Dedekind-finite [4]. But these classes of modules are equivalent for the class of direct-injective modules.

**Proposition 3.5.** *Let  $M$  be a direct-injective module. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  $M$  is co-Hopfian;
- (ii)  $M$  is weakly co-Hopfian;
- (iii)  $M$  is Dedekind-finite.

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). They are clear.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $f : M \rightarrow M$  be an injective endomorphism. Since  $M$  is direct-injective, so  $f(M) \leq^\oplus M$ . Let  $M = f(M) \oplus N$  for some  $N \leq M$ . We define a homomorphism  $g : M \oplus N \rightarrow M$  by  $g(m, n) = f(m) + n$ . Then  $M \oplus N \cong M$  and  $M$  is Dedekind-finite,  $N = 0$ . Hence,  $f(M) = M$ , so  $f$  is an automorphism as desired.

According to Wisbauer[17], for a module  $M$ ,  $\sigma[M]$  denotes the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all  $R$ -modules subgenerated by  $M$  and  $E_M(N)$  denotes the  $M$ -injective hull of a module  $N$  which is the trace of  $M$  in the injective hull  $E(N)$  of  $N$ , i.e.  $E_M(N) = \sum \{f(M) : f \in Hom(M, E(N))\}$ . According to Dung et al.[2], an  $R$ -module  $N$  is called singular in  $\sigma[M]$  or  $M$ -singular if  $N \cong L/K$  for an  $L \in \sigma[M]$  and  $K \leq^{ess} L$ . Every module  $N \in \sigma[M]$  contains a largest  $M$ -singular submodule which we denote by  $Z_M(N)$ . If  $Z_M(N) = 0$ , then  $N$  is called non-singular in  $\sigma[M]$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** *Assume  $Z_M(M) = 0$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i) Every singular module in  $\sigma[M]$  is injective;
- (ii) Every singular module in  $\sigma[M]$  is direct-injective.

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). This is clear.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Let  $N$  be a singular module in  $\sigma[M]$ . By [2, Proposition 4.1],  $E_M(N)$  the  $M$ -injective hull of  $N$  is also singular in  $\sigma[M]$ . Then,  $N \oplus E_M(N)$  is also singular in  $\sigma[M]$ , so  $N \oplus E_M(N)$  is direct-injective by hypothesis. Thus, the inclusion map  $i : N \rightarrow E_M(N)$  splits, so  $N \leq \oplus E_M(N)$ . As  $N$  is essential in  $E_M(N)$ ,  $N = E_M(N)$ . So,  $N$  is  $M$ -injective. Hence, every singular module in  $\sigma[M]$  is injective.

**Corollary 3.7.** *The following conditions are equivalent for a right non-singular ring  $R$ :*

- (i) *Every singular right  $R$ -module is direct-injective;*
- (ii) *Every singular right  $R$ -module is injective;*
- (iii) *Every cyclic singular right  $R$ -module is injective;*
- (iv) *Every singular right  $R$ -module is semisimple.*

**Proof.** (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Let  $M$  be a singular right  $R$ -module. Then,  $M \oplus E(M)$  is also singular right  $R$ -module, so  $M \oplus E(M)$  is direct-injective by hypothesis. Hence,  $M = E(M)$  which implies that  $M$  is injective.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4). They are clear by [2, Corollary 7.1].

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). This is clear.

A ring  $R$  is said to be a dc-ring if every cyclic  $R$ -module is a direct-injective module. A ring  $R$  is said to be a qc-ring if every cyclic  $R$ -module is a quasi-injective module. Since every quasi-injective module is a direct-injective module, therefore every qc-ring is a dc-ring. Semisimple artinian rings are obviously dc-rings. In this section, we also find the connections of dc-rings with SSI rings and hereditary rings.

**Proposition 3.8.** *A commutative SSI-ring is a dc-ring.*

**Proof.** A ring  $R$  is SSI ring if and only if  $R$  is a Noetherian  $V$ -ring. Since  $R$  is a commutative SSI ring implies that  $R$  is a commutative Noetherian  $V$ -ring. Since commutative  $V$ -ring is regular. So  $R$  is a Noetherian regular ring, hence  $R$  is a semisimple artinian ring. Therefore,  $R$  is a dc-ring.

**Proposition 3.9.** *Every self injective hereditary ring is a dc-ring.*

**Proof.** Since  $R$  is a hereditary ring, a quotient of an injective module is direct-injective [18, Theorem 4]. Also,  $R$  is self-injective implies that every cyclic  $R$ -module is isomorphic to the quotient of an injective  $R$ -module, so every cyclic  $R$ -module is a direct-injective module. Therefore,  $R$  is a dc-ring.

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