

## Strongly prime submodules and strongly 0-dimensional modules

Zehra Bilgin, Suat Koç, and Neslihan Ayşen Özkirişci

Communicated by R. Wisbauer

**ABSTRACT.** In this work, we study strongly prime submodules and strongly 0-dimensional modules. We give some equivalent conditions for being a strongly 0-dimensional module. Besides we show that the quasi-Zariski topology on the spectrum of a strongly 0-dimensional module satisfies all separation axioms and it is a metrizable space.

### Introduction

Prime ideals have a distinguished place in commutative ring theory. Their generalization to module theory, namely prime submodules are one of the useful tools in understanding the structure of modules over commutative rings. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, and  $M$  an  $R$ -module. A submodule  $P$  of  $M$  is called a prime submodule if whenever  $rm \in P$  for some  $m \in M$  and  $r \in R$ , either  $m \in P$  or  $r \in (P : M)$ . It is still an appealing problem to extend properties of prime ideals to prime submodules.

One of the well-known properties of prime ideals is that: For a commutative ring  $R$  and a prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ , if  $P$  contains the intersection of a finite family of ideals, it contains at least one of those ideals. In [8], Gilmer examined that when this property is valid for an infinite family of ideals.

---

**2010 MSC:** Primary 13A15, 13A99, 13C05, 13C99; Secondary 13E15, 13E99.

**Key words and phrases:** strongly prime submodule, strongly 0-dimensional module, multiplication module, quasi-Zariski topology.

In [12], Jayaram et al. named prime ideals satisfying this property for any infinite family of ideals as strongly prime ideals. That is, a prime ideal  $P$  is called strongly prime if whenever an infinite intersection of a family of ideals is contained in  $P$ , at least one of the ideals in that family is in  $P$ . Jayaram et al. called a ring strongly 0-dimensional if every prime ideal of the ring is strongly prime. They proved that strongly 0-dimensional rings are zero dimensional and examined some properties of these rings including their relation with von Neumann regular, Artinian and Noetherian rings. In [9], Gottlieb conducted a further study on strongly prime ideals and strongly 0-dimensional rings. He gave some equivalent conditions for being a strongly 0-dimensional ring, and determined a class of strongly 0-dimensional rings, namely strongly  $n$ -regular rings.

We note that there is another type of ideals in commutative ring theory named strongly prime ideals defined by Hedstrom and Houston in [10]. According to that a prime ideal of a domain  $R$  with quotient field  $K$  is called strongly prime if  $x, y \in K$  and  $xy \in P$  imply that  $x \in P$  or  $y \in P$ . This concept is unrelated to strongly prime ideals that are considered in this paper.

An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a multiplication module if every submodule of  $M$  can be written in the form  $IM$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $R$ . Multiplication modules are investigated by many authors, for detailed information see [2], [5], [1] and [16]. In [15], Oral et al. generalized the concept of strongly 0-dimensional rings to the class of multiplication modules as follows: Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  an  $R$ -module. A prime submodule  $P$  of  $M$  is said to be a strongly prime submodule if whenever an intersection of a family of submodules is contained in  $P$ , at least one of the submodules in the family is in  $P$ . If every prime submodule of  $M$  is strongly prime then  $M$  is called a strongly 0-dimensional module. Among other things, Oral et al. investigated relations between strongly 0-dimensional modules, von Neumann regular modules and Q-modules.

In this work, we examine some further properties of strongly prime submodules and strongly 0-dimensional modules. All rings are assumed to be commutative with identity and all modules are unitary and multiplication. In [2], Ameri defined a product for submodules of multiplication modules as follows: Let  $N = IM$  and  $K = JM$  be two submodules of a multiplication  $R$ -module  $M$  where  $I$  and  $J$  are ideals of  $R$ . The product of  $N$  and  $K$  is defined as  $(IJ)M$ . For elements  $m$  and  $m'$  of  $M$ , the product of  $m$  and  $m'$  is defined as  $RmRm'$  where  $Rm$  is the cyclic submodule of  $M$  generated by  $m$ . Among other things, Ameri obtained a characterization of radical of a submodule of a multiplication module in terms of elements

of  $M$ . We note that the radical of a submodule of a module is defined as the intersection of the prime submodules containing that submodule. Ameri proved that for a submodule  $N$  of a multiplication module  $M$ , the radical of  $N$ , denoted as  $\text{rad}(N)$ , is

$$\text{rad}(N) = \{m \in M : m^k \subseteq N \text{ for some } k \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Using that multiplication we extend the notion of descending chain condition for principal powers, first introduced in [9], to multiplication modules: A module  $M$  satisfies the descending chain condition (DCC) on principal powers if every chain  $m \supseteq m^2 \supseteq m^3 \supseteq \dots$  stops, i.e.,  $m^n = m^{n+1}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Using DCC on principal powers we give some equivalent conditions for being a strongly 0-dimensional module (See Theorem 2 and Theorem 4). A module is called quasi-semi-local if it has finitely many maximal submodules. In Corollary 4, we prove that a finitely generated module is strongly 0-dimensional if and only if it is a zero dimensional quasi-semi-local module. After examining strongly prime submodules and strongly 0-dimensional modules in Section 2, we investigate strongly prime and strongly 0-dimensional property for idealization of  $M$  in  $R$  in Section 3. The ring

$$R(+M) = \{(r, m) : r \in R, m \in M\}$$

with component-wise addition and multiplication defined as

$$(r, m)(s, n) = (rs, rn + sm)$$

is called the idealization of  $M$  in  $R$ . The reader may consult [3] and [11] for further information and the ideal structure of an idealization of  $M$ .

Finally, in Section 4, we examine topological structure of the space of prime submodules of a strongly 0-dimensional module. Let  $M$  be a module and  $\text{Spec}(M)$  the set of prime submodules of  $M$ . For a submodule  $N$  of  $M$  set  $V(N) = \{P \in \text{Spec}(M) : N \subseteq P\}$ . The family  $\{V(N) : N \text{ a submodule of } M\}$  determines a topology on  $\text{Spec}(M)$  as closed sets if and only if it is closed under finite unions. In that case, this topology is called quasi-Zariski topology and  $M$  is called a top module, for details, see [13]. Note that every multiplication module is a top module. In Proposition 2, we characterize all finitely generated strongly 0-dimensional modules in terms of its quasi-Zariski topology. In view of this result,  $\text{Spec}(M)$  satisfies all separation axioms if  $M$  is strongly 0-dimensional. Furthermore, a finitely generated module  $M$  is strongly 0-dimensional if and only if  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is finite  $T_1$ -space (see Theorem 10).

## 1. Strongly prime submodules and strongly 0-dimensional modules

Throughout this study all rings are assumed to be commutative with nonzero identity and all modules are unitary multiplication. Let  $R$  denote such a ring and  $M$  denote such an  $R$ -module. In this section we examine some properties of strongly prime submodules and strongly 0-dimensional modules.

**Definition 1.** [15, Definition 2.1] A prime submodule  $P$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called strongly prime if  $\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i \subseteq P$  implies that  $N_j \subseteq P$  for some  $j \in J$ . An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called strongly 0-dimensional if all prime submodules are strongly prime.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $P$  be a strongly prime submodule of  $M$ . Then  $(P : M)$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $r \notin (P : M)$ . Then there exists  $m \in M$  such that  $rm \notin P$ . Since  $rm \notin P$ , we have  $Rm \not\subseteq P$ . Set  $K = \bigcap_{Q \not\subseteq P} Q$ . Thus we have  $K \not\subseteq P$  since  $P$  is a strongly prime submodule. Then there exists  $m' \in K - P$ . Since  $Rm' \not\subseteq P$ , we have  $Rm' = K$ . As  $P$  is prime and  $r \notin (P : M)$ , we have  $rm' \notin P$ . So, we get  $Rrm' \not\subseteq P$  and thus  $Rrm' \subseteq Rm' = K$ . This implies  $Rrm' = Rm'$ . Then there exists  $r' \in R$  such that  $r'rm' = m'$  and hence  $(1 - rr')m' = 0 \in P$ . Since  $m' \notin P$  we get  $1 - rr' \in (P : M)$ . Consequently  $(P : M)$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *If  $P$  is a strongly prime submodule of  $M$ , then  $P$  is a maximal submodule of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 1,  $(P : M)$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$  and so  $P = (P : M)M$  is a maximal submodule of  $M$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *If  $(P : M)$  is a strongly prime ideal of  $R$ , then  $P$  is a strongly prime submodule of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* If  $(P : M)$  is a strongly prime ideal of  $R$ , then the ideal  $(P : M)$  is maximal by [9, Proposition 1.2]. So, the submodule  $P$  is a maximal submodule of  $M$ . Assume that  $\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i \subseteq P$  for a family of submodules  $\{N_i\}_{i \in J}$ . Then we have  $(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i : M) = \bigcap_{i \in J} (N_i : M) \subseteq (P : M)$ . Since  $(P : M)$  is a strongly prime ideal, we conclude that  $(N_j : M) \subseteq (P : M)$  for some  $j \in J$ . This implies  $(N_j : M)M = N_j \subseteq (P : M)M = P$  and this completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** *If  $R$  is a strongly 0-dimensional ring, then  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional  $R$ -module.*

Next, we give a chain condition for submodules generated by powers of a single element.

**Definition 2.** An  $R$ -module  $M$  satisfies the descending chain condition (DCC) on principal powers if, for any  $m \in M$  the chain

$$m \supseteq m^2 \supseteq m^3 \supseteq \dots$$

stops, i.e,  $m^n = m^{n+1}$  for some  $n$ .

The following condition is defined by Bilgin and Oral in [6].

**Definition 3.** A family  $\{N_i\}_{i \in J}$  of submodules of  $M$  satisfies  $(*)$  property if for all  $x \in M$  there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x \in \text{rad}(N_i)$  implies  $x^n \subseteq N_i$ .

Bilgin and Oral proved that a family satisfies  $(*)$  property if and only if intersection and radical operation commutes for this family as can be seen in the following result:

**Theorem 1** ([6, Lemma 4.4.]). *A family  $\{N_i\}_{i \in I}$  of submodules of  $M$  satisfies  $(*)$  property if and only if for each subset  $J \subseteq I$ ,*

$$\text{rad}\left(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i).$$

We prove in the following lemma that DCC on principal powers is equivalent to the condition that every family satisfies  $(*)$  property.

**Lemma 3.**  *$M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers if and only if every family of submodules satisfies  $(*)$  property.*

*Proof.*  $(\Rightarrow)$  : Let  $\{N_i\}$  be a family of submodules and  $x \in \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i)$ . Let

$$x \supseteq x^2 \supseteq x^3 \supseteq \dots$$

be a descending chain of principal powers. Then, by assumption, we have  $x^n = x^{n+1}$  for some  $n$ . Since  $x \in \text{rad}(N_i)$  for each  $i$ , we have  $x^{t_i} \subseteq N_i$ . If  $t_i \geq n$ , then  $x^n = x^{t_i} \subseteq N_i$ , so  $x^n \subseteq N_i$ . If  $t_i \leq n$ , then  $x^n \subseteq x^{t_i} \subseteq N_i$ , and thus  $x^n \subseteq N_i$ .

$(\Leftarrow)$  : Let  $x \supseteq x^2 \supseteq x^3 \supseteq \dots$  be a descending chain of principal powers. Observe that  $\text{rad}(x) = \text{rad}(x^i)$  for each  $i$ : Assume that  $Rx = IM$ . Then

$$\text{rad}(IM) = \text{rad}(\sqrt{I}M) = \text{rad}(\sqrt{I^i}M) = \text{rad}(I^iM)$$

and thus  $\text{rad}(x) = \text{rad}(x^i)$ . As  $x \in \text{rad}(x) = \text{rad}(x^i)$  for each  $i$ , by (\*) property, there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x^n \subseteq x^i$  for all  $i$ , and so  $x^n = x^{n+1}$ .  $\square$

Now, we give one of the main results of this paper. The following theorem gives some equivalent conditions for being a strongly 0-dimensional module.

**Theorem 2.** *M is strongly 0-dimensional if and only if the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *M satisfies DCC on principal powers.*
- (ii) *For every family  $\{P_i\}_{i \in J}$  of prime submodules and any prime submodule  $P$  of  $M$ , the inclusion  $\bigcap_{i \in J} P_i \subseteq P$  implies  $P_j \subseteq P$  for some  $j \in J$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a strongly 0-dimensional module,  $\{N_i\}_{i \in J}$  a family of submodules and  $P$  a prime submodule containing  $\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i$ . Then  $N_j \subseteq P$  for some  $j \in J$ , so  $\text{rad}(N_j) \subseteq P$ . Then  $\bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i) \subseteq \text{rad}(N_j) \subseteq P$ , hence  $\text{rad}(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i) \supseteq \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i)$ . Since the opposite inclusion always holds,  $M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers by Lemma 3. The condition (ii) is clear. Now, assume (i) and (ii) hold. Let  $P$  be a prime submodule and  $\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i \subseteq P$  for any family of submodules  $\{N_i\}_{i \in J}$  of  $M$ . Then, by (i), we have  $\text{rad}(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i) = \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i) = \bigcap_{N_i \subseteq P_{i_k}} P_{i_k} \subseteq P = \text{rad}(P)$ . This implies  $N_j \subseteq P_{j_k} \subseteq P$  for some  $j \in J$  by (ii). Consequently,  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module.  $\square$

The following theorem gives an equivalent condition for a finitely generated module to satisfy DCC on principal powers.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module.  $M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers if and only if, for every  $x \in M$ ,  $I + \text{Ann}(x^n) = R$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $Rx = IM$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ): Let  $x \in M$ . Then  $Rx = IM$  for some finitely generated ideal  $I$  of  $R$ . Since  $M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers,  $I^n M = I^{n+1} M$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $I^n M$  is finitely generated, because  $M$  and  $I$  are finitely generated. By [4, Corollary 2.5], there is an  $r \in I$  such that  $(1-r)I^n M = 0$ . Then  $1-r \in \text{Ann}(I^n M) = \text{Ann}(x^n)$ . Hence  $I + \text{Ann}(x^n) = R$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Let  $x \in M$  and  $I + \text{Ann}(x^n) = R$ . Then we have  $I^n M = (I + \text{Ann}(x^n))I^n M = I^{n+1} M$ .  $\square$

We conclude that if a finitely generated module satisfies DCC on principal powers, then its Krull dimension is zero.

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated module. If  $M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers, then  $M$  is zero dimensional.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $P_1 \subsetneq P_2$  are prime submodules of  $M$ . Let  $x \in P_2 - P_1$ . Then  $x^n \notin P_1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . This implies  $\text{Ann}(x^n) \subseteq (P_1 : M) \subseteq (P_2 : M)$  and so  $I + \text{Ann}(x^n) \subseteq (P_2 : M) \neq R$ . Thus  $M$  does not satisfy the DCC on principal powers.  $\square$

In the following theorem, we give some further equivalent conditions for a finitely generated module to be strongly 0-dimensional.

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated module. Then  $M$  is strongly 0-dimensional if and only if the following two conditions hold:*

- (i) *No maximal submodule of  $M$  contains the intersection of the other maximal submodules, and*
- (ii)  *$M$  satisfies the DCC on principal powers.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $M$  is strongly 0-dimensional. Since  $M$  is zero dimensional, (i) is clear and (ii) follows from Theorem 2. For the converse, assume that  $M$  satisfies (i) and (ii). Then  $M$  is zero dimensional by Corollary 3. Let  $K$  be a maximal submodule of  $M$  and  $\{N_i\}_{i \in J}$  a family of submodules such that  $K \supseteq \bigcap_{i \in J} N_i$ . Then  $K \supseteq \text{rad}(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i)$ . Hence,  $K \supseteq \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i)$  by (ii). For each  $i \in J$ , the submodule  $\text{rad}(N_i)$  is an intersection of maximal submodules as  $M$  is zero dimensional. Thus  $K$  must be one of these maximal submodules. Then  $K \supseteq N_j$  for some  $j \in J$ . Consequently  $M$  is strongly 0-dimensional.  $\square$

A module  $M$  is called quasi-semi-local if it has only finitely many maximal submodules. The following theorem shows that a finitely generated strongly 0-dimensional module is quasi-semi-local.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. If  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module, then  $M$  is quasi-semi-local.*

*Proof.* Let  $\Omega = \{N_i : i \in J\}$  be the set of all distinct maximal submodules of  $M$ . Assume that  $\Omega$  is an infinite set. Since all  $N_i$ 's are distinct,  $\Omega' = \{(N_i : M) : N_i \in \Omega \text{ for all } i \in J\}$  is an infinite set of distinct maximal ideals (not necessarily the set of all maximal ideals) of  $R$ . Then, by [9, Proposition 1.9], either we have  $\bigcap_{j \neq i} (N_j : M) \subseteq (N_i : M)$  for some  $i \in J$  or there exists a maximal ideal  $K$  of  $R$  such that  $\bigcap_{j \in J} (N_j : M) \subseteq K$ , where  $K \neq (N_j : M)$ . If  $\bigcap_{j \in J} (N_j : M) \subseteq K$ , then  $(0 : M) \subseteq K$  and so  $N = KM$  is a maximal submodule, by assumption, we have  $N = KM = N_k$  for

some  $k \in J$ . This implies that  $(N : M) = (KM : M) = K = (N_k : M)$  which is a contradiction. Now assume that  $\bigcap_{j \neq i} (N_j : M) \subseteq (N_i : M)$  for  $i \in J$ . Then we get  $(\bigcap_{j \neq i} (N_j : M))M \subseteq (N_i : M)M$  and this yields

$$\bigcap_{j \neq i} ((N_j : M)M) = \bigcap_{j \neq i} N_j \subseteq N_i.$$

Since  $N_i$  is a strongly prime submodule, we have  $N_j \subseteq N_i$  for some  $j \in J$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

It can be easily seen that there is a one-to-one correspondence between maximal submodules of a finitely generated multiplication  $R$ -module  $M$  and maximal ideals of the ring  $R/(0 : M)$ . Therefore, such a module  $M$  is zero-dimensional if and only if the ring  $R/(0 : M)$  is zero dimensional. As a consequence, we have the following result:

**Lemma 4.** *Suppose that  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is a zero dimensional module if and only if*

$$\sqrt{\bigcap_{j \in J} I_j} = \bigcap_{j \in J} \sqrt{I_j}$$

for each family  $\{I_j\}_{j \in J}$  of ideals of  $R$  such that  $(0 : M) \subseteq I_j$ .

**Lemma 5.** *Suppose that  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module. If  $M$  is zero dimensional, then  $M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers.*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show that

$$\text{rad}\left(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i).$$

Assume that  $\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i \subseteq P$  for some prime submodule  $P$  of  $M$ . Then

$$\left(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i : M\right) = \bigcap_{i \in J} (N_i : M) \subseteq (P : M).$$

By Lemma 4, we have

$$\sqrt{\bigcap_{i \in J} (N_i : M)} = \bigcap_{i \in J} \sqrt{(N_i : M)} \subseteq (P : M).$$



Thus  $(\bigcap_{i \in J} (\text{rad}(N_i) : M))M \subseteq (P : M)M$  by [14, Lemma 2.4]. This implies that

$$\bigcap_{i \in J} [\text{rad}(N_i) : M]M = \bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i) \subseteq P.$$

Then we get  $\bigcap_{i \in J} \text{rad}(N_i) \subseteq \text{rad}(\bigcap_{i \in J} N_i)$  which completes the proof.  $\square$

Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. If  $M$  is a zero dimensional quasi-semi-local  $R$ -module, then  $M$  satisfies DCC on principal powers by Lemma 5. In this case, no maximal submodule contains the intersection of other maximal submodules. Thus, by Theorem 4,  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module. Therefore, all finitely generated strongly 0-dimensional modules are exactly zero dimensional quasi-semi-local modules.

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is strongly 0-dimensional if and only if  $M$  is zero dimensional quasi-semi-local.*

Combining all these results, we have the following corollary:

**Corollary 5.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module if and only if  $R/(0 : M)$  is a strongly 0-dimensional ring.*

## 2. When the idealization of a module is strongly 0-dimensional?

The idealization of  $M$  in  $R$  is defined as the ring

$$R(+)M = \{(r, m) : r \in R, m \in M\}$$

with component-wise addition and multiplication

$$(r, m)(s, n) = (rs, rn + sm)$$

for  $(r, m), (s, n) \in R(+)M$ . It is a commutative ring with identity  $(1, 0)$ . The maximal and prime ideals of  $R(+)M$  are characterized by Anderson and Winders in [3] as follows:

**Theorem 6** ([3, Theorem 3.2]). *The prime (resp., maximal) ideals of  $R(+)M$  have the form  $\mathfrak{P}(+)M$  where  $\mathfrak{P}$  is a prime (resp., maximal) ideal of  $R$ . Hence,*

$$\dim(R(+)M) = \dim(R).$$

Here we determine strongly prime ideals of  $R(+)M$ :

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $P^*$  be a strongly prime ideal of  $R(+)M$ . Then  $P^* = P(+)M$  for some strongly prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $P^*$  is a strongly prime ideal of  $R(+)M$ . Since  $P^*$  is also prime, we have  $P^* = P(+)M$  for some prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ . Assume that  $\bigcap_{i \in J} I_i \subseteq P$  for some family of ideals  $\{I_i\}_{i \in J}$  of  $R$ . Then we have

$$\bigcap_{i \in J} I_i(+)M = \bigcap_{i \in J} (I_i(+)M) \subseteq P(+)M.$$

Since  $P(+)M$  is a strongly prime ideal of  $R(+)M$ , we have  $I_j(+)M \subseteq P(+)M$ , and thus  $I_j \subseteq P$  for some  $j \in J$ . As a consequence,  $P$  is a strongly prime ideal of  $R$ .  $\square$

Brewer and Richman [7] give an equivalent condition for a ring to be zero dimensional as follows:

**Theorem 7** ([7, Theorem 2.2]). *A ring  $R$  is zero dimensional if and only if there exists  $n$  such that  $Rx^n = Rx^{n+1}$  for each  $x \in R$ .*

This lemma indicates that  $R$  is zero dimensional if and only if  $R$  satisfies the DCC on principal powers. In [9], Gottlieb gives the following theorem as a different characterization of strongly 0-dimensional rings.

**Theorem 8** ([9, Theorem 1.8]).  *$R$  is strongly 0-dimensional if and only if the following conditions hold:*

- (i) *No maximal ideal of  $R$  contains the intersection of the other maximal ideals.*
- (ii)  *$R$  satisfies the DCC on principal powers.*

As it mentioned in the introduction, a strongly 0-dimensional ring is always zero dimensional by [12, Theorem 2.9]. By combining the previous two theorems, it can be easily seen that the converse is true when the condition (i) of Theorem 8 is satisfied.

The next theorem shows that strongly 0-dimensional property of  $R(+)M$  depends only on strongly 0-dimensional property of  $R$ .

**Theorem 9.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then  $R$  is a strongly 0-dimensional ring if and only if  $R(+)M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional ring.*

*Proof.* The necessary condition follows from Lemma 6. For the sufficiency, suppose that  $R$  is a strongly 0-dimensional ring. Then it is also zero dimensional. Thus,  $R(+)M$  is also zero dimensional by Theorem 6 and satisfies DCC on principal powers by Theorem 7. Now, it is enough to check that if  $R(+)M$  satisfies the condition in Theorem 8 (i). Assume that  $\bigcap_{i \in J} (\mathfrak{M}_i(+)M) \subseteq \mathfrak{M}_j(+)M$  where  $\mathfrak{M}_i, \mathfrak{M}_j$  are maximal ideals of  $R$  for all  $i \in J$  and  $i \neq j$ . Then we have

$$\bigcap_{i \in J} \mathfrak{M}_i(+)M \subseteq \mathfrak{M}_j(+)M$$

that is,  $\bigcap_{i \in J} \mathfrak{M}_i \subseteq \mathfrak{M}_j$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

### 3. The spectrum of a strongly 0-dimensional module

In this section we will examine topological structure of the set of all prime submodules  $\text{Spec}(M)$  of a strongly 0-dimensional module  $M$ .

Let  $N$  be a submodule of a module  $M$  and set

$$V(N) = \{P \in \text{Spec}(M) : N \subseteq P\}.$$

The set  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is equipped with the quasi-Zariski topology if and only if the family  $\{V(N) : N \subseteq M\}$  is closed under finite unions. In this case  $M$  is called a top module, see [13]. Since all modules are assumed to be multiplication in this article, they are also top modules.

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module if and only if  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is a finite  $T_1$ -space.*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a strongly 0-dimensional module. Then  $\text{Spec}(M) = \text{Max}(M)$  and also  $M$  is quasi-semi-local. This implies that  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is a finite  $T_1$ -space. Conversely, assume that  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is a finite  $T_1$ -space. Since  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is a  $T_1$ -space, every prime submodule is maximal and hence  $M$  is 0-dimensional. Also note that  $M$  is quasi-semi-local since  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is finite topological space. Thus  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module by Corollary 4.  $\square$

Note that if  $M$  is a strongly 0-dimensional module which is not quasi-local,  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is not a connected space since all finite  $T_1$ -spaces are equipped with discrete topology. Also note that the quasi-Zariski topology on a strongly 0-dimensional module satisfies all separation axioms. In particular,  $\text{Spec}(M)$  is metrizable for a strongly 0-dimensional module  $M$ .

## References

- [1] Abd El-Bast Z, Smith PF, Multiplication modules, *Comm Algebra*, **16**, (1988), 755-779.
- [2] Ameri R, On the prime submodules of multiplication modules, *Int J Math Sci*, **27**, (2003), 1715-1724.
- [3] Anderson DD, Winders M, Idealization of a module, *J Commut Algebr*, **56(1)**, (2009), 3-56.
- [4] Atiyah MF, MacDonald IG. *Intorduction to Commutative Algebra*, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Massachusetts, 1994.
- [5] Barnard A, Multiplication modules, *J Algebra*, **71(1)**, (1988), 174-178.
- [6] Bilgin Z, Oral KH, Coprimely structured modules, *Palestine J Math*, **7**, (2018), 161-169.
- [7] Brewer J, Richman F, Subrings of 0-dimensional rings, *Multiplicative Ideal Theory in Commutative Rings*, (2006), 73-88.
- [8] Gilmer RW, An intersection condition for prime ideals, *Lect Notes Pure Appl*, **189**, (1997), 327-331.
- [9] Gottlieb C, On strongly prime ideals and strongly zero-dimensional rings, *J. Algebra Appl.*, **16(10)**, (2017), 1750191-1-1750191-9.
- [10] Hedstrom JR, Houston EG, Pseudo-valuation domains, *Pacific J Math*, **75(1)**, (1978), 137-147.
- [11] Huckaba JA, *Commutative rings with zero divisors*, New York Monographs and Textbooks in Pure and Applied Mathematics 117, Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1988.
- [12] Jayaram C, Oral KH, Tekir Ü, Strongly 0-dimensional rings, *Comm Algebra*, **41(6)**, (2013), 2026-2032.
- [13] McCasland RL, Moore ME, Smith PF, On the spectrum of a module over a commutative ring, *Comm Algebra*, **25(1)**, (1997), 79-103.
- [14] Mostafanasab H, Yetkin E, Tekir Ü, Darani AY, On 2-Absorbing primary submodules over commutative rings, *An. St. Univ. Ovidius Constanta*, **24(1)**, (2016), 335-351.
- [15] Oral KH, Özkirişçi NA, Tekir Ü, Strongly 0-dimensional module, *Canad Math Bull*, **57(1)**, (2014), 159-165.
- [16] Smith PF, Some remarks on multiplication modules, *Arch Math*, **50(3)**, (1988), 223-235.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Z. Bilgin**

Philosophy Department, Istanbul Medeniyet  
 University 34000, Kadikoy, Istanbul, Turkey  
*E-Mail(s)*: zehrabilgin.zb@gmail.com

**S. Koç**

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science and  
 Arts, Marmara University 34722, Istanbul, Turkey  
*E-Mail(s)*: suat.koc@marmara.edu.tr

---

**N. A. Özkirişci** Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science and  
Arts, Yildiz Technical University 34210, Istanbul,  
Turkey  
*E-Mail(s)*: aozk@yildiz.edu.tr

Received by the editors: 29.03.2018  
and in final form 18.09.2018.