# Pacific Journal of Mathematics

A COUNTER-EXAMPLE TO A LEMMA OF SKORNJAKOV

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# A COUNTER-EXAMPLE TO A LEMMA OF SKORNJAKOV

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In his paper, Rings with injective cyclic modules, translated in Soviet Mathematics 4 (1963), p. 36-39, L. A. Skornjakov states the following lemma: If a cyclic R-module M and all its cyclic submodules are injective, then the partially ordered set of cyclic submodules of M is a complete, complemented lattice.

An example is constructed to show that this lemma is false, thus invalidating Skornjakov's proof of the theorem: Let R be a ring all of whose cyclic modules are injective. Then R is semi-simple Artin. The theorem, however, is true. (See Osofsky [4].)

The theorem, however, is true. (See Osofsky [4].)

In this paper, all rings have identity and all modules are unital left modules.  $_{R}\mathfrak{M}$  will denote the category of R-modules, and  $_{R}M$  will signify  $M \in _{R}\mathfrak{M}$ .

Let Q be a commutative, left self injective, regular, non-Artin ring, and let I be a maximal ideal of Q which is not a direct summand of  $_QQ$ . (For example, let Q be a direct product of fields, and I a maximal ideal containing their direct sum.) Let  $N=Q \oplus Q/I$ . We observe the following:

- 1.  $_{Q}N$  is injective. Q is injective by hypothesis, and Q/I is a simple module over the commutative regular ring Q; hence injective by a theorem of Kaplansky. (See [5].)
- 2.  $_{Q}M \subseteq _{Q}N$  is a direct summand of  $_{Q}N$  if and only if  $_{Q}M$  is finitely generated. If  $_{Q}M$  is a direct summand of  $_{Q}N$ ,  $_{Q}M$  is generated by the projections of (1, 0 + I) and (0, 1 + I). If  $_{Q}M$  is finitely generated, and  $\pi$  is the projection of N onto (Q, 0 + I), then  $\pi(_{Q}M)$  is finitely generated. Hence  $\pi(_{Q}M)$  is a direct summand of  $_{Q}Q$ . (See von Neumann [6].) Say  $Q = \pi(_{Q}M) \oplus K$ . Since  $\pi(_{Q}M)$  is projective (it is a direct summand of  $_{Q}Q$ ),  $_{Q}M = (\pi(_{Q}M))' \oplus (\operatorname{Ker} \pi \cap _{Q}M)$ . Since  $_{Q}M$  is simple,  $_{Q}M = (\operatorname{Ker} \pi \cap _{Q}M) \oplus K_{Q}$  where  $_{Q}M = (\operatorname{Ker} \pi \cap _{Q}M)$ . Then  $_{Q}M \oplus K \oplus K_{Q}$ .
- 3. The direct summands of N do not form a lattice. In particular,  $Q(1, 0 + I) \cap Q(1, 1 + I) = (I, 0 + I)$  is not a direct summand

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of (Q, 0 + I), hence not of N.

N is not a counter-example to Skornjakov's lemma, since N is not cyclic. However, properties 1, 2 and 3 are preserved under category isomorphisms. For we have:

PROPOSITION.  $_RM$  is finitely generated  $\Leftrightarrow$  the union of a linearly ordered chain of proper submodules is proper.

*Proof.*  $\Rightarrow$  Let  $M = \sum_{i=1}^{n} Rx_i$ , and let  $\{N_{\mu}\}$  be a linearly ordered chain of submodules whose union is M. If  $x_i \in N_{\mu_i}$ , then  $\{x_i \mid i = 1, \dots, n\} \subseteq N_{\nu}$ , where  $\nu = \max \{\mu_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Then  $M = N_{\nu}$ .

Given  $_RM$ , let  $\aleph$  be the smallest cardinal such that M has a generating set of cardinality  $\aleph$ . Index such a generating set  $\{x_\mu\}$  by  $\{\mu \mid \mu < \Omega\}$ , where  $\Omega$  is the first ordinal of cardinality  $\aleph$ . Then  $\{\sum_{\nu \leq \mu} Rx_\nu\}$  is a linearly ordered chain of submodules whose union is M. If  $\Omega$  is a limit ordinal (that is, if  $\aleph$  is infinite), then each  $\sum_{\nu \leq \mu} Rx_\nu$  is generated by less than  $\aleph$  elements; hence proper.

Thus M finitely generated corresponds to the categorical property that the collection of nonepimorphic monomorphisms into M is inductive under the ordering:  $f \leq g$  if and only if there is an h with f = gh.<sup>1</sup>

Let  $R = \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(Q \oplus Q, Q \oplus Q)$ . By Morita [3], Theorem 3.4, the functor  $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(Q \oplus Q, \ )$ :  ${}_{\mathbb{Q}}\mathfrak{M} \to {}_{\mathbb{R}}\mathfrak{M}$  is a category isomorphism. Hence  ${}_{\mathbb{R}}M = \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(Q \oplus Q, N)$  has properties 1, 2, 3. Moreover, if  $K = \{\lambda \in R \mid (Q \oplus Q)\lambda \subseteq (0, I)\}$ , then M is isomorphic to R/K since  ${}_{\mathbb{Q}}(Q \oplus Q)$  projective implies the natural map from  $R = \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(Q \oplus Q, Q \oplus Q) \to \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(Q \oplus Q, Q \oplus Q/I) = M$  is an epimorphism. Hence M is cyclic, and as in 2, every direct summand of M is cyclic. Thus M is the required counter-example.

We conclude with the observation that the technique used in 2 gives us a categorical equivalence to regular rings which is closer to the usual definition than Auslander's theorem that R is regular if and only if the global flat dimension of R is 0. (See Auslander [1].)

 $P \in {}_{R}\mathfrak{M}$  is a progenerator if it is finitely generated, projective, and every  $M \in {}_{R}\mathfrak{M}$  is an epimorphic image of a direct sum of copies of P.

# PROPOSITION. The following are equivalent:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although the categorical definition of finitely generated appears in H. Bass, *The Morita theorems*, University of Oregon (mimeographed notes), the author found no proof in the literature that this is equivalent to the module definition, and so is including this proof for completeness.

- (a) R is regular.
- (b) Every finitely generated submodule of a projective module is a direct summand.
- (c) There is a progenerator  $P \in {}_{R}\mathfrak{M}$  such that every finitely generated submodule of P is a direct summand.

*Proof.* (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) (See von Neumann [6].)

- (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) R is a progenerator with the required properties.
- $(c) \Rightarrow (b)$  Let N be a projective module, M a finitely generated submodule.

Let P be the progenerator of condition (c). Then there is an epimorphism  $f: \Sigma \oplus P_i \to N$ . Since N is projective, this splits and  $\Sigma \oplus P_i = N' \oplus \ker f$ , where  $N' \approx N$ . Thus M is a finitely generated submodule of  $\Sigma \oplus P_i$ , and if it is a direct summand of  $\Sigma \oplus P_i$ , it is a direct summand of N.

Since M is finitely generated, M is contained in a finite direct sum  $\sum_{j=1}^n P_j$ . If n=1, M is a direct summand of P by hypothesis, and hence a direct summand of  $\Sigma \oplus P_i$ . Now assume any finitely generated submodule of  $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} P_j$  is a direct summand. Let  $\pi_n$  be the projection of  $\sum_{j=1}^n P_j$  onto  $P_n$ . Then  $\pi_n(M)$  is a direct summand of  $P_n$ , say  $P_n = \pi_n(M) \oplus K_1$ . Ker  $\pi_n \cap M$  is a direct summand of M, hence finitely generated. Then by the induction hypothesis,  $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} P_j = (\text{Ker } \pi_n \cap M) \oplus K_2$ . Then  $\sum_{j=1}^n P_j = K_1 \oplus K_2 \oplus M$ , so M is a direct summand of  $E \oplus P_i$ , and hence of E.

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