# Pacific Journal of Mathematics

# A NOTE ON QUASI-FROBENIUS RINGS

**EDGAR EARLE ENOCHS** 

Vol. 24, No. 1 May 1968

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Morita and Curtis proved independently that if A is a quasi-Frobenius ring and  $P_a^\vee$  finitely generated, projective, faithful, left A-module, then the ring of endomorphisms  $B=\operatorname{End}_A(P)$  is quasi-Frobenius and P is a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left B-module. It also turns out that  $A\cong\operatorname{End}_B(P)$ . We prove a theorem implying that every quasi-Frobenius ring can be represented as such a ring of endomorphisms.

In fact the following holds:

THEOREM. If A is a quasi-Frobenius ring there is a Frobenius ring B such that B/Rad (B) is the product of a finite number of (not necessarily commutative) fields and a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left B-module P such that  $A \cong \operatorname{End}_B(P)$ . If B' if another Frobenius ring such that B'/Rad (B') is the product of a finite number of fields and P' a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left B'-module such that  $A \cong \operatorname{End}_B(P)$  then there is a semilinear isomorphism of the B-module P into the B'-module P'.

We note the results mentioned above appear in [2, pp. 405-406].

*Proof.* Let  $A_s$  be A considered as a left A-module. Let  $A_s =$  $E_1 + \cdots + E_n$  (direct) where each  $E_i$  is nonzero and indecomposable, and so has a simple socle. Consider the equivalence relation  $E_i \cong E_i$ on the set  $\{E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n\}$ . Note  $E_i \cong E_j$  if and only if  $S_i \cong S_j$  where  $S_i$  is the socle of  $E_i$  for each i. Choose one representative from each equivalence class and let P be their direct sum. Then we easily see that P is a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left A-module. Let  $B = \operatorname{End}_A(P)$ . Then by Morita and Curtis' result, B is a quasi-Frobenius ring and P is a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left B-module. We claim that if we show B/Rad(B) is the product of a finite number of fields then it will follow that B is Frobenius. For in this case B/Rad (B) is the direct sum of a finite number of simple pair-wise nonisomorphic left B-modules. But since B is quasi-Frobenius each simple left B-module is isomorphic to a submodule of B [2, p. 401, Corollary 58.13]. But to show B/Rad (B) is a product of fields we only need note that  $B/\text{Rad}(B) \cong \text{End}_A(T)$  where T is the socle of P. But by the construction of P, T is the direct sum of a finite number of pair-wise nonisomorphic simple left A-modules so  $\operatorname{End}_{A}(T)$  is the product of a finite number of fields. But now as remarked above,  $A \cong \operatorname{End}_{B}(P)$  and P is a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left B-module.

Now suppose  $A \cong \operatorname{End}_{B'}(P')$  where B' is a Frobenius ring with  $B'/\operatorname{Rad}(B')$  the product of a finite number of fields and that P' is a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left B'-module. Then P' is a finitely generated, projective, faithful, left A-module and  $B'\cong \operatorname{End}_A(P')$ . But then since A is quasi-Frobenius,  $P'\cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^m E_{k_i}$  where  $1 \leq k_i \leq n$  for each  $i=1,2,\cdots,m$  [2, p. 401, Corollary 58.13]. But P' is a faithful left A-module so it's easy to see that for each  $j,1 \leq j \leq n$ ,  $E_{ki}\cong E_j$  for some  $i,1 \leq i \leq m$ . But now if T' is the socle of P' (as a left A-module),  $B'/\operatorname{Rad}(B')\cong \operatorname{End}_A(T')$ . But  $B'/\operatorname{Rad}(B')$  is the product of a finite number of fields so we see that T' is the direct sum of a finite number of pair-wise nonisomorphic simple left A-modules. Thus  $P\cong P'$  (as left A-modules). But then

$$B \cong \operatorname{End}_A(P) \cong \operatorname{End}_A(P') \cong B'$$
 and

we easily see that there is a semi-linear isomorphism from the B-module P to the B'-module P'.

We note that if A is a simple ring (i.e. left Artinian, without radical and having no nontrivial two sided ideals) we get the usual representation of A as the ring of matrices over a field (i.e. the endomorphism ring of a finite dimensional vector space) since in this case B is a field.

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Received February 28, 1967.

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Printed in Japan by International Academic Printing Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan

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