

# Modules Whose Nonzero Endomorphisms Have E-small Kernels

Abdoul Djibril DIALLO<sup>1</sup>, Papa Cheikhou DIOP<sup>2</sup>, Mamadou BARRY<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Département de Mathématiques et Informatiques, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Sénégal

<sup>2</sup> Département de Mathématiques, Université de Thiès, Thiès, Sénégal

<sup>3</sup> Département de Mathématiques et Informatiques, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Sénégal

Correspondence: Papa Cheikhou DIOP, Département de Mathématiques, UFR SET, Université de Thiès, Thiès, Sénégal.

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## Abstract

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  an unital  $R$ -module. A submodule  $L$  of  $M$  is called essential submodule of  $M$ , if  $L \cap K \neq \{0\}$  for any nonzero submodule  $K$  of  $M$ . A submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is called e-small submodule of  $M$  if, for any essential submodule  $L$  of  $M$ ,  $N + L = M$  implies  $L = M$ . An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called e-small quasi-Dedekind module if, for each  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $f \neq 0$  implies  $\text{Ker } f$  is e-small in  $M$ . In this paper we introduce the concept of e-small quasi-Dedekind modules as a generalisation of quasi-Dedekind modules, and give some of their properties and characterizations.

**Keywords:** Essential submodules, e-small submodules, e-small quasi-Dedekind modules

## 1. Introduction

Throughout all rings are associative, commutative with identity and all modules are unitary  $R$ -module. A submodule  $L$  of  $M$  is called essential submodule of  $M$ , if  $L \cap K \neq \{0\}$  for any nonzero submodule  $K$  of  $M$ . (Zhou, D. X. & all (2011)) introduce and study the concept of e-small submodules, where a submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is called e-small submodule of  $M$  if, for any essential submodule  $L$  of  $M$ ,  $N + L = M$  implies  $L = M$ . An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called e-small quasi-Dedekind module if, for each  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $f \neq 0$  implies  $\text{Ker } f$  is e-small in  $M$ . (Mijbass, A. S. (1997)) introduced and studied the concept of quasi-Dedekind module. In this paper we introduce and study the concept of e-small quasi-Dedekind as a generalization of quasi-Dedekind module. Also, we investigate the basic properties and characterizations of e-small quasi-Dedekind module. Finally we study the relations between e-small quasi-Dedekind modules and some classes of modules.

The notation  $N \leq M$  means that  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$  and  $N \leq^\oplus M$  denotes that  $N$  is a direct summand of  $M$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 1** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $N \leq M$ .

1.  $N$  is called essential submodule of  $M$  ( $N \leq_e M$ , for short) if,  $N \cap K \neq \{0\}$  for any nonzero submodule  $K$  of  $M$ .
2.  $N$  is called small submodule of  $M$  ( $N \ll M$ , for short) if, for any submodule  $L$  of  $M$ ,  $N + L = M$  implies  $L = M$
3.  $N$  is called e-small  $N \ll_e M$ , ( $N \ll_e M$ , for short) if, for any essential submodule  $L$  of  $M$ ,  $N + L = M$  implies  $L = M$ .

**Remark 1** Each small submodule is e-small submodule. But the converse is not true in general for example:  $N = \{\bar{0}, \bar{3}\}$  is a submodule of  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.  $N$  is e-small but  $N$  is not small.

**Lemma 1** (Zhou, D. X. & all, Proposition 2.5)

1. Let  $N$ ,  $K$  and  $L$  are submodules of an  $R$ -module  $M$  such that  $N \subseteq K$ , if  $K \ll_e M$ , then  $N \ll_e M$  and  $K/N \ll_e M/N$ .
2. If  $K \ll_e M$  and  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is a homomorphism, then  $f(K) \ll_e M'$ . In particular, if  $K \ll_e M \subseteq M'$ , then  $K \ll_e M'$ .
3. Assume that  $K_1 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq M$ ,  $K_2 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq M$  and  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ , then  $K_1 \oplus K_2 \ll_e M_1 \oplus M_2$  if and only if  $K_1 \ll_e M_1$  and  $K_2 \ll_e M_2$ .

**Lemma 2** (Aidi, S. H. & all, (2015), Lemma 2.8)

Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module, let  $K \leq N \leq M$  be submodules of  $M$ . If  $K \ll_e M$  and  $N \leq^\oplus M$ , then  $K \ll_e N$ .

### 3. Some Properties Related to E-small Quasi-Dedekind Modules

**Definition 2** An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind if for all  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $f \neq 0$  implies  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M$ .

**Example 1** Every semi-simple module is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Remark 2** It is clear that every quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module. But the converse is not true in general, for example  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind but it is not quasi-Dedekind.

**Remark 3**

1. The epimorphic image of  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind module is not necessary  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind; for example  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Let  $\pi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $\pi$  is the natural projection.  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is not  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.
2. The direct sum of  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind modules is not necessarily an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind module; for example each of  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. But  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  is not an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, since  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  is not  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Proposition 1** Let  $M_1, M_2$  be  $R$ -modules such that  $M_1 \cong M_2$ .

Then  $M_1$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module if and only if  $M_2$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module.

*Proof.*  $\Rightarrow$  Let  $f \in \text{End}_R(M_2)$ ,  $f \neq 0$ . Since  $M_1 \cong M_2$ , there exists an isomorphism  $g : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$  and  $g^{-1} : M_2 \rightarrow M_1$ . Let  $h = g^{-1} \circ f \circ g \in \text{End}_R(M_1)$ . It is clear that  $h \neq 0$  and so  $g(\text{Ker} h) \ll_e M_2$  by lemma 1. On the other hand we have  $g(\text{Ker} h) = \text{Ker} f$ . Hence  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M_2$ . So  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

$\Leftarrow$  The proof of the converse is similarly.

**Proposition 2** Every direct summand of an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind module is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind module.

*Proof.* Let  $M = N \oplus K$  such that  $M$  is an  $\delta$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module.

Let  $f : K \rightarrow K$ ,  $f \neq 0$ . We have  $h = i \circ f \circ p \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $h \neq 0$ , where  $p$  is the natural projection and  $i$  is the inclusion mapping. Hence  $\text{Ker} h \ll_e M$ . But  $\text{Ker} f \subseteq \text{Ker} h$ , so by lemma 1,  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M$ . On the other hand  $\text{Ker} f \leq K$  implies  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e K$  by lemma 2. Thus  $K$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module.

**Proposition 3** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and let  $N, L \leq M$  with  $M = N + L$  and  $M/N \cap N$   $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Then  $M/N$  and  $M/L$  are  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -modules.

*Proof.* Since  $M/N \cap L = (N/N \cap L) \oplus (L/N \cap L)$ , by proposition 2,  $N/N \cap L$  and  $L/N \cap L$  are  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. But  $N/N \cap L \cong M/L$  and  $L/N \cap L \cong M/N$ , so  $M/L$  and  $M/N$  are  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Definition 3** An  $R$ -module is  $M$  called  $N$ - $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind if, for every  $0 \neq \phi \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ ,  $\text{Ker} \phi \ll_e M$ .

In view of the above definition, an  $R$ -module  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind if and only if  $M$  is  $M$ - $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Theorem 1** Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be two  $R$ -modules and let  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ . If  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind, then  $M_i$  is  $M_j$ - $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind for all  $i, j = 1, 2$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Then, by proposition 2,  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Thus  $M_1$  is  $M_1$ - $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind and  $M_2$  is  $M_2$ - $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{Hom}_R(M_1, M_2)$ . Then  $h = i \circ f \circ p \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , where  $p$  is the natural projection and  $i$  is the inclusion mapping. It is clear that  $h \neq 0$ . So  $\text{Ker} h \ll_e M_1 \oplus M_2$ , because  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. On the other hand, we may assume that  $\text{Ker} f \oplus \{0\} \subseteq \text{Ker} h$ . Thus  $\text{Ker} f \oplus \{0\} \ll_e M_1 \oplus M_2$ . Then by lemma 1,  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M_1$  and so  $M_1$  is  $M_2$ - $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Theorem 2** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind if and only if  $\text{Hom}(M/N, M) = \{0\}$ , for all  $N \ll_e M$ .

*Proof.*  $\Rightarrow$  Suppose on the contrary that there exists  $N \ll_e M$  such that  $\text{Hom}(M/N, M) \neq \{0\}$ . Then there exists  $\varphi : M/N \rightarrow M$ ,  $\varphi \neq 0$ . Hence  $\varphi \circ \pi \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , where  $\pi$  is the canonical projection. It is clear that  $\varphi \circ \pi \neq 0$  and so  $\text{Ker} f(\varphi \circ \pi) \ll_e M$ . Since  $N \subseteq \text{Ker}(\varphi \circ \pi)$ ,  $N \ll_e M$  by lemma 1. This is a contradiction.

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose that there exists  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $f \neq 0$  such that  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M$ . Define  $g : M/\text{Ker} f \rightarrow M$  by  $g(m + \text{Ker} f) = f(m)$ , for all  $m \in M$ . It is clear that  $g \neq 0$ . So  $\text{Hom}(M/\text{Ker} f, M) \neq \{0\}$  which is a contradiction.

**Remark 4** If  $M$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module, and  $N \leq M$ . Then it is not necessary that  $M/N$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module; for example the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $M = \mathbb{Z}$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Let  $N = 12\mathbb{Z} \leq \mathbb{Z}$ , then

$M/N = \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  is not an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module.

**Definition 4** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module, put  $Z(M) = \{m \in M : \text{ann}_R(m) \leq_e R\}$ .  $M$  is called nonsingular if  $Z(M) = \{0\}$ , and singular if  $Z(M) = M$ . The Goldie torsion submodule  $Z_2(M)$  of  $M$  is defined by  $Z(M/Z(M)) = Z_2(M)/Z(M)$ .  $M$  is called Goldie torsion if  $M = Z_2(M)$ .

**Proposition 4** Let  $M$  be an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module such that  $M/U$  is semi-simple nonsingular for all  $U \not\leq_e M$ . Then  $M/N$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module, for all  $N \leq M$ .

*Proof.* Let  $K/N \not\leq_e M/N$ . So by lemma 1,  $K \not\leq_e M$ . Suppose that  $\text{Hom}((M/N)/(K/N), M/N) \neq \{0\}$ . Since  $\text{Hom}((M/N)/(K/N), M/N) \cong \text{Hom}(M/K, M/N)$ , there exists  $f : M/K \rightarrow M/N$  such that  $f \neq 0$ . Since  $M/K$  is semi-simple nonsingular, so by (Lam T.Y(1999), Exer. 12A.), there exists  $g : M/K \rightarrow M$  such that  $\pi \circ g = f$ , where  $\pi$  is the canonical projection. Hence  $\pi \circ g(M/K) = f(M/K) \neq 0$ , so  $g \neq 0$ . But  $g \in \text{Hom}(M/K, M)$  and  $K \not\leq_e M$ . Thus  $\text{Hom}(M/K, M) \neq \{0\}$  and  $K \not\leq_e M$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $M/N$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module.

**Proposition 5** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.
2. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ , then  $N = \text{Im}g$  for some  $g^2 = g \in \text{End}_R(M)$ .
3. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$ , then there exist a unique complete set  $(g, g_1)$  of orthogonal idempotents in  $\text{End}_R(M)$  and  $N_1 \leq M$  with  $N = \text{Im}g$  and  $N_1 = \text{Im}g_1$ .

*Proof.* 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Suppose that  $M$  is  $\delta$ -small quasi-Dedekind. Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ . For any complement  $L$  to  $N$  in  $M$ , we have  $N \oplus L \leq_e M$ . It is clear that  $N + L + \text{Ker}f = M$ . So  $N \oplus L = M$ , because  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind. So there exists  $g^2 = g \in \text{End}_R(M)$  with  $N = \text{Im}g$ .

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3) Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$ . Then  $f(N) = f(M)$ . So, by 2) and (Anderson, F.W., & all (1973), Corollary 5.8 and Corollary 6.20), the result is obtained.

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Let  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$  where  $N \leq_e M$ . By 3) and (Anderson, F.W., & all (1973), Corollary 6.20),  $N \leq^\oplus M$ . Thus  $M = N$  and so  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

Recall that a submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called fully invariant if  $f(N) \subseteq N$  for any  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ .

An idempotent  $e$  in a ring  $R$  is called left semicentral if  $xe = exe$  for each  $x \in R$ .

$N$  is a closed submodule of  $M$  if  $N$  has no proper essential extension inside  $M$ .

**Proposition 6** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.
2. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ , then  $N$  is closed in  $M$ .

*Proof.* 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) By proposition 5,  $N \leq^\oplus M$ . So  $N$  is closed.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Let  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$  where  $N \leq_e M$ . Then  $f(N) = f(M)$ . By 2)  $N$  is closed in  $M$ . Thus  $M = N$  and so  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Proposition 7** Let  $M$  an  $R$ -module such that for any  $N \leq M$ ,  $Z_2(M) \subseteq N$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.
2. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$ , then  $M/N$  is nonsingular.
3. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$ , then  $N$  is closed in  $M$ .

*Proof.* 1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ . By proposition 6,  $N$  is closed in  $M$ . By our assumption,

$Z_2(M) \subseteq N$ . So by (Asgari, S. & all(2012), Proposition 1.2),  $M/N$  is nonsingular.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3). Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that there exists  $N \leq M$  with  $\text{Ker} f + N = M$ . Then  $f(N) = f(M)$ . By 2),  $M/N$  is nonsingular. Hence by (Asgari, S. & all(2012), Proposition 1.2),  $N$  is closed in  $M$ .

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Follows from proposition 6.

**Proposition 8** Let  $M$  be an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module such that for any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , there exists  $N \leq M$  with  $f(N) = f(M)$ . Then the following assertions are verified:

1. For any fully invariant submodule  $L \leq M$ ,  $N + L$  is fully invariant in  $M$  if and only if  $g_1 \text{End}(M)N \subseteq L$  for some  $g_1^2 = g_1 \in \text{End}_R(M)$ .
2.  $N$  is fully invariant in  $M$  if only if there exists  $g^2 = g \in \text{End}_R(M)$  with  $g$  semicentral.
3. There exists  $N' \leq M$  such that  $N$  is a fully invariant submodule of  $M$  if and only if  $\text{Hom}_R(N, N') = \{0\}$ .
4. There exists an epimorphism  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$  and a monomorphism  $h \in \text{Hom}_R(N, M)$  such that  $M = \text{Ker} g \oplus \text{Im} h$ .
5.  $N = eE(M) \cap M$  for some  $e^2 = e \in \text{End}_R(E(M))$ .

*Proof.* Since  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind, by proposition 5,  $N \leq^\oplus M$ . Thus  $N = gM$  for some  $g^2 = g \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . It is clear that  $g_1 = (1 - g)$  is an idempotent in  $\text{End}_R(M)$ .

1.  $\Rightarrow$  Let  $x \in g_1 \text{End}(M)g$  and  $m \in M$ . Then  $xm = xgm \in gM + L = N + L$ . On the other hand we have  $xm = g_1xm \in g_1L \leq L$ .  
 $\Leftarrow$  Let  $s \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Then  $s(gM) = (gs + g_1s)gM \subseteq gM + g_1 \text{End}_R(M)gM \subseteq gM + L$ .
2.  $\Rightarrow$  Let  $s \in \text{End}_R(M)$  and  $m \in M$ . By 1),  $N = gM$  for some  $g^2 = g \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Then  $sgm = gm'$  for some  $m' \in M$ . It follows that  $gsgm = g^2m' = gm' = smg$ . Hence  $g$  is semicentral.  
 $\Leftarrow$  Let  $s \in \text{End}_R(M)$  and  $m \in M$ . Thus  $sgm = gsgm \in gM$  and so  $N$  is fully invariant in  $M$ .
3. Since  $N \leq^\oplus M$ , there exists  $N' \leq M$  with  $M = N \oplus N'$ . In this case, it is well known that  $N$  is a fully invariant submodule of  $M$  if and only if  $\text{Hom}_R(N, N') = \{0\}$ .
4. Since  $N \leq^\oplus M$ , there exists an epimorphism  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$  and a homomorphism  $h \in \text{Hom}_R(N, M)$  such that  $g \circ h = 1_N$ . It follows that  $h$  is a monomorphism. It is clear that  $hg$  is an idempotent and so  $M = \text{Ker} g \oplus \text{Im} h$ .
5. Since  $N \leq^\oplus M$ ,  $N$  is a closed submodule of  $M$ . Since  $N \subseteq M \subseteq E(M)$ ,  $E(M)$  contains a copy of  $E(N)$ . Thus  $N \leq_e E(N) \cap M$  implies that  $N = E(N) \cap M$ . Since  $E(N)$  is injective,  $E(N) = eE(M)$  for some  $e^2 = e \in \text{End}_R(E(M))$ . So the result is obtained.

**Proposition 9** Let  $M$  be an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module such that for any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , there exists  $N \leq M$  with  $f(N) = f(M)$ . Let  $L$  be a fully invariant submodule of  $M$  such that  $L \leq_e N$ . Then the following assertions are verified:

1.  $g_1 \text{End}_R(M)N \subseteq Z(M)$  for some  $g_1^2 = g_1 \in \text{End}_R(M)$ .
2.  $N + Z(M)$  is fully invariant in  $M$ .
3. If  $Z(M) \subseteq N$ , then  $N$  is fully invariant. Moreover, if  $L \leq_e K$ , then  $K \subseteq N$ . In particular,  $Z_2(M) \subseteq N$ .

*Proof.*

1. We have  $N = gM$  for some  $g^2 = g \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Then  $g_1 = (1 - g)$  is an idempotent in  $\text{End}_R(M)$ . Let  $m \in M$ . Then  $gmI \subseteq L$  for some  $I \leq_e R$ . Thus  $g_1 \text{End}_R(M)gmI \subseteq N \cap g_1M = \{0\}$ . It follows that  $g_1 \text{End}_R(M)N \subseteq Z(M)$ .
2. Result from (1) and proposition 8 (1).
3. By (2),  $N$  is a fully invariant submodule of  $M$ . Let  $k \in K$ . Thus  $kI \subseteq L$  for some  $I \leq_e R$ . So  $g_1k \in Z(M) \subseteq N$ . On the other hand  $k = gk + g_1k \in N$ . Thus  $K \subseteq N$ .

**Proposition 10** Let  $M$  be a nonsingular  $R$ -module. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.
2. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ , then  $N \leq^{\oplus} M$ .
3. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$  and  $((N + Z_2(M))/Z_2(M)) \leq_e M/Z_2(M)$ , then  $M = N$ .

*Proof.*

1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ . Then the result follows directly from proposition 5.

2)  $\Rightarrow$  3) Let  $0 \neq f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that there exists  $N \leq M$  with  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$ . Then  $f(N) = f(M)$  and by 2), there exists  $L \leq M$  such that  $M = N \oplus L$ . By hypothesis,  $((N + Z_2(M))/Z_2(M)) \leq_e M/Z_2(M)$ . Thus by (Asgari, S. & all(2012), Proposition 1.1),  $M/N$  is Goldie torsion. On the other hand  $M = N \oplus L$  implies that  $M/N \cong L$  is Goldie torsion. It follows that  $L = \{0\}$ . This implies that  $M = N$ .

3)  $\Rightarrow$  1) Let  $M$  an  $R$ -module and a nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$ , where  $N \leq_e M$ . We have  $M/N$  is singular and so Goldie torsion. Thus by 3) and (Asgari, S. & all(2012), Proposition 1.1),  $M = N$ . So  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

### Definition 5

1. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called prime if  $\text{Ann}_R(M) = \text{Ann}_R(N)$  for each  $0 \neq N \leq M$ .
2. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called faithful if  $\text{Ann}_R(M) = \{0\}$ .

**Proposition 11** Let  $M$  be a prime faithful  $R$ -module. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.
2. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $f(N) = f(M)$ , then  $N \leq^{\oplus} M$ .
3. For any nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ , if there exists  $N \leq M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f + N = M$  and  $(N + Z_2(M)) \leq_e M$ , then  $M = N$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $M$  is prime. Then  $\text{Ann}_R(M)$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ . Also  $M$  is a torsion-free module  $\bar{R}$ -module, where  $\bar{R} = R/\text{Ann}_R(M)$ . We have  $\bar{R} = R/\text{Ann}_R(M) \cong R$ , because  $M$  is faithful. Hence  $M$  is a torsion-free module over a integral domain. Thus by (Lam, T. Y. (1999), P.247),  $M$  is nonsingular. Thus the result follows from proposition 10 and (Asgari, S. & all(2012), Proposition 1.1).

**Remark 5** Let  $N \leq M$  and  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $f \neq 0$ . If  $f(N) \ll_e f(M)$ , then it is not necessarily that  $N \ll_e M$  for example: let  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, and let  $N = \langle \bar{3} \rangle \leq \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $f = 4\bar{x} \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z})$ . It is clear that  $f \neq 0$  and  $f(N) = f(\langle \bar{3} \rangle) = \{0\} \ll_e f(\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}) = f(M)$ , but  $\langle \bar{3} \rangle \not\ll_e \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Proposition 12** Let  $M$  be an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind nonsingular  $R$ -module. Let a nonzero  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$  such that for each  $N \leq M$ ,  $f(M)/f(N)$  is singular. If  $f(N) \ll_e f(M)$ , then  $N \ll_e M$ .

*Proof.* Let  $N + K = M$  where  $K \leq_e M$ . Then  $f(N) + f(K) = f(M)$ . Since  $M$  is nonsingular,  $f(M)$  is nonsingular. By hypothesis,  $f(M)/f(K)$  is singular, so,  $f(K) \leq_e f(M)$ . Since  $f(N) \ll_e f(M)$ ,  $f(K) = f(M)$ . It follows that  $M = \text{Ker}f + K$ . Thus  $K = M$  and so  $N \ll_e M$ .

**Corollary 1** Let  $M$  be an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind nonsingular  $R$ -module and a nonzero surjective  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ . Suppose that for each  $N \leq M$ ,  $M/f(N)$  is singular. Then  $N \ll_e M$  if and only if  $f(N) \ll_e M$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $N \ll_e M$ . Then by lemma 1,  $f(N) \ll_e M$ . The converse follows directly from proposition 12.

### Definition 6

1. A submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  $\delta$ -small ( $N \ll_{\delta} M$ , for short) if whenever  $N + L = M$  and  $M/L$  is singular then  $L = M$ .
2. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  $\delta$ -Hollow if every proper submodule of  $M$  is  $\delta$ -small in  $M$ .

3. A pair  $(P, f)$  is a  $\delta$ -projective cover of an  $R$ -module  $M$ , if  $P$  is a projective  $R$ -module and  $f : P \rightarrow M$  is an epimorphism and  $\text{Ker} f \ll_{\delta} P$ .

#### Remark 6

1. Every  $\delta$ -small submodule is  $e$ -small but not conversely (see (Zhou, D. X. & all (2000), P. 1052).
2. Obviously, every  $\delta$ -hollow is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind but not conversely; for example  $\mathbb{Q}$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind, but it is not  $\delta$ -hollow.

**Proposition 13** Let  $(P, f)$  is a  $\delta$ -projective cover of an  $R$ -module  $M$  such that  $P$  is  $\delta$ -Hollow. Then  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

*Proof.* We have  $f : P \rightarrow M$  is an epimorphism. Let  $g \in \text{End}_R(M)$  such that  $g \neq 0$ .  $f^{-1}(\text{Ker} g)$  is a proper submodule of  $P$ . Suppose that  $P$  is  $\delta$ -Hollow, then  $f^{-1}(\text{Ker} g) \ll_{\delta} P$  and by (Zhou, Y.Q.(2000), Lemma 1.3),  $f(f^{-1}(\text{Ker} g)) \ll_{\delta} M$ . But  $f(f^{-1}(\text{Ker} g)) = \text{Ker} g$ , then  $\text{Ker} g \ll_e M$ . Hence  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Definition 7** A ring  $R$  is called  $\delta$ -semiperfect if every simple  $R$ -module has projective  $\delta$ -cover.

Recall that a module is  $M$  called weakly co-Hopfian if for any endomorphism  $f \in \text{End}_R(M)$ ,  $f(M) \leq_e M$ .

**Proposition 14** Let  $R$  be an artinian principal ideal ring such that every projective  $R$ -module is  $\delta$ -hollow. Then every weakly co-Hopfian  $R$ -module is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a weakly co-Hopfian  $R$ -module. Since  $R$  is a artinian principal ideal ring, then by (Barry, M., & all (2010), Theorem 3.8),  $M$  is finitely generated. Thus by (Zhou, Y.Q.(2000), Theorem 3.6),  $M$  has a projective  $\delta$ -cover  $(P, f)$  because  $R$  is  $\delta$ -semiperfect. By hypothesis,  $P$  is  $\delta$ -Hollow. So by proposition 13,  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Definition 8** An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called coretractable if for any proper submodule  $N$  of  $M$ , there exists a nonzero homomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow M$  with  $f(N) = \{0\}$ , that is  $\text{Hom}_R(M/N, M) \neq \{0\}$ .

**Proposition 15** Let  $M$  be a coretractable  $R$ -module such that for any  $0 \neq f \in E$ ,  $\text{ann}_E(\text{Ker} f) \leq_e E$  where  $E = \text{End}_R(M)$ . Then  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

*Proof.* Let  $f \in E$  such that  $f \neq 0$ . Let  $K$  be a proper essential submodule  $K$  of  $M$ . There exists  $0 \neq g \in E$  with  $g(K) = \{0\}$ . Since  $\text{ann}_E(\text{Ker} f) \leq_e E$ , there exists  $h \in E$  such that  $0 \neq hg \in \text{ann}_E(\text{Ker} f)$ . Therefore,  $hg(\text{Ker} f + L) = \{0\}$  and hence  $\text{Ker} f + K \neq M$ . Thus  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M$  and so  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Proposition 16** Let  $M$  be a nonzero coretractable  $R$ -module. If  $E$  is uniform as  $E$ -module, then  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

*Proof.* Let  $f \in E$  such that  $f \neq 0$ . Suppose that  $E$  is uniform. Since  $\text{ann}_E(\text{Ker} f) \neq \{0\}$ , it is an essential ideal of  $E$ . By proposition 15,  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e M$  and so  $M$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Definition 9** Let  $R$  be a ring.

1. An element  $x \in R$  is left quasi-regular in case  $1-x$  has a left inverse in  $R$ . Similarly  $x \in R$  is right quasi-regular in case  $1-x$  has a right inverse in  $R$ .
2. An ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is left quasi-regular in case each element of  $I$  is left quasi-regular.

**Proposition 17** Let  $R$  be a ring such that every proper ideal of  $R$  is quasi-regular. Then  $R$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind  $R$ -module.

*Proof.* Let  $f \in \text{End}(R)$  such that  $f \neq 0$ . Let  $R = \text{Ker} f + J$ , with  $J \leq_e R$ . Then there exists  $x \in \text{Ker} f$  and  $j \in J$  with  $1 = x + j$ . So  $j = 1 - x$  is invertible whence  $1 \in J$  and  $J = R$ . Thus  $\text{Ker} f \ll_e R$  and so  $R$  is  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind.

**Remark 7** Let  $R$  be a nonzero ring such that any ideal in  $R$  is free as an  $R$ -module. Then  $R$  is an  $e$ -small quasi-Dedekind ring.

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