

1-1-2013

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### Recommended Citation

HAGHANY, AHMAD; MAZROOEI, MAJID; and VEDADI, MOHAMAD REZA (2013) "On the Krull dimension of endo-bounded modules," *Turkish Journal of Mathematics*: Vol. 37: No. 6, Article 4. <https://doi.org/10.3906/mat-1206-31>

Available at: <https://journals.tubitak.gov.tr/math/vol37/iss6/4>

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## On the Krull dimension of endo-bounded modules

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Received: 19.06.2012 • Accepted: 11.04.2013 • Published Online: 23.09.2013 • Printed: 21.10.2013

**Abstract:** Modules in which every essential submodule contains an essential fully invariant submodule are called endo-bounded. Let  $M$  be a nonzero module over an arbitrary ring  $R$  and  $X = \text{Spec}_2(M_R)$ , the set of all fully invariant  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodules of  $M_R$ . If  $M_R$  is a quasi-projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian such that  $(M/P)_R$  is endo-bounded for any  $P \in X$ , then it is shown that the Krull dimension of  $M_R$  is at most the classical Krull dimension of the poset  $X$ . The equality of these dimensions and some applications are obtained for certain modules. This gives a generalization of a well-known result on right fully bounded Noetherian rings.

**Key words:** Classical Krull dimension, endo-bounded module, FBN ring, Krull dimension,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian module,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime module

### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper rings will have unit elements and modules will be right unitary. The concept of the *classical Krull dimension* of an arbitrary poset  $X$  was originally defined in [2], denoted by  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(X)$ . For  $X = \text{Spec}(R)$ , the set of all prime ideals of a ring  $R$ ,  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(X)$  was already denoted by  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R)$  and called the classical Krull dimension of  $R$ ; see [7, Chapter 14]. The latter dimension is a crucial concept in commutative algebra. It is well known that a commutative Noetherian ring  $R$  is Artinian if and only if  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R) = 0$ . A suitable tool that measures how far a module  $M_R$  is from being Artinian is the *Krull dimension* of  $M_R$ ,  $\text{K.dim}(M_R)$ , in the sense of Gabriel and Rentchler; see [7, Chapter 15] for an excellent reference on the subject.

Generalizing commutative rings to *right bounded rings*  $R$  (i.e. every essential right ideal of  $R$  contains an ideal that is essential as a right ideal), it was proven that  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R) = \text{K.dim}(R_R)$  for every right fully bounded right Noetherian (r.FBN) ring  $R$  [7, Theorem 15.13]. A generalization of the latter equality to modules is the aim of the present work.

By a *prime module*  $M_R$ , we mean the “classical” notion of a prime module, that is,  $\text{ann}_R(M) = \text{ann}_R(N)$  for any  $0 \neq N \leq M_R$ . The set of all fully invariant submodules of a module  $M_R$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{L}_2(M)$ . Some generalizations of the concept of prime ideal and the classical Krull dimension of a ring were given by earlier authors. In [6], the poset of all prime submodules of a module was considered, and a principal ideal theorem analogue for modules was obtained. In [1],  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(X)$  was called the dimension of  $M_R$  when  $X$  is the poset of all distinguished prime submodules of  $M_R$ , and it was proven for faithful  $R$ -modules that the dimension is at

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2010 *AMS Mathematics Subject Classification*: Primary 16P60, 16P70; Secondary 16P40.

most equal to  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R)$ . Also in [3], the classical Krull dimension of a module was defined by considering the certain chains of prime submodules, where it is shown that this classical Krull dimension is equal to the Krull dimension for a multiplication module  $M_R$ . Although various generalizations of the classical Krull dimension of rings are already given, no comparison has been made between the Krull dimension and the classical Krull dimension of a module over an arbitrary ring.

In this paper, we consider the classical Krull dimension of the poset  $\text{Spec}_2(M_R)$ , the set of all fully invariant proper submodules  $P$  of  $M_R$  with the property  $\text{Hom}_R(M, W_1)W_2 \subseteq P \Rightarrow W_1 \subseteq P$  or  $W_2 \subseteq P$  where  $W_i \in \mathcal{L}_2(M)(i = 1, 2)$ . Proper submodules of  $M_R$  having the latter property were called  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime in [17]; see also [18] where the term “fully prime” was used for  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime. If  $(0)$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodule of  $M_R$ , then  $M$  is called an  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime  $R$ -module; see [4] as an original reference of such  $R$ -modules. Every fully invariant  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodule of a module is a prime submodule [17, Proposition 2.1(ii)]. We define fully endo-bounded modules that form a class of modules properly containing both the class of multiplication modules and the class of (fully) bounded modules in the sense of [8] and [11]. For a quasi-projective fully endo-bounded  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian module  $M_R$ , it is shown that  $\text{K.dim}(M_R)$  is at most equal to the classical Krull dimension of  $\text{Spec}_2(M_R)$ , and the equality is obtained for certain modules. This generalizes the similar result for r.FBN rings. Any unexplained terminology and all the basic results on rings and modules that are used in the sequel can be found in [7] and [13].

**2. Preliminaries**

We begin by recalling some definitions from [17]. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian if  $M$  finitely generates all of its fully invariant submodules and has ascending chain condition (acc) on them. Some examples of  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian modules are Noetherian self-generator modules and modules without nontrivial fully invariant submodules. Note that the module  $R_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian if and only if every ideal of  $R$  is finitely generated as a right ideal. A minimal  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodule means a minimal member among all  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodules of  $M_R$ . We shall use the notation  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$ ,  $N \leq_e M_R$  to denote respectively that  $N$  is a fully invariant, essential submodule of  $M_R$ , and  $W \star K$  for  $\text{Hom}_R(M, W)K$  where  $W, K \leq M_R$ . In the following, we present some facts on  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian and  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime modules for later use.

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module.*

- (i) *If  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$  and  $Q/N \trianglelefteq M/N$ , then  $Q \trianglelefteq M_R$ .*
- (ii) *If  $M$  is quasi-projective and  $K \leq L \trianglelefteq M_R$ , then  $L/K \trianglelefteq M/K$ .*
- (iii) *If  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ , then  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$  if and only if  $N = N_1 \oplus N_2$  for some  $N_i \trianglelefteq M_i$  with  $\text{Hom}_R(M_1, M_2)N_1 \subseteq N_2$  and  $\text{Hom}_R(M_2, M_1)N_2 \subseteq N_1$ .*
- (iv) *Let  $n \geq 1$ . Every fully invariant submodule of  $M^{(n)}$  has the form  $N^{(n)}$  for some  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$ .*

**Proof** These have routine arguments. □

**Proposition 2.2** *Let  $R$  be a ring,  $I \trianglelefteq R$  and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module.*

- (i) *If  $MI = 0$  then  $M_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian if and only if  $M_{R/I}$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian.*
- (ii)  *$M_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian if and only if  $M/N$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian for any  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$ .*

**Proof** We only prove (ii).  $M/N$  has acc on its fully invariant submodules by Lemma 2.1(i). On the other hand, if  $L/N \trianglelefteq M/N$  then  $L \trianglelefteq M$  and so  $M$  finitely generates  $L$  by our assumption. Hence, there exists

an  $R$ -epimorphism  $f : M^{(n)} \rightarrow L$  for some positive integer  $n$ . Let  $\iota_i : M \rightarrow M^{(n)}$  be the natural injection for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Since  $N \trianglelefteq M$ ,  $f\iota_i(N) \subseteq N$ . This shows that the map  $g : (M/N)^{(n)} \rightarrow L/N$  with  $g(x_1 + N, \dots, x_n + N) = f(x_1, \dots, x_n) + N$  is well defined. Clearly  $g$  is also an  $R$ -epimorphism. Thus,  $M/N$  finitely generates  $L/N$ , proving that  $M/N$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian. The converse is clear using  $N = 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.3** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $P \triangleleft M$ .*

(i) *Let  $M_R$  be quasi-projective. Then  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  if and only if for any  $W_1, W_2 \trianglelefteq M$ ,  $P \subsetneq W_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) implies  $W_1 \star W_2 \not\subseteq P$  if and only if  $M/P$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime  $R$ -module.*

(ii) *Let  $M_R$  be quasi-projective. If  $N \triangleleft M$  and  $N \leq P$  then  $P/N \in \text{Spec}_2(M/N)$  if and only if  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ .*

(iii) *Let  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $K \in \text{Spec}_2(M^{(n)})$  if and only if  $K = N^{(n)}$  for some  $N \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ .*

**Proof** (i) We only prove the first equivalence. One direction is clear. Assume that  $N_1, N_2 \trianglelefteq M$  with  $N_1 \star N_2 \subseteq P$ . We shall prove that  $N_1 \subseteq P$  or  $N_2 \subseteq P$ . If not,  $P \subset N_i + P$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $W_i = N_i + P$  ( $i=1,2$ ). Since  $P \triangleleft M$ ,  $W_i \trianglelefteq M$  ( $i=1,2$ ). We show that  $W_1 \star W_2 \subseteq P$ , which contradicts our assumption. Let  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, W_1)$  and  $x + y \in W_2$  where  $x \in N_2$  and  $y \in P$ . Since  $f(y) \in P$ , it is enough to show that  $f(x) \in W_1$ . Let  $\pi : W_1 \rightarrow W_1/P$  and  $\eta : N_1 \rightarrow N_1/(N_1 \cap P)$  be the natural projections and  $\theta : W_1/P \rightarrow N_1/(N_1 \cap P)$  be the natural isomorphism. Since  $M$  is quasi-projective, there exists  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N_1)$  such that  $\eta g = \theta \pi f$ . Thus,  $g(N_2) \subseteq N_1$  and  $g(x) - f(x) \in N_1 \cap P$ . Hence,  $f(x) = g(x) + (f(x) - g(x)) \in N_1 + P = W_1$ . The proof is now completed.

(ii) This follows from (i) and the fact that  $M/N$  is quasi-projective when  $N \trianglelefteq M$ .

(iii) Let  $K \in \text{Spec}_2(M^{(n)})$ . By Lemma 2.1(iv),  $K = N^{(n)}$  for some  $N \trianglelefteq M$ . Now if  $A \star B \subseteq N$  for some  $A, B \trianglelefteq M$ , then  $A^{(n)} \star B^{(n)} \subseteq K$ . Thus,  $A^{(n)} \subseteq K$  or  $B^{(n)} \subseteq K$ , and hence  $A \subseteq N$  or  $B \subseteq N$ . This shows that  $N \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ .

Similarly, the converse is proven by Lemma 2.1(iv).  $\square$

By [17, Proposition 2.5],  $\text{Spec}_2(M) \neq \emptyset$  when  $M_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian. In the following, we see an analogous result for certain quasi-projective modules.

**Corollary 2.4** *Let  $M_R$  be quasi-projective and  $P \triangleleft M$  such that  $P$  is maximal among all proper fully invariant submodules of  $M$ . Then  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ . In particular,  $\text{Spec}_2(M) \neq \emptyset$  if  $M_R$  is a nonzero quasi-projective with acc on fully invariant submodules.*

**Proof** Apply Proposition 2.3(i).  $\square$

Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. If  $M$  is  $M^{(\Lambda)}$ -projective for every index set  $\Lambda$ , then we say that  $M_R$  is  $\sum$ -projective. Finitely generated quasi-projective modules are known to be  $\sum$ -projective. It is easy to verify that a module  $M_R$  is  $\sum$ -projective if and only if  $(M/N)_R$  is so for any  $N \in \mathcal{L}_2(M_R)$ . In Proposition 2.6, for a  $\sum$ -projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime module, we obtain a generalization of the fact that “nonzero ideals in a prime ring are essential as right ideals”. First we prove the following Lemma.

**Lemma 2.5** *If  $M_R$  is  $\sum$ -projective and  $B, A \leq M_R$  then  $(B \star A) \star B \subseteq B \star (A \star B)$ .*

**Proof** Let  $D = A^{(\Lambda)}$  where  $\Lambda = \text{Hom}_R(M, B)$ . For any  $g \in \Lambda$  let  $\pi_g : D \rightarrow A$  be the natural projection map. Define  $h : D \rightarrow B \star A$  by  $h(x) = \sum_{g \in \Lambda} g(\pi_g(x))$ . Then  $h$  is an  $R$ -epimorphism. Suppose now that  $f : M \rightarrow B \star A$  is an  $R$ -homomorphism. Since  $M_R$  is  $\sum$ -projective,  $M$  is a  $D$ -projective  $R$ -module. Thus, there exists  $\alpha : M \rightarrow D$  such that  $h\alpha = f$ . Now for any  $b \in B$ ,  $f(b) = h(\alpha(b)) = \sum_{g \in \Lambda} g(\pi_g \alpha(b)) \in B \star (A \star B)$  because  $\pi_g \alpha \in \text{Hom}_R(M, A)$  for any  $g \in \Lambda$ . □

**Proposition 2.6** *Let  $M_R$  be a  $\sum$ -projective and  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M_R)$ . Then in the  $R$ -module  $M/P$ , every nonzero fully invariant submodule is essential.*

**Proof** Without loss of generality, we may suppose that  $M_R$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime module. Let  $0 \neq A \trianglelefteq M_R$  and  $A \cap N = 0$  for some  $N \leq M_R$ . Then  $N \star A \subseteq N \cap A = 0$ . Thus,  $A \star (N \star A) = 0$ , and hence  $(A \star N) \star A = 0$  by Lemma 2.5. Since now  $(A \star N) \trianglelefteq M$  and  $M_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime,  $A \star N = 0$ . It follows that  $IN = 0$  where  $I = \text{Hom}_R(M, A)$ . Since  $I \trianglelefteq S = \text{End}_R(M)$ , we see that  $0 = I(SN) = A \star SN$ . Thus,  $SN$  and hence  $N$  must be zero, proving that  $A \leq_e M_R$ .

A module  $M_R$  is called *endo-bounded* if every essential submodule of  $M_R$  contains a fully invariant essential submodule of  $M_R$ . The module  $M_R$  is called *fully endo-bounded* if  $M/P$  is endo-bounded as a module over  $R/\text{ann}_R(M/P)$  for any  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M_R)$ . □

**Proposition 2.7** *Let  $M_R$  be a module with  $MI = 0$  for some  $I \triangleleft R$ .*

- (i)  $M_{R/I}$  is (fully) endo-bounded if and only if  $M_R$  is (fully) endo-bounded.
- (ii) If  $M_R$  is quasi-projective then  $M_R$  is fully endo-bounded if and only if  $M/N$  is fully endo-bounded for any  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$ .

**Proof** (i). This has a routine proof using the facts that “  $N \leq_e M_R$  if and only if  $N \leq_e M_{R/I}$  ” and “  $\text{Spec}_2(M_R) = \text{Spec}_2(M_{R/I})$  ”.

(ii) This follows by Proposition 2.3(ii) and part (i). □

Following [8], a ring  $R$  is called *pre semi-Artinian* if for every prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ , the (right) socle of the ring  $R/P$  is nonzero. In the following, we give instances where (fully) endo-bounded modules appear.

**Lemma 2.8** *Let  $R$  be a pre semi-Artinian ring.*

- (i) If  $M_R$  is prime, then  $M_R$  is endo-bounded.
- (ii) If  $M_R$  is  $\sum$ -projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime, then it is endo-bounded or singular.

**Proof** (i) Let  $I = \text{ann}_R(M)$  and  $T = R/I$ . In view of Proposition 2.7(i), it is enough to show that  $M_T$  is endo-bounded. Assume that  $N \leq_e M_T$  and  $J = \text{ann}_T(M/N)$ . For any  $m \in M$ , let  $J_m = \text{ann}_T(m + N)$ . Since  $M/N$  is a singular  $T$ -module,  $J_m \leq_e T_T$  for any  $m \in M$ . Hence,  $J = \bigcap_{m \in M} J_m \supseteq \text{Soc}(T_T)$  is a nonzero ideal by hypothesis. Thus, it is enough to show that  $MJ \leq_e M_T$ . Let  $MJ \cap K = 0$  for some  $K \leq M_T$ . Then  $KJ = 0$ . Since now  $M_T$  is prime and faithful, we must have  $K = 0$ , as desired.

(ii) Suppose that  $M_R$  is not singular. As we see in (i), if  $N \leq_e M_R$ , then  $MI \subseteq N$  for some  $I \leq_e R_R$ . By our assumption  $MI$  is nonzero. Hence, the result is obtained by Proposition 2.6. □

**Corollary 2.9** *Over a pre semi-Artinian ring  $R$ , all  $R$ -modules are fully endo-bonded.*

**Proof** Apply Lemma 2.8(i) and the fact that for all  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ ,  $M/P$  is a prime module [17, Proposition 2.1]. □

**Remark 2.10** *In [8], a bounded module  $M_R$  was defined by the condition  $\text{ann}_R(M/N) \leq_e R_R$  for any  $N \leq_e M_R$ , and similarly  $M_R$  was called fully bounded if for all  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M_R)$ ,  $M/P$  is bounded. The proof of Lemma 2.8(i) shows that if  $M_T$  is a bounded faithful prime module, then it is an endo-bounded module. Thus, every fully bounded module is fully endo-bounded. However, it is easy to verify that  $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is fully endo-bounded because  $\text{Spec}_2(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbb{Z}}) = \{0\}$ , but not fully bounded because  $\text{ann}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) = 0$ .*

### 3. Classical Krull dimension for modules

In this section we introduce the classical Krull dimension for an arbitrary module  $M$  as the classical Krull dimension of the poset  $\text{Spec}_2(M)$  and investigate it for quasi-projective modules.

**Definition 3.1** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $X_{-1} = \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $\gamma$  is an ordinal number and  $X_\beta$  is defined for all  $\beta < \gamma$ . Let  $X_\gamma$  be the set of all  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  with the property that for any  $Q \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  with  $P \subset Q$ , there exists  $\beta < \gamma$  such that  $Q \in X_\beta$ . Note that  $X_i \subseteq X_j$  for all ordinal numbers  $i, j$  with  $i \leq j$ . The chain  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  will be called the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chain of  $M$ . We say that  $M_R$  has  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull dimension if there exists an ordinal number  $\alpha$  such that  $X_\alpha = \text{Spec}_2(M)$ . The smallest  $\alpha$  with this property will be called the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull dimension of  $M$  and will be denoted by  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$ . Note that if  $0 \in X_\beta$  for some ordinal number  $\beta$ , then  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) \leq \beta$ .*

By [2, Proposition 1.4],  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$  exists if and only if  $\text{Spec}_2(M)$  is a Noetherian poset, i.e. it satisfies the acc. If  $M_R$  is semisimple, then every element in  $\mathcal{L}_2(M_R)$  has the form  $\oplus_i M_i$  where each  $M_i$  is a homogeneous component of  $M_R$ . Hence, it is easy to verify that  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = 0$ . Therefore, Proposition 2.3(ii) shows that  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = 0$  when  $M_R$  is quasi-projective and  $R$  is a ring with  $(R/P)_R$  Artinian for all  $P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ .

**Proposition 3.2** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module,  $n \geq 1$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$  exists. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M^{(n)})$  exists and  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M) = \mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M^{(n)})$ .*

**Proof** This is obtained by Proposition 2.3(iii).

If  $R$  is a r.FBN ring, then by Proposition 3.2 and the fact that  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R) = \text{K.dim}(R)$ , we have  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = \text{K.dim}(M_R)$  for every finitely generated free  $R$ -module  $M$ . In Theorems 4.1 and 4.3, we will see a generalization of the latter equality. □

**Proposition 3.3** *Let  $M$  be a quasi-projective  $R$ -module and  $N \trianglelefteq M_R$ .*

- (i) *Assume that  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  and  $\{Y_j\}_{j \geq -1}$  are the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chains of  $M$  and  $M/N$ , respectively. Then  $P \in X_\alpha$  if and only if  $P/N \in Y_\alpha$  for any  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  with  $N \subseteq P$ .*
- (ii) *If  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = \alpha$  exists then  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}((M/N)_R)$  is at most equal to  $\alpha$ .*

**Proof** (i). The equivalence follows by definition and Proposition 2.3(ii).

(ii). This is obtained by (i). □

**Proposition 3.4** *Suppose that  $M_R$  is quasi-projective and  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) exists. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/(W_1 \star W_2)$ ) = Max  $\{\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/W_1$ ),  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/W_2$ ) $\}$  for every  $W_1, W_2 \leq M_R$ .*

**Proof** Let  $M_i = M/W_i$ ,  $L_i = W_i/(W_1 \star W_2)$  ( $i=1,2$ ),  $L = M/(W_1 \star W_2)$ ,  $\alpha = \mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_1$ ), and  $\beta = \mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_2$ ). Since  $L_i \leq L_R$  and  $M_i \simeq L/L_i$  ( $i=1,2$ ),  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_i$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $L/L_i$ )  $\leq \mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $L$ ) by Proposition 3.3(ii). This shows that  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $L$ )  $\geq$  Max $\{\alpha, \beta\}$ . For the converse, suppose that  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq -1}$ ,  $\{Y_i\}_{i \geq -1}$ , and  $\{Z_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  are the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chains of  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $M$ , respectively. Let  $P/(W_1 \star W_2) \in \text{Spec}_2(L)$ . Since  $W_1 \star W_2 \leq M_R$ ,  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  by Proposition 2.3(ii). Thus,  $W_1 \leq P$  or  $W_2 \leq P$ . This in turn implies  $P/W_1 \in X_\alpha$  or  $P/W_2 \in Y_\beta$ . Therefore,  $P \in Z_\alpha$  or  $P \in Z_\beta$  and so  $P \in Z_{\text{Max}\{\alpha, \beta\}}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $L$ )  $\leq$  Max $\{\alpha, \beta\}$ . The proof is now complete. □

**Corollary 3.5** *If  $M_R$  is quasi-projective with  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull dimension and  $P, P_0 \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  with  $P_0 \subset P$ , then  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P$ )  $<$   $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P_0$ ).*

**Proof** We may assume that  $P_0 = 0$ . Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq -1}, \{Y_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chains of  $M$  and  $M/P$ , respectively, and suppose  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) =  $\alpha$ . By our assumption  $0 \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ , and since now  $0 \subset P$ , there exists  $\beta < \alpha$  such that  $P \in X_\beta$ . It is enough to show that  $0 \in Y_\beta$ . Note that  $0 \in \text{Spec}_2(M/P)$  and suppose that  $0 \neq Q/P \in \text{Spec}_2(M/P)$ . Then  $P \subset Q$  and  $Q \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  by Proposition 3.3. Thus, there exists  $\gamma < \beta$  such that  $Q \in X_\gamma$ . Again by Proposition 3.3,  $Q/P \in Y_\gamma \subseteq Y_\beta$ . It follows that  $0 \in Y_\beta$ , as desired. □

**Proposition 3.6** *Suppose that  $M_R$  is quasi-projective,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime with acc on fully invariant submodules. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/N$ )  $<$   $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) for any nonzero  $N \in \mathcal{L}_2(M)$ .*

**Proof** If not, we shall have  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/N$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) for some  $0 \neq N \leq M$ . Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{0 \neq K \leq M \mid \mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/K$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) $\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $M$  has acc on fully invariant submodules,  $\mathcal{A}$  has a maximal member  $P$ . Applying Proposition 2.3(i), we first show that  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ . Thus, suppose that there exist nonzero fully invariant submodules  $W_1, W_2$  such that  $P \subseteq W_i$  ( $i=1,2$ ) and  $W_1 \star W_2 \subseteq P$ . Since  $M$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime,  $0 \neq W_1 \star W_2$ , and  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P$ )  $\leq \mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/(W_1 \star W_2)$ ). Thus,  $W_1 \star W_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ . Hence, by Proposition 3.4,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/W_1$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) or  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/W_2$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ), which in turn implies that  $W_1 \in \mathcal{A}$  or  $W_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ . It follows that  $W_1 = P$  or  $W_2 = P$ , proving that  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ . Now an application of Corollary 3.5 for  $P_0 = 0$  shows that  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P$ )  $<$   $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ), a contradiction. □

**Proposition 3.7** *Let  $M_R$  be quasi-projective with acc on fully invariant submodules. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) =  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P$ ) for some minimal  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodule  $P$  of  $M_R$ .*

**Proof** First note that  $\mathcal{L}_2(M)$  contains  $\{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$ , the set of all minimal  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodules of  $M_R$  by [17, Proposition 2.2]. Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chain of  $M$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M_R$ ) =  $\alpha$  and  $\beta = \text{Max}\{\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P_1$ ),  $\dots$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -dim( $M/P_n$ ) $\}$ . Then  $\alpha \geq \beta$  by Proposition 3.3(ii). If  $\alpha > \beta$ , then there exists

$P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  such that  $P \notin X_\beta$ . By [17, Proposition 2.1(i)], there exists  $1 \leq k \leq n$  with  $P_k \subseteq P$ . Let  $\{Y_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chain of  $M/P_k$ . By hypothesis,  $P_k \in \mathcal{L}_2(M)$ . Since now  $P \notin X_\beta$ ,  $P/P_k \notin Y_\beta$  by Proposition 3.3(i). Also,  $P/P_k \in \text{Spec}_2(M/P_k)$  by Proposition 2.3(ii). This shows that  $Y_\beta \neq \text{Spec}_2(M/P_k)$  while  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M/P_k) \leq \beta$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $\alpha = \beta$ .  $\square$

**4. Main results**

**Theorem 4.1** *If  $M_R$  is quasi-projective,  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian, and fully endo-bounded, then  $\text{K.dim}(M_R)$ , if it exists, is at most equal to  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$ .*

**Proof** By induction on  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$ . Suppose  $\text{K.dim}(M_R)$  exists. Since  $M_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian, by [17, Theorem 3.1] there exists  $P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$  such that  $\text{K.dim}(M_R) = \text{K.dim}((M/P)_R)$ . If  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = 0$ , we will show that  $(M/P)_R$  is semisimple. The existence of the Krull dimension then implies that  $(M/P)_R$  is Artinian; see, for example, [7, Ex. 15C]. Let  $N/P$  be a proper essential  $R$ -submodule of  $M/P$ . By hypothesis  $(M/P)_R$  is endo-bounded and so there exists  $K/P \trianglelefteq_e M/P$  such that  $K/P \subseteq N/P$ . By Proposition 2.2(ii), the quasi-projective  $R$ -module  $(M/P)/(K/P) \simeq M/K$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian. Apply now Corollary 2.4 for the  $R$ -module  $M/K$  to deduce that  $\text{Spec}_2(M/K) \neq \emptyset$ . It follows that  $M/P$  has a nonzero fully invariant  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime submodule and hence  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}((M/P)_R) \neq 0$ . Thus, by Proposition 3.3(ii),  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) \neq 0$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $(M/P)_R$  has no proper essential submodules, proving that  $M/P$  is a semisimple  $R$ -module.

Now assume that  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = \alpha$  and the result holds for any fully endo-bounded quasi-projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian  $R$ -module with  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull dimension less than  $\alpha$ . By [13, Lemma 2.8], it is enough to show that  $\text{K.dim}(M/N) < \alpha$  for any  $N/P \leq_e M/P$ . Suppose that  $N/P \leq_e M/P$ . Note that  $M/P$  is also a fully endo-bounded quasi-projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian  $R$ -module. Hence, there exists  $0 \neq K/P \trianglelefteq_e M/P$  such that  $K/P \subseteq N/P$ . Apply Proposition 3.6 for the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime  $R$ -module  $M/P$  to deduce that  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M/K) < \mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M/P) \leq \alpha$ . Therefore, by the induction assumption, we have  $\text{K.dim}(M/K) \leq \mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M/K) < \alpha$ . Because  $K \subseteq N$ , we must have  $\text{K.dim}(M/N) < \alpha$  [7, Lemma 15.1], as desired.

In the following we give some applications of our results for modules over pre semi-Artinian rings. Clearly every commutative ring with zero classical Krull dimension is pre semi-Artinian. There are also noncommutative pre semi-Artinian rings  $R$  that do not have Krull dimensions; for example, say  $R = \begin{bmatrix} F & 0 \\ M & F \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $F$  is a field, and  $M_F$  is nonfinitely generated free.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2** *Let  $R$  be a pre semi-Artinian ring and  $M_R$  be a quasi-projective Noetherian self-generator module. Then  $\text{K.dim}(M_R) \leq \mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$ .*

**Proof** By Corollary 2.9 and Theorem 4.1.

We are now going to investigate the inequality  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) \leq \text{K.dim}(M_R)$ . In [15] an  $R$ -module  $M$  was called *essentially compressible* if for every  $N \leq_e M$ , there exists an  $R$ -monomorphism  $M \rightarrow N$ . If  $R$  is a semiprime right Goldie ring, then nonsingular essentially compressible  $R$ -modules are precisely submodules of free  $R$ -modules [15, Theorem 2.3]. In particular, if  $R$  is a right Noetherian ring then  $(R/P)_R$  is essentially compressible for any prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ . Hence, the well-known result  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R) \leq \text{K.dim}(R_R)$  on right Noetherian rings may be obtained by the following result.  $\square$



**Theorem 4.3** *Assume that  $M_R$  is a  $\Sigma$ -projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian module with Krull dimension such that  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime factors of  $M$  are essentially compressible. Then  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) \leq \text{K.dim}(M_R)$ .*

**Proof** In view of Proposition 3.7 and [17, Theorem 3.1], without loss of generality, we may suppose that  $M_R$  is  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime. Now we give a proof by induction on  $\text{K.dim}(M_R)$ . If  $\text{K.dim}(M_R) = 0$ , then  $M_R$  is Artinian, and hence  $M_R$  is a homogeneous semisimple  $R$ -module by [17, Theorem 2.4]. This shows that  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R) = 0$ . Now assume that  $\text{K.dim}(M_R) = \alpha$  and let  $\{X_i\}_{i \geq -1}$  be the  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -classical Krull chain of  $M_R$ . We shall show that  $0 \in X_\alpha$ . Thus, suppose that  $0 \neq P \in \text{Spec}_2(M)$ . By hypothesis,  $M_R$  is  $\Sigma$ -projective and so  $P \leq_e M$  by Proposition 2.6. Also by our assumption,  $M$  is essentially compressible. Hence, there exists an  $R$ -monomorphism  $f: M \rightarrow P$ . It follows that  $\text{K.dim}((M/P)_R) < \text{K.dim}(M_R)$  by [7, Lemma 15.6]. Now by induction assumption, we have  $\mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M/P) \leq \text{K.dim}((M/P)_R) < \alpha$ . Thus, if  $\beta = \mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M/P)$ , then  $P \in X_\beta$  by Proposition 3.3(i), and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.4** *Let  $R$  be a pre semi-Artinian ring and  $M_R$  be  $\Sigma$ -projective  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -Noetherian such that  $\mathcal{L}_2$ -prime factors of  $M$  are essentially compressible. Then  $\text{K.dim}(M_R) = \mathcal{L}_2\text{-dim}(M_R)$  provided that  $\text{K.dim}(M_R)$  exists.*

**Proof** By Corollary 2.9 and Theorem 4.1.

The following result is a generalization of a well-known fact stating that the classical Krull dimension of a right Noetherian ring  $R$  is at most equal to the Krull dimension of  $R_R$  [13, 6.4.5].  $\square$

**Corollary 4.5** *Let  $R$  be a ring with Krull dimension in which every ideal is finitely generated as a right ideal. Then  $\text{Cl.K.dim}(R) \leq \text{K.dim}(R_R)$ .*

**Proof** This is obtained by Theorem 4.3 [15, Theorem 2.3].  $\square$

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