

Journal of Mathematical Extension  
Vol. 15, No. 2, (2021) (17)1-15  
URL: <https://doi.org/10.30495/JME.2021.1356>  
ISSN: 1735-8299  
Original Research Paper

## Primary Submodules over a Multiplicatively Closed Subset of a Commutative Ring

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we introduce the concept of primary submodules over  $S$  which is a generalization of the concept of  $S$ -prime submodules. Suppose  $S$  is a multiplicatively closed subset of a commutative ring  $R$  and let  $M$  be a unital  $R$ -module. A proper submodule  $Q$  of  $M$  with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$  is called primary over  $S$  if there is an  $s \in S$  such that, for all  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$ ,  $am \in Q$  implies that  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . We get some new results on primary submodules over  $S$ . Furthermore, we compare the concept of primary submodules over  $S$  with primary ones. In particular, we show that a submodule  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  if and only if  $(Q :_M s)$  is primary, for some  $s \in S$ .

**AMS Subject Classification:** 16p40; 13A15; 16D60

**Keywords and Phrases:** Multiplicatively closed subset, Multiplication module, Primary module, primary module over  $S$

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Received: July 2019; Accepted: July 2020

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## 1 Introduction

Throughout this paper,  $R$  will be a non-zero commutative ring with identity and all modules are unital. Let  $K$  and  $L$  be two submodules of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and  $I$  an ideal of  $R$ . We denote the ideal  $\{a \in R \mid aL \subseteq K\}$  by  $(K :_R L)$  and the submodule  $\{m \in M \mid Im \subseteq K\}$  by  $(K :_M I)$ . In particular, we use  $ann(M)$  instead of  $(0 :_R M)$  and  $(K :_M s)$  instead of  $(K :_M Rs)$ , where  $Rs$  is the principal ideal generated by an element  $s \in R$ . Also, the Jacobson radical of  $R$  is denoted by  $J(R)$  and we use  $U(R)$  for the set of all unit elements of  $R$ . By  $Max(R)$  we mean the set of all maximal ideals of  $R$ .

Recall that a proper submodule  $Q$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is primary if, for all  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ ,  $am \in Q$  implies that  $m \in Q$  or  $a^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ , see, for example, [3], [4], [8], [10] and [11]. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a multiplication module if  $N = (N :_R M)M$ , for every submodule  $N$  of  $M$  ([5] and [12]). A nonempty subset  $S$  of  $R$  is called a multiplicatively closed subset (briefly, m.c.s.) of  $R$  if  $0 \notin S$ ,  $1 \in S$  and  $ss' \in S$ , for all  $s, s' \in S$  ([13]). Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of  $R$  and  $P$  a submodule of  $M$  with  $(P :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then  $P$  is called an  $S$ -prime submodule of  $M$  if there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $am \in P$  implies that  $sm \in P$  or  $sa \in (P :_R M)$ , for each  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ . Note that by taking  $s = 1$ , every prime submodule is an  $S$ -prime submodule. In [9], the concept of  $S$ -prime submodules was defined. We generalize this concept to primary submodules over  $S$ . A submodule  $Q$  of  $M$  with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$  is called primary over  $S$  if there exists  $s \in S$  such that, for all  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ ,  $am \in Q$  implies that  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Since  $1 \in S$ , all primary submodules  $Q$  with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$  are primary over  $S$ . With an additional assumption, we show that the converse is true. Being  $Q$  a primary submodule over  $S$  is related to being  $(Q :_R M)$  is so as an ideal. Also, If  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module, then we find an equivalent condition for a proper submodule  $Q$  to be primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .

## 2 Main Results

**Definition 2.1.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $Q$  a submodule of*

$M$  as an  $R$ -module with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then  $Q$  is called a primary submodule over  $S$  if there exists  $s \in S$  such that, for all  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ ,  $am \in Q$  implies that  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ .

Clearly every  $S$ -prime submodule is primary over  $S$ . For instance, in a vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$ , every proper submodule  $W$  of  $V$  is  $S$ -prime and so primary over  $S$ , where  $S$  is an arbitrary m.c.s. of  $F$ .

**Example 2.2.** Let  $p$  be a fixed prime number. Each proper submodule of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}$  is of the form  $G_k = (\frac{1}{p^k} + \mathbb{Z})$ , for some integer  $k \geq 0$  and  $(G_k :_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}) = 0$ . Take the m.c.s.  $S = \{1, q, q^2, \dots\}$ , for some prime number  $q \neq p$ . Note that  $p(\frac{1}{p^{k+1}} + \mathbb{Z}) \in G_k$  but, for each  $s \in S$ ,  $s(\frac{1}{p^{k+1}} + \mathbb{Z}) \notin G_k$  and  $sp^n \notin (G_k :_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}) = 0$ , for all positive integer  $n$ . Hence  $G_k$  is not primary over  $S$ , for all non-negative integers  $k$  and so  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}$  does not have any primary submodule over  $S$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** Suppose  $S$  is a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $M$  is an  $R$ -module. If  $S \subseteq U(R)$  and  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  then  $Q$  is primary.

**Proof.** Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ , so there exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in Q$ . By assumption, as  $s \in S \subseteq U(R)$ ,  $m \in Q$  or  $a^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Therefore  $Q$  is primary.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.4.** Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be multiplicatively closed subsets of the ring  $R$  such that  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ ,  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $Q$  a primary submodule over  $S_1$  of  $M$  with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S_1 = \emptyset$ . Then  $Q$  is primary over  $S_2$  in case  $(Q :_R M) \cap S_2 = \emptyset$ .

**Proof.** Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S_1$  so there exists  $s_1 \in S_1$  satisfying the definition. Let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in Q$ . By hypothesis,  $s_1 m \in Q$  or  $s_1 a^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . But  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ . Thus  $s_1 \in S_2$  and we get the result.  $\square$

Recall that, for the m.c.s  $S$  of the ring  $R$ , the saturation  $S^*$  of  $S$  is defined as

$$S^* = \{x \in R \mid \frac{x}{1} \in U(S^{-1}R)\}.$$

Clearly,  $S^*$  is a m.c.s. of  $R$  containing  $S$  ([6]).

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$ ,  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$ . Then  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  if and only if  $Q$  is primary over  $S^*$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ . We show that  $(Q :_R M) \cap S^* = \emptyset$ . For this, let  $x \in (Q :_R M) \cap S^*$ . So  $\frac{x}{1} \in U(S^{-1}R)$  and there exist  $a \in R$ ,  $s \in S$  such that  $\frac{xa}{s} = 1$  which implies that  $uxa = us$ , for some  $u \in S$ . Put  $us = s' \in S$ . Then  $s' = us = uxa \in (Q :_R M) \cap S$ , a contradiction. So  $(Q :_R M) \cap S^* = \emptyset$ . Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  and  $S \subseteq S^*$ , by the above proposition,  $Q$  is primary over  $S^*$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $Q$  is primary over  $S^*$ . So there exists  $s^* \in S^*$  satisfying the definition. Let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in Q$ . By hypothesis,  $s^*m \in Q$  or  $s^*a^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Also,  $s^* \in S^*$ . Thus there exist  $s \in S$  and  $b \in R$  such that  $\frac{s^*b}{s} = 1$  and so  $us = us^*b$ , for some  $u \in S$ . By taking  $us = s' \in S$ ,  $s'm = usm = us^*bm \in Q$  or  $s'a^n = usa^n = us^*ba^n \in (Q :_R M)$ . Therefore  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$ ,  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$ . If  $Q$  is a primary submodule over  $S$  then  $S^{-1}Q$  is a primary submodule of  $S^{-1}M$  as an  $S^{-1}R$ -module.*

**Proof.** Assume that  $Q$  is a primary submodule over  $S$ . Let  $\frac{r}{s} \frac{m}{t} \in S^{-1}Q$ , where  $\frac{r}{s} \in S^{-1}R$  and  $\frac{m}{t} \in S^{-1}M$ . There exist  $q \in Q$  and  $v \in S$  such that  $\frac{rm}{st} = \frac{q}{v}$  and so  $uvm = ustq \in Q$ , for some  $u \in S$ . Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ , there exists  $s' \in S$  so that  $s'm \in Q$  or  $s'(uvr)^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Thus  $\frac{m}{t} = \frac{s'm}{s't} \in S^{-1}Q$  or  $\frac{r^n}{s^n} = \frac{s'(uvr)^n}{s'(uvs)^n} \in S^{-1}(Q :_R M) \subseteq (S^{-1}Q :_{S^{-1}R} S^{-1}M)$ . Therefore  $S^{-1}Q$  is a primary submodule of  $S^{-1}M$  as an  $S^{-1}R$ -module.  $\square$

The converse of the above proposition is not true in general.

**Example 2.7.** Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the field of rational numbers. Take  $N = \mathbb{Z} \times 0$  and  $S = \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ . Then  $S$  is a m.c.s. of  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $S^{-1}\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Q}$  is a field. So  $S^{-1}(\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q})$  is a vector space over  $S^{-1}\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Q}$  and the proper submodule  $S^{-1}N$  is a primary submodule of  $S^{-1}(\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q})$ . Obviously,  $(N :_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q}) = 0$ . Let  $s$  be an arbitrary element of  $S$  and choose a prime number  $p$  with  $(p, s) = 1$ .

Note that  $p(\frac{1}{p}, 0) = (1, 0) \in N$ ,  $s(\frac{1}{p}, 0) = (\frac{s}{p}, 0) \notin N = \mathbb{Z} \times 0$  and  $sp^n \notin (N :_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q})$ , for each positive integer  $n$ , which shows that  $N$  is not primary over  $S$ .

Now, we characterize primary submodules over  $S$  of modules over the ring  $R$  in case  $R$  is Noetherian.

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring,  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$ . Suppose that  $S$  is a m.c.s. of  $R$  such that  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

(i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ ;

(ii) There exists  $s \in S$  such that, for each ideal  $J$  of  $R$  and submodule  $N$  of  $M$ ,  $JN \subseteq Q$  implies that  $sN \subseteq Q$  or  $sJ^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Assume that  $Q$  is a primary submodule over  $S$ . Thus there exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Let  $J$  be an ideal of  $R$ ,  $N$  a submodule of  $M$  and  $JN \subseteq Q$ . If  $sN \subseteq Q$  we are done. Otherwise, there exists  $x \in N$  such that  $sx \notin Q$ . But  $R$  is a Noetherian ring and  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$ . Therefore  $J = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$ . We have  $a_i x \in Q$ , for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  and  $sx \notin Q$  so, for each  $i = 1, \dots, k$ ,  $sa_i^{k_i} \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $k_i$ . Put  $n = \sum_{i=1}^k (k_i - 1) + 1$ . In this case,  $sJ^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in Q$ . Put  $J = Ra$  and  $N = Rm$ . Then  $JN = Ram \subseteq Q$ . By assumption,  $sN = Rsm \subseteq Q$  or  $sJ^n = Rsa^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$  and so either  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ . Therefore  $Q$  is a primary submodule over  $S$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.9.** *Suppose that  $S$  is a m.c.s. of a Noetherian ring  $R$  and  $Q$  an ideal of  $R$  such that  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

(i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ ;

(ii) There exists  $s \in S$  such that, for every ideals  $I$  and  $J$  of  $R$ , if  $JI \subseteq Q$  then  $sI \subseteq Q$  or  $sJ^n \subseteq Q$ , for some positive integer  $n$ .

**Proposition 2.10.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $f : M \longrightarrow M'$  an  $R$ -homomorphism. Then*

(i) If  $Q'$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M'$  provided that  $(f^{-1}(Q') :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ , then  $f^{-1}(Q')$  is so in  $M$ .

(ii) If  $f$  is an epimorphism and  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$  such that  $\text{Ker}f \subseteq Q$ , then  $f(Q)$  is so in  $M'$ .

**Proof.** (i) Since  $Q'$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M'$ , there exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Let  $am \in f^{-1}(Q')$ , for some  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ . Then  $f(am) = af(m) \in Q'$ . By assumption,  $sf(m) = f(sm) \in Q'$  or  $sa^n \in (Q' :_R M')$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Now we show that  $(Q' :_R M') \subseteq (f^{-1}(Q') :_R M)$ . Take  $x \in (Q' :_R M')$ , we have  $xM' \subseteq Q'$ . Since  $f(M) \subseteq M'$ ,  $f(xM) = xf(M) \subseteq xM' \subseteq Q'$  so  $xM \subseteq xM + \text{Ker}f = f^{-1}(f(xM)) \subseteq f^{-1}(Q')$  and thus  $x \in (f^{-1}(Q') :_R M)$ . As  $(Q' :_R M') \subseteq (f^{-1}(Q') :_R M)$ , we can conclude either  $sm \in f^{-1}(Q')$  or  $sa^n \in (f^{-1}(Q') :_R M)$ . Hence  $f^{-1}(Q')$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .

(ii) First we claim that  $(f(Q) :_R M') \cap S = \emptyset$ . Otherwise, there exists an element  $s \in (f(Q) :_R M') \cap S$  and so  $f(sM) = sf(M) \subseteq sM' \subseteq f(Q)$ . By taking their inverse images under  $f$ , we have  $sM \subseteq sM + \text{Ker}f \subseteq Q + \text{Ker}f = Q$ , which means  $sM \subseteq Q$ . Thus  $s \in (Q :_R M) \cap S$ , a contradiction. By assumption,  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ . Then there exists an element  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Now take  $a \in R$ ,  $m' \in M'$  such that  $am' \in f(Q)$ . As  $f$  is an epimorphism, there exists  $m \in M$  such that  $m' = f(m)$ . Hence  $am' = af(m) = f(am) \in f(Q)$ . Since  $\text{Ker}f \subseteq Q$ ,  $am \in Q$ . But  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ . Hence we have  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . But  $(Q :_R M) \subseteq (f(Q) :_R M')$ . Therefore  $f(sm) = sf(m) = sm' \in f(Q)$  or  $sa^n \in (f(Q) :_R M')$ . Consequently,  $f(Q)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M'$ .  $\square$

Being  $f$  an epimorphism in part (ii) is essential. Let us give an example.

**Example 2.11.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $M = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $S = \{-1, 1\}$  and  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  with  $f(x) = 6x$ . Then  $f$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -homomorphism which is not onto. By Proposition 2.3, primary and primary submodules over  $S$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  are the same. We know that  $0$  and  $(p)^n$ , where  $p$  is an arbitrary prime number and  $n$  a positive integer, are all primary submodules in  $\mathbb{Z}$  ([3]). Let  $Q = 3\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $Q$  is primary and  $f(Q) = 18\mathbb{Z}$  is not primary.

**Corollary 2.12.** Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $L$  a submodule of

the  $R$ -module  $M$ . Then

(i) If  $Q'$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$  with  $(Q' :_R L) \cap S = \emptyset$  then  $L \cap Q'$  is primary over  $S$  in  $L$ .

(ii) Suppose that  $Q$  is a submodule of  $M$  with  $L \subseteq Q$ . Then  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$  if and only if  $\frac{Q}{L}$  is so in  $\frac{M}{L}$ .

**Proof.** (i) Consider the injection  $i : L \rightarrow M$  defined by  $i(m) = m$ , for all  $m \in L$ . Then  $i^{-1}(Q') = L \cap Q'$ . Now we claim that  $(i^{-1}(Q') :_R L) \cap S = \emptyset$ . For it, let  $s \in (i^{-1}(Q') :_R L) \cap S$ . Then  $sL \subseteq i^{-1}(Q') = L \cap Q' \subseteq Q'$  and thus  $s \in (Q' :_R L) \cap S$ , a contradiction. The result follows by Proposition 2.10.

(ii) Let  $Q$  be primary over  $S$  in  $M$  and  $\pi : M \rightarrow \frac{M}{L}$  be the canonical epimorphism defined by  $\pi(m) = m + L$ , for all  $m \in M$ . Since  $L = \text{Ker}\pi \subseteq Q$  so  $\frac{Q}{L}$  is primary over  $S$  in  $\frac{M}{L}$ , by Proposition 2.10 part (ii).

Conversely, assume that  $\frac{Q}{L}$  is primary over  $S$  in  $\frac{M}{L}$ . There exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Let  $am \in Q$ , for some  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ . This implies that  $a(m + L) = am + L \in \frac{Q}{L}$ . By assumption,  $s(m+L) = sm+L \in \frac{Q}{L}$  or  $sa^n \in (\frac{Q}{L} :_R \frac{M}{L}) = (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Therefore,  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ . Consequently,  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.13.** Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $M$  an  $R$ -module. The following statements hold.

(i) If  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$  then  $(Q :_R M)$  is so in  $R$ .

(ii) If  $R$  is Noetherian,  $M$  a multiplication module over  $R$  and  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ , then  $Q$  is so in  $M$ .

**Proof.** (i) Let  $Q$  be primary over  $S$  in  $M$ . There exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Let  $xy \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some  $x, y \in R$ . Then  $xym \in Q$ , for all  $m \in M$ . If  $sx^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ , we are done. Otherwise,  $sym \in Q$ , for all  $m \in M$  which means that  $sy \in (Q :_R M)$ . Therefore  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .

(ii) Assume that  $M$  is a multiplication module over a Noetherian ring  $R$  and  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ . There exists  $s \in S$  satisfying in Corollary 2.9 part (ii). Let  $J$  be an ideal of  $R$  and  $N$  a submodule of  $M$  with  $JN \subseteq Q$ . Then  $J(N :_R M) \subseteq (JN :_R M) \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ . As  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ ,  $s(N :_R M) \subseteq (Q :_R M)$  or  $sJ^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Thus  $sN = s(N :_R$

$M)M \subseteq (Q :_R M)M = Q$  or  $sJ^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ . By Lemma 2.8,  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .  $\square$

Let  $K$  and  $L$  be submodules of the multiplication  $R$ -module  $M$ . Recall that the product of  $K$  and  $L$  is defined as  $KL = (K :_R M)(L :_R M)M$  ([1]).

**Corollary 2.14.** *Let  $M$  be a multiplication module over a Noetherian ring  $R$  and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$  with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ , where  $S$  is a m.c.s. of  $R$ . The following are equivalent.*

(i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ ;

(ii) There exists  $s \in S$  such that, for every two submodules  $K$  and  $L$  of  $M$  with  $KL \subseteq Q$ ,  $sL \subseteq Q$  or  $sK^n \subseteq Q$ , for some positive integer  $n$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) There exists  $s \in S$  satisfying in Lemma 2.8 part (ii). Let  $K$  and  $L$  be submodules of  $M$  with  $KL \subseteq Q$ . Then  $(K :_R M)(L :_R M)M \subseteq Q$  and so  $s(L :_R M)M \subseteq Q$  or  $s(K :_R M)^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Hence  $sL \subseteq Q$  or  $s(K :_R M)^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ . If  $sL \subseteq Q$  we are done. Otherwise,  $s(K :_R M)^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$  and so  $s(K :_R M)^n M \subseteq (Q :_R M)M = Q$ . Therefore  $sK^n \subseteq Q$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Let  $am \in Q$ , for some  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ . Put  $L = Rm$  and  $J = Ra$ . Then  $JL \subseteq Q$  and  $JLM \subseteq QM = Q$ . Take  $K = JM$ . In this case,  $KL \subseteq Q$ . By hypothesis,  $sL \subseteq Q$  or  $sK^n \subseteq Q$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Then we have  $sL \subseteq Q$  or  $s(K :_R M)^n M \subseteq Q$ . If  $sL \subseteq Q$ , since  $L = Rm$  so  $sm \in Q$  and we are done. Now suppose that  $s(K :_R M)^n M \subseteq Q$ . Since  $K = JM$  and  $J = Ra$ ,  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ . Therefore  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.15.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the Noetherian ring  $R$  and  $M$  a finitely generated multiplication  $R$ -module. For a submodule  $Q$  of  $M$  with  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ , the following are equivalent.*

(i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ ;

(ii)  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ ;

(iii)  $Q = IM$ , for some primary ideal  $I$  over  $S$  in  $R$  with  $\text{ann}(M) \subseteq I$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) It is clear by Proposition 2.13.

(ii)  $\implies$  (iii) By taking  $I = (Q :_R M)$ , we get the result.



(iii)  $\implies$  (i) Suppose that  $Q = IM$ , for some primary ideal  $I$  over  $S$  in  $R$  with  $\text{ann}(M) \subseteq I$ . There exists  $s \in S$  satisfying in Corollary 2.9 part (ii). Assume that  $JN \subseteq Q$ , for some ideal  $J$  of  $R$  and submodule  $N$  of  $M$ . Then  $J(N :_R M)M \subseteq IM$ . By [12],  $J(N :_R M) \subseteq I + \text{ann}M = I$ . By hypothesis,  $s(N :_R M) \subseteq I \subseteq (Q :_R M)$  or  $sJ^n \subseteq I \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . So  $sN \subseteq Q$  or  $sJ^n \subseteq (Q :_R M)$ . Hence  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.16.** *Let  $S_i$  be a m.c.s of the ring  $R_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Put  $S = S_1 \times S_2$  as a m.c.s. of the ring  $R = R_1 \times R_2$ . For each ideal  $Q = Q_1 \times Q_2$  of  $R$ , the following are equivalent.*

(i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ ;

(ii)  $Q_1$  is primary over  $S_1$  in  $R_1$  and  $Q_2 \cap S_2 \neq \emptyset$  or  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$  in  $R_2$  and  $Q_1 \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Suppose that  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ . There exists  $s = (s_1, s_2) \in S$  satisfying the definition. Since  $(1, 0)(0, 1) = (0, 0) \in Q$ , so  $s(0, 1) = (0, s_2) \in Q$  or  $s(1, 0)^n = (s_1, 0) \in Q$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Thus  $s_1 \in Q_1 \cap S_1$  or  $s_2 \in Q_2 \cap S_2$ . Therefore  $Q_1 \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$  or  $Q_2 \cap S_2 \neq \emptyset$ . We may assume that  $Q_1 \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$  and show  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$  in  $M_2$ . Since  $Q \cap S = \emptyset$  so  $Q_2 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$ . Let  $xy \in Q_2$ , for some  $x, y \in R_2$ . Since  $(0, x)(0, y) \in Q$  and  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ , either  $s(0, y) = (0, s_2y) \in Q$  or  $s(0, x)^n = (0, s_2x^n) \in Q$ . This means that  $s_2y \in Q_2$  or  $s_2x^n \in Q_2$ . Therefore  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$  in  $R_2$ . In other case, one can easily show that  $Q_1$  is primary over  $S_1$  in  $R_1$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Assume that  $Q_1 \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$  in  $R_2$ . We show that  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ . Since  $Q_1 \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$ , there exists  $s_1 \in Q_1 \cap S_1$ . Moreover, we have  $s_2 \in S_2$  satisfying the definition of being primary over  $S_2$ . Let  $(a, b)(c, d) = (ac, bd) \in Q$ , for some  $a, c \in R_1$  and  $b, d \in R_2$ . This implies that  $bd \in Q_2$  and thus  $s_2d \in Q_2$  or  $s_2b^n \in Q_2$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Put  $s = (s_1, s_2) \in S$ . Then  $s(c, d) = (s_1c, s_2d) \in Q$  or  $s(a, b)^n = (s_1a^n, s_2b^n) \in Q$ . Therefore  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ . In the other case, one can similarly prove that  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.17.** *Let  $S_i$  be a m.c.s of the ring  $R_i$  and  $M_i$  an  $R_i$ -module, for  $i = 1, 2$ . Suppose that  $Q = Q_1 \times Q_2$  is a submodule of  $M = M_1 \times M_2$  as an  $R = R_1 \times R_2$ -module. The following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ ;  
(ii)  $Q_1$  is primary over  $S_1$  in  $M_1$  and  $(Q_2 :_{R_2} M_2) \cap S_2 \neq \emptyset$  or  $(Q_1 :_{R_1} M_1) \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$  in  $M_2$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Assume that  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ . We have  $s = (s_1, s_2) \in S$  satisfying the definition. By Proposition 2.13,  $(Q :_R M) = (Q_1 :_{R_1} M_1) \times (Q_2 :_{R_2} M_2)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ , and so by Lemma 2.16, either  $(Q_1 :_{R_1} M_1) \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$  or  $(Q_2 :_{R_2} M_2) \cap S_2 \neq \emptyset$ . We may assume that  $(Q_1 :_{R_1} M_1) \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $am \in Q_2$ , for some  $a \in R_2$ ,  $m \in M_2$ . Then  $(1, a)(0, m) = (0, am) \in Q$ . Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  so  $s(0, m) = (0, s_2m) \in Q$  or  $s(1, a)^n = (s_1, s_2a^n) \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . This implies that  $s_2m \in Q_2$  or  $s_2a^n \in (Q_2 :_{R_2} M_2)$ . Therefore  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$ . In the other case, one can similarly show that  $Q_1$  is primary over  $S_1$  in  $M_1$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Assume that  $(Q_1 :_{R_1} M_1) \cap S_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$  in  $M_2$ . Thus there exists  $s_1 \in (Q_1 :_{R_1} M_1) \cap S_1$  and we have  $s_2 \in S_2$  satisfying the definition of primary over  $S_2$ . Now, let  $(a_1, a_2)(m_1, m_2) = (a_1m_1, a_2m_2) \in Q$ , for some  $a_i \in R_i$  and  $m_i \in M_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Then  $a_2m_2 \in Q_2$ . Since  $Q_2$  is primary over  $S_2$ , so  $s_2m_2 \in Q_2$  or  $s_2a_2^n \in (Q_2 :_{R_2} M_2)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Put  $s = (s_1, s_2) \in S$ . Then  $s(m_1, m_2) = (s_1m_1, s_2m_2) \in Q = Q_1 \times Q_2$  or  $s(a_1, a_2)^n = (s_1a_1^n, s_2a_2^n) \in (Q :_R M)$ . Therefore  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ . Similarly, one can show that if  $Q_1$  is primary over  $S_1$  in  $M_1$  and  $(Q_2 :_{R_2} M_2) \cap S_2 \neq \emptyset$ , then  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.18.** *Let  $S_i$  be a m.c.s of the ring  $R_i$  and  $M_i$  an  $R_i$ -module, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Take  $M = M_1 \times M_2 \times \dots \times M_n$  as an  $R = R_1 \times R_2 \times \dots \times R_n$ -module and  $S = S_1 \times S_2 \times \dots \times S_n$  as a m.c.s. of  $R$ . Assume that  $Q = Q_1 \times Q_2 \times \dots \times Q_n$  is a submodule of  $M$ . The following statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ ;  
(ii)  $Q_i$  is primary over  $S_i$  in  $M_i$ , for some  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $(Q_j :_{R_j} M_j) \cap S_j \neq \emptyset$ , for all  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} - \{i\}$ .

**Proof.** We prove it by induction on  $n$ . For  $n = 1$ , the result is true. If  $n = 2$  then (i)  $\iff$  (ii) follows from Theorem 2.17. Assume that (i) and (ii) are equivalent for every positive integer  $k < n$ . Now, we shall prove that (i)  $\iff$  (ii) when  $k = n$ . Put  $M' = M_1 \times M_2 \times \dots \times M_{n-1}$ ,

$R' = R_1 \times R_2 \times \cdots \times R_{n-1}$ ,  $Q' = Q_1 \times Q_2 \times \cdots \times Q_{n-1}$  and  $S' = S_1 \times S_2 \times \cdots \times S_{n-1}$ . By Theorem 2.17,  $Q = Q' \times Q_n$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$  if and only if  $Q'$  is primary over  $S'$  in  $M'$  and  $(Q_n :_{R_n} M_n) \cap S_n \neq \emptyset$  or  $(Q' :_{R'} M') \cap S' \neq \emptyset$  and  $Q_n$  is primary over  $S_n$  in  $M_n$ . The rest follows from the induction hypothesis.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.19.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s of the ring  $R$  and  $Q$  a primary submodule over  $S$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$ . The following statements hold, for some  $s \in S$ .*

- (i)  $(Q :_M s') \subseteq (Q :_M s)$ , for all  $s' \in S$ .
- (ii)  $((Q :_R M) :_R s') \subseteq ((Q :_R M) :_R s)$ , for all  $s' \in S$ .

**Proof.** (i) Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$  so there exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. By taking  $s' \in S$  and  $m' \in (Q :_M s')$ ,  $s'm' \in Q$ . Thus  $sm' \in Q$  or  $ss'^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Since  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$  so  $sm' \in Q$ , which means that  $m' \in (Q :_M s)$ .

(ii) We know that  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ , so it is enough to replace  $(Q :_R M)$  instead of  $Q$  in part (i).  $\square$

**Proposition 2.20.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$ ,  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$  satisfying  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ . The following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ ;
- (ii)  $S^{-1}Q$  is a primary submodule of  $S^{-1}M$  and there exists  $s \in S$  satisfying  $(Q :_M s') \subseteq (Q :_M s)$ , for all  $s' \in S$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) It is clear from Proposition 2.6 and Lemma 2.19.

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in Q$ . Then  $\frac{am}{1} \in S^{-1}Q$ . Since  $S^{-1}Q$  is a primary submodule of  $S^{-1}M$  and  $M$  is finitely generated so  $\frac{m}{1} \in S^{-1}Q$  or  $\frac{a^n}{1} \in (S^{-1}Q :_{S^{-1}R} S^{-1}M) = S^{-1}(Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Thus  $u'm \in Q$  or  $ua^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some  $u, u' \in S$ . By assumption, there exists  $s \in S$  so that  $(Q :_M s') \subseteq (Q :_M s)$ , for all  $s' \in S$ . If  $ua^n \in (Q :_R M)$  then  $a^n M \subseteq (Q :_M u) \subseteq (Q :_M s)$  and thus  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ . If  $u'm \in Q$  a similar argument shows that  $sm \in Q$ . Therefore  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.21.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$ ,  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$  such that  $(Q :_R M) \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$  if and only if  $(Q :_M s)$  is primary in  $M$ , for some  $s \in S$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $(Q :_M s)$  is primary in  $M$ , for some  $s \in S$ . Let  $am \in Q$ , for some  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ . Since  $am \in Q \subseteq (Q :_M s)$  and  $(Q :_M s)$  is primary, so  $m \in (Q :_M s)$  or  $a^n \in ((Q :_M s) :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . This implies that  $sm \in Q$  or  $sa^n \in (Q :_R M)$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $M$ . Then there exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Now we prove that  $(Q :_M s)$  is primary in  $M$ . For it, let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in (Q :_M s)$ . Then  $(sa)m \in Q$ . Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  so  $sm \in Q$  or  $s^{n+1}a^n \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . If  $sm \in Q$  we are done. Otherwise  $s^{n+1}a^n \in (Q :_R M)$  and so, by Lemma 2.19,  $a^n \in ((Q :_R M) :_R s^{n+1}) \subseteq ((Q :_R M) :_R s)$ . Thus we can conclude that  $a^n \in ((Q :_M s) :_R M)$  and hence  $(Q :_M s)$  is primary.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.22.** *Let  $M$  be a module over the ring  $R$  and  $Q$  a submodule of  $M$  such that  $(Q :_R M) \subseteq J(R)$ , where  $J(R)$  is the Jacobson radical of  $R$ . The following statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $Q$  is primary in  $M$ ;
- (ii)  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary and  $Q$  is primary over  $R - \mathfrak{m}$ , for all maximal ideals  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $R$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Suppose that  $Q$  is primary. Since  $(Q :_R M) \subseteq J(R)$ , so  $(Q :_R M) \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$ , for all maximal ideals  $\mathfrak{m}$ . Hence  $(Q :_R M) \cap (R - \mathfrak{m}) = \emptyset$ , for all maximal ideals  $\mathfrak{m}$ . The rest follows clearly.

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Suppose  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary and  $Q$  is primary over  $R - \mathfrak{m}$ , for all maximal ideals  $\mathfrak{m}$ . Let  $a \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $am \in Q$  with  $a^n \notin (Q :_R M)$ , for each positive integer  $n$ . Let  $\mathfrak{m}$  be a maximal ideal. Since  $Q$  is primary over  $R - \mathfrak{m}$  so there exists  $s_{\mathfrak{m}} \in R - \mathfrak{m}$  such that  $s_{\mathfrak{m}}m \in Q$  or  $s_{\mathfrak{m}}a^k \in (Q :_R M)$ , for some positive integer  $k$ . But  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary,  $s_{\mathfrak{m}} \notin (Q :_R M)$  and  $a^n \notin (Q :_R M)$ , for each positive integer  $n$ . Thus  $s_{\mathfrak{m}}m \in Q$ . Now define the set  $\Omega = \{s_{\mathfrak{m}} \mid \exists \mathfrak{m} \in \text{Max}(R) \ni s_{\mathfrak{m}} \notin \mathfrak{m}, s_{\mathfrak{m}}m \in Q\}$ . Now we show that  $(\Omega)$ , the ideal generated by  $\Omega$ , is equal to  $R$ . For it, let  $\mathfrak{m}'$  be a maximal ideal such that  $\Omega \subseteq \mathfrak{m}'$ . The definition of  $\Omega$  requires that there exists  $s_{\mathfrak{m}'} \in \Omega$  and  $s_{\mathfrak{m}'} \notin \mathfrak{m}'$ . Since  $\Omega \subseteq \mathfrak{m}'$  so  $s_{\mathfrak{m}'} \in \Omega \subseteq \mathfrak{m}'$ , a contradiction. Thus  $(\Omega) = R$  which implies that  $1 = r_1s_{\mathfrak{m}_1} + r_2s_{\mathfrak{m}_2} + \cdots + r_ns_{\mathfrak{m}_n}$ , for some  $r_i \in R$  and  $s_{\mathfrak{m}_i} \notin \mathfrak{m}_i$  with  $s_{\mathfrak{m}_i}m \in Q$  and  $\mathfrak{m}_i \in \text{Max}(R)$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Thus  $m = r_1s_{\mathfrak{m}_1}m + r_2s_{\mathfrak{m}_2}m + \cdots + r_ns_{\mathfrak{m}_n}m \in Q$  and so  $Q$  is primary.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.23.** *Suppose that  $M$  is a module over a ring  $R$  with unique maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ . The following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $Q$  is primary in  $M$ .
- (ii)  $(Q :_R M)$  is primary in  $R$  and  $Q$  is primary over  $R - \mathfrak{m}$  in  $M$ .

**Proof.** It is clear by Theorem 2.22.  $\square$

Suppose that  $M$  is a module over the ring  $R$ . Nagata introduced the idealization  $R(+)M$  of  $M$ . Here  $R(+)M = R \oplus M$  is a commutative ring whose addition is componentwise and multiplication is defined as  $(a, m)(b, m') = (ab, am' + bm)$ , for each  $a, b \in R$  and  $m, m' \in M$  ([7]). The name comes from the fact that if  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$ , then  $0(+)N$  is an ideal of  $R(+)M$ . If  $S$  is a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $N$  a submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$ , then  $S(+)N = \{(s, n) \mid s \in S, n \in N\}$  is a m.c.s. of  $R(+)M$  ([2]).

**Proposition 2.24.** *Let  $S$  be a m.c.s. of the ring  $R$  and  $Q$  an ideal of  $R$  such that  $Q \cap S = \emptyset$ . The following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $Q$  is a primary ideal over  $S$  in  $R$ ;
- (ii)  $Q(+)M$  is a primary ideal over  $S(+)0$  in  $R(+)M$ ;
- (iii)  $Q(+)M$  is a primary ideal over  $S(+)M$  in  $R(+)M$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Suppose  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$ . There exists  $s \in S$  satisfying the definition. Let  $(x, m)(y, m') = (xy, xm' + ym) \in Q(+)M$ , for some  $x, y \in R$  and  $m, m' \in M$ . Then we have  $xy \in Q$ . Since  $Q$  is primary over  $S$  in  $R$  so  $sy \in Q$  or  $sx^n \in Q$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . By putting  $s' = (s, 0) \in S(+)0$ , we have  $s'(y, m') = (s, 0)(y, m') \in Q(+)M$  or  $s'(x, m)^n = (s, 0)(x^n, nx^{n-1}m) = (sx^n, nsx^{n-1}m) \in Q(+)M$ . Therefore  $Q(+)M$  is primary over  $S(+)0$  in  $R(+)M$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (iii) It is clear by Proposition 2.4.

(iii)  $\implies$  (i) Suppose that  $Q(+)M$  is primary over  $S(+)M$  in  $R(+)M$ . There exists  $s = (s_1, m_1) \in S(+)M$  satisfying the definition. Let  $xy \in Q$ , for some  $x, y \in R$ . Then  $(x, 0)(y, 0) = (xy, 0) \in Q(+)M$ . By hypothesis,  $s(y, 0) = (s_1, m_1)(y, 0) = (s_1y, ym_1) \in Q(+)M$  or  $s(x, 0)^n = (s_1, m_1)(x^n, 0) = (s_1x^n, x^n m_1) \in Q(+)M$ , for some positive integer  $n$ . Hence,  $s_1y \in Q$  or  $s_1x^n \in Q$  and so  $Q$  is primary over  $S$ .  $\square$

**Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to thank the referees for their valuable comments and suggestions.

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