# Semiregular Modules with Respect to a Fully Invariant Submodule<sup>#</sup>

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# ABSTRACT

Let *M* be a left *R*-module and *F* a submodule of *M* for any ring *R*. We call *M F*-semiregular if for every  $x \in M$ , there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that *A* is projective,  $A \leq Rx$  and  $Rx \cap B \leq F$ . This definition extends several notions in the literature. We investigate some equivalent conditions to *F*-semiregular modules and consider some certain fully invariant submodules such as Z(M), Soc(M),  $\delta(M)$ . We prove, among others, that if *M* is a finitely generated projective module, then *M* is quasi-injective if and only if *M* is Z(M)-semiregular and  $M \oplus M$  is CS. If *M* is projective Soc(M)-semiregular module, then *M* is semiregular. We also characterize QF-rings *R* with  $J(R)^2 = 0$ .

Key Words: Semiregular modules; CS modules; Quasi-injective modules; ACS rings; QF rings.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Perfect, semiperfect and semiregular (or *f*-semiperfect) rings constitute the class of rings that posses beautiful homological and non homological properties. The concept of semiperfect rings has been generalized to semiperfect modules by Mares (1963). Mares calls a module *M* a semiperfect module if every quotient of *M* has a projective cover. Nicholson (1976) proves that a projective module *M* is semiperfect if and only if it is semiregular,  $Rad(M) \ll M$  and M/Rad(M) is semisimple. Semiregular modules are known as a unified generalization of semiperfect modules and regular modules of Zelmanowitz. There has been a great deal of work on semiregular modules by several authors (e.g., Azumaya, 1991; Nicholson, 1976; Wisbauer, 1991; Xue, 1995).

Zhou (2000) defines  $\delta$ -semiregular and  $\delta$ -semiperfect rings as a generalization of semiregular and semiperfect rings. On the other hand, Nicholson and Yousif (2001) consider *I*-semiregular rings for an ideal *I* of a ring *R* and study  $Z(_RR)$ -semiregular rings. Now in this paper, we define *F*-semiregular modules *M* for a submodule *F* of a module *M* and consider some certain fully invariant submodules such as Z(M),  $Soc(M), \delta(M)$  (is defined in Zhou, 2000).

If *M* is semiregular, then for every  $x \in M$  there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that  $A \leq Rx$  is projective and  $B \cap Rx \ll M$  or equivalently  $B \cap Rx \leq Rad(M)$ . Therefore, here we may consider any (fully invariant) submodule *F* or *M* instead of Rad(M), and we denote such modules as *F*-semiregular modules. In Sec. 2, we investigate the equivalent conditions to *F*-semiregular modules inspired by Nicholson and Yousif's results. Some of their results are directly generalized but some are not, and we define  $(S_1)$  and  $(S_2)$  properties for them.

In Sec. 3, we consider  $Z(\cdot)$ -semiregular modules. We prove that for a finitely generated projective module M, M is quasi-injective if and only if M is Z(M)-semiregular and  $M \oplus M$  is CS.

In the last section, we consider  $Soc(\cdot)$ -semiregular and  $\delta(\cdot)$ -semiregular modules and investigate the relationship between them. We prove that if M is a countably generated  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular module with  $\delta(M) \ll_{\delta} M$  then M is isomorphic to a direct sum of projective cyclic submodules of M. Any projective Soc(M)semiregular module M is semiregular. And we characterize left Artinian rings R with  $J(R)^2 = 0$  and quasi-Frobenius (QF) rings R with  $J(R)^2 = 0$ . At the end of the paper, we give some counter examples.

Throughout this paper, R denotes an associative ring with identity and modules M are unitary left R-modules. For a module M, Rad(M) and Z(M) are the Jacobson radical and the singular submodule of M. We write J(R) for the Jacobson radical of R. The dual of M is denoted by  $M^* = Hom_R(M, R)$ . A submodule N of M is called *small* in M, denoted by  $N \ll M$ , whenever for any submodule L of M, N + L = M implies L = M. Dually we use  $N \leq_e M$  to signify that N is an essential submodule of M. For a direct summand K of M we write  $K \leq^{\oplus} M$ .

A submodule N of a module M is said to *lie over a summand* of M if there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that  $A \leq N$  and  $B \cap N$  is small in M. An element x in M is called *regular* if  $(x\alpha) \ x = x$  for some  $\alpha \in M^*$ . Zelmanowitz (1973) calls a module *regular* if each of its elements is regular, equivalently if every finitely generated submodule is a projective summand. Nicholson (1976) calls an element

x and M semiregular if Rx lies over a projective summand of M. A module called semiregular if each of its elements is semiregular.

### 2. F-SEMIREGULAR MODULES

In this chapter, we investigate some equivalent conditions to *F*-semiregular modules.

**Definition 2.1.** Let F be a submodule of an R-module M. An element x in M is said to be F-semiregular in M if there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that A is projective,  $A \le Rx$  and  $Rx \cap B \le F$ . A module M is called an F-semiregular module if every elements x in M is F-semiregular.

Clearly the class of *F*-semiregular modules contains all regular modules. Also *M* is semiregular if and only if *M* is Rad(M)-semiregular. If *M* is semiregular and *F* is a submodule of *M* such that  $Rad(M) \leq F$  then *M* is *F*-semiregular. For M = R and an ideal F = I, *I*-semiregularity of rings is defined by Nicholson and Yousif (2001). Now we consider the module theoretic version of some results of Nicholson and Yousif.

**Proposition 2.2.** Let F be a submodule of a module M. Then the following conditions are equivalent for  $x \in M$ .

- (1) x is F-semiregular.
- (2) There exists  $\alpha \in M^*$  such that  $(x\alpha)^2 = x\alpha$  and  $x (x\alpha)x \in F$ .
- (3) There exists a homomorphism  $\gamma$  from M to Rx such that  $\gamma^2 = \gamma, M\gamma$  is projective and  $x x\gamma \in F$ .

When these conditions hold we have

(4) There exists a regular element  $y \in Rx$  such that  $x - y \in F$  and Rx = Ry(x - y). If F is fully invariant then (1)–(3) are equivalent to (4).

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Suppose for x in M there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$ such that A is projective,  $A \leq Rx$  and  $Rx \cap B \leq F$ . Then there exist  $x_i \in A$  and  $\alpha_i \in A^* = Hom_R(A, R)$  (i = 1, ..., n) such that  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n (y\alpha_i)x_i$  for any  $y \in A$ . Hence  $\alpha_i$  extends to M by  $(a + b)\beta_i = a\alpha_i$ . Write  $x_i = r_i x$  with  $r_i \in R$  and let  $\alpha = \sum \beta_i r_i$ . Then  $\alpha \in M^*$ . Write x = a + b with  $a \in A, b \in B$ . We get  $(x\alpha)x = \sum (x\beta_i)r_ix = \sum (a\alpha_i)x_i = a$ . Therefore,  $x - a = x - (x\alpha)x = b \in Rx \cap B \leq F$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Let x and  $\alpha$  be as in (2) and let  $y = (x\alpha)x$ . Then  $y = (y\alpha)y$ . By Nicholson (1976, Lemma 1.1), Ry is a projective submodule of Rx and  $M = Ry \oplus W$  where  $W = \{w \in M : (w\alpha)y = 0\}$ . Let  $\gamma : M \to Ry$  be the projection map. Hence it is sufficient to show that  $x - x\gamma \in F$ . Write  $x = ry + w \in M$  where  $r \in R$  and  $w \in W$ . Then  $0 = (x - ry)\alpha y = (x\alpha)y - r(y\alpha)y = (x\alpha)y - ry$ , so  $x\gamma = ry = (x\alpha)y = y$ . Therefore,  $x - x\gamma = x - y \in F$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Suppose (3) holds. Then  $M = M\gamma \oplus M(1-\gamma)$  and  $Rx \cap M(1-\gamma) = Rx(1-\gamma) \leq F$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (4). Let  $x, \alpha, y$  and W be as in (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Then  $W \cap Rx = R(x - y)$ . Therefore,  $Rx = Ry \oplus R(x - y)$ .

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Assume *F* is fully invariant. Let *x* and *y* be as in (4) and let  $\alpha \in M^*$  be such that  $(y\alpha)y = y$ . Then  $M = Ry \oplus W$  where  $W = \{w \in M : (w\alpha)y = 0\}$ . Hence,  $Rx = Ry \oplus (Rx \cap W)$ . Let  $\pi : M \to W$  be the projection map. Then  $Rx \cap W = (Rx \cap W)\pi = (Rx)\pi = (R(x-y))\pi \leq (F)\pi \leq F$ . This completes the proof.

Taking M = R and F = I an ideal of R yields (Nicholson and Yousif, 2001, Lemma 1.1). Our next results gives the characterization of F-semiregular modules.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) *M* is *F*-semiregular.
- (2) For any finitely generated submodule N of M, there exists a homomorphism  $\gamma$  from M to N such that  $\gamma^2 = \gamma$ ,  $M\gamma$  is projective and  $N(1 \gamma) \leq F$ .
- (3) For any finitely generated submodule N of M, there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that A is a projective submodule of N and  $N \cap B \leq F$ .
- (4) For any finitely generated submodule N of M, N can be written as  $N = A \oplus S$  where A is a projective summand of M and  $S \leq F$ .

When these conditions hold we have

- (5) For all  $x \in M$ , there exists a regular element  $y \in M$  such that  $x y \in F$ .
- (6) Every submodule of M that is not contained in F contains a regular element not in F.
- (7)  $Rad(M) \leq F$  and  $Z(M) \leq F$ .

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ . Let *N* be a finitely generated submodule with generators  $x_0, \ldots, x_n$ . We use the induction on the generating set. By assumption choose  $\beta: M \to Rx_n$  such that  $\beta^2 = \beta$ ,  $M\beta$  is projective and  $(x_n)(1-\beta) \in F$ . Set  $K = Rx_0(1-\beta) + \cdots + Rx_{n-1}(1-\beta)$  and by induction choose  $\alpha: M \to K$  such that  $\alpha^2 = \alpha$ ,  $M\alpha$  is projective and  $K(1-\alpha) \leq F$ . Define  $\gamma = \beta + \alpha - \beta\alpha$ . Then  $\gamma = \gamma^2$  and  $M\gamma = M\beta \oplus M\alpha$  since  $\alpha\beta = 0$ . Hence  $M\gamma$  is projective. It is enough to show that  $N(1-\gamma) \leq F$ . Since  $N = K + Rx_n$  it follows that  $M\gamma = M\beta + M\alpha \leq Rx_n + K = N$ . Take  $n = a + rx_n \in N$  as  $a \in K$  and  $rx_n \in K$  and  $rx_n \in Rx_n$ .  $(a + rx_n)(1-\gamma) = (a + rx_n)(1-\beta)(1-\alpha) = (a(1-\beta) + rx_n(1-\beta))(1-\alpha) = a(1-\alpha) + (rx_n(1-\beta))(1-\alpha) \in F$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Let N and  $\gamma$  be as in (2). Then  $N \cap (M)(1-\gamma) = N(1-\gamma)$ . Hence,  $M = M\gamma \oplus M(1-\gamma), M\gamma$  is projective and  $N \cap (M)(1-\gamma) = N(1-\gamma) \leq F$ .

 $(3) \Rightarrow (2)$ . Let *N* be a finitely generated submodule of *M*. By (3),  $M = A \oplus B$ where *A* is a projective submodule of *N* and  $N \cap B \leq F$ . Then  $N = A \oplus (B \cap N)$ . Now consider the projection map  $\pi : M \to A$ . Let  $\gamma = \pi i$  where *i* is the inclusion map from *A* to *N*. Then  $\gamma^2 = \gamma$ ,  $M\gamma = A$  is projective and  $N(1 - \gamma) \leq F$ .

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ . It is clear.

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Let *N* be a cyclic submodule of *M*. Then  $N = A \oplus S$  with *A* a projective summand of *M* and  $S \leq F$ . Then  $M = A \oplus B$  for some *B*. Let  $\pi : M \to B$  be the projection map. Then  $N = A \oplus (N \cap B)$  and  $N \cap B = (N)\pi = (S)\pi \leq (F)\pi \leq F$ .

 $(1) \Rightarrow (5)$  and  $(1) \Rightarrow (6)$  are by Proposition 2.2(4).

 $(1) \Rightarrow (7)$ . Note that every cyclic submodule of *Rad M* is small in *M* and every projective singular module is a zero module, so (7) follows from (6) and (Nicholson, 1976, Lemma 1.1).

Observe that  $(2) \Leftrightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (1)$  holds for any submodule *F* of a module *M*.

Note that if I is an ideal of a ring R then IM is a fully invariant submodule of M. Theorem 1.2 in Nicholson and Yousif (2001) follows from Theorem 2.3 by taking M = R and F = IM.

Nicholson and Yousif (2001) give a counter example showing that condition (5) in Theorem 2.3 does not imply *I*-semiregularity by taking  $M = R = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $I = 2\mathbb{Z}$ . In Theorem 2.6, we give the equivalence under some conditions. First we give some definitions.

Zhou (2000) defines that a submodule N of a module M is called  $\delta$ -small in M if  $N + K \neq M$  for any proper submodule K of M/K singular, denoted by  $N \ll_{\delta} M$ .

**Lemma 2.4** (Zhou, 2000, Lemma 1.2). Let N be a submodule of a module M. Then  $N \ll_{\delta} M$  if and only if  $M = X \oplus Y$  for a projective semisimple submodule Y with  $Y \leq N$  whenever X + N = M.

Also Zhou introduces the following fully invariant submodule of a module M.

 $\delta(M) = \bigcap \{ N \le M : M/N \text{ is singular simple} \}.$ 

Then  $\delta(M)$  is the sum of all  $\delta$ -small submodules of M by Zhou (2000, Lemma 1.5), and hence  $Rad(M) \leq \delta(M)$ . If every proper submodule of M is contained in a maximal submodule of M, then  $\delta(M) \ll_{\delta} M$ .

Let F be a submodule of a module M. Then F is said to satisfy

- ( $R_1$ ) If for every summand A of M,  $A \cap F$  lies over a summand of M.
- $(R_2)$  If for every regular element y in M,  $R_Y \cap F$  lies over a summand of M.
- (S<sub>1</sub>) If for every summand N of M, there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that  $A \leq N \cap F$  and  $B \cap N \cap F \ll_{\delta} M$ .
- (S<sub>2</sub>) If for every regular element y in M, there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that  $A \leq Ry \cap F$  and  $B \cap Ry \cap F \ll_{\delta} M$ .

Clearly  $(R_1) \Rightarrow (R_2)$  and  $(S_1) \Rightarrow (S_2)$ . For M = R,  $(R_1) \Leftrightarrow (R_2)$  and  $(S_1) \Leftrightarrow (S_2)$ . If  $F \leq \delta(M)$  then  $Ry \cap F \leq Ry \cap \delta(M) = \delta(Ry) \ll_{\delta} M$  for any regular element  $y \in M$ . Hence F satisfies  $(S_2)$ . If  $F \ll_{\delta} M$ , then F satisfies  $(S_1)$ . We also have the following diagram.

 $\begin{array}{ccc} (R_1) & \Longrightarrow & (R_2) \\ \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ (S_1) & \Longrightarrow & (S_2) \end{array}$ 

In general  $(S_1)$  does not imply  $(R_1)$  and  $(S_2)$  does not imply  $(R_2)$ .

**Example 2.5.** Let *T* be the infinite product of  $F_i$ , where each  $F_i = \mathbb{Z}_2$  and let *R* be the subring of *T* generated by  $\bigoplus_{i\geq 1} F_i$  and the identity of *T*. Then  $\delta(_R R) = Soc(_R R)$  satisfies  $(S_1)$  but not  $(R_2)$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M and satisfy  $(S_2)$ . Let  $x \in M$ . If there exists a regular element  $y \in M$  such that  $x - y \in F$ , then x is F-semiregular.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in M$ . By assumption there exists a regular element  $y \in M$  such that  $x - y \in F$  and there is a decomposition  $M = K \oplus L$  such that  $K \leq F \cap Ry$  and  $F \cap Ry \cap L \ll_{\delta} M$ . Since y is regular we have  $M = Ry \oplus W$  for a submodule W of M and Ry is projective. It follows that  $M = (Ry \cap L) \oplus K \oplus W$  and  $F = (Ry \cap L \cap F) \oplus K \oplus (W \cap F)$  as F is fully invariant. On the other hand,  $F \cap Ry \cap L \ll_{\delta} Ry + F = Rx + F$  as  $x - y \in F$  and  $Ry \leq^{\oplus} M$ . Then, by Lemma 2.4,  $Rx + F = (Rx + K + (W \cap F)) \oplus D$  for a projective semisimple submodule D of  $F \cap Ry \cap L$ . Then  $Ry \cap L = E \oplus D$  where  $E = (Ry \cap L) \cap (Rx + K + (W \cap F))$ .

Let  $\pi$  be the projection map from M to E. Then  $E = (Ry + F)\pi = (Rx + F)\pi = (Rx)\pi$ . Since  $\alpha := \pi|_{Rx}$  is an epimorphism and E is projective,  $\alpha$  splits. Then there exists  $\pi' : E \to Rx$  such that  $\pi'\alpha = 1$  and  $Rx = Im\pi' \oplus Ker(\alpha)$ . Let  $A := Im\pi'$ . Since  $Ker(\alpha) \cap A = 0$  and  $A \leq Rx$ ,  $Ker(\pi) \cap A = 0$ . Also  $(A)\pi = E$ . Hence  $\pi|_A$  is an isomorphism. By Proposition 5.5 in Anderson and Fuller (1974) we have  $M = A \oplus D \oplus K \oplus W$  and then  $A \cong E$  is projective. On the other hand,  $(W + K + D) \cap Rx \leq (W + F) \cap (Rx + F) = F + (W \cap (Rx + F)) = F + (W \cap (Ry + F)) = F + (W \cap (Ry + F)) = F$ . Hence the proof is completed.

**Corollary 2.7.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M and satisfy  $(S_2)$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) *M* is *F*-semiregular.
- (2) For all  $x \in M$ , there exists a regular element  $y \in M$  such that  $x y \in F$ .

**Corollary 2.8.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M and satisfy  $(S_2)$ . If  $x - y \in F$  and y is F-semiregular then x is F-semiregular.

Now we give that following lemma without proving because it can be seen by the similar proof of Nicholson (1976, Lemma 1.9).

**Lemma 2.9.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M. Let  $x \in M$ . If  $\alpha \in M^*$  is such that  $(x\alpha)^2 = x\alpha$  and  $x - (x\alpha)x$  is F-semiregular, then x is F-semiregular.

By the argument in Nicholson (1976, Theorem 1.10) and Corollary 2.8, we have

**Theorem 2.10.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M and  $M = \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  for submodules  $M_i$ . If M is F-semiregular then each  $M_i$  is  $F_i$ -semiregular where  $F_i = F \cap M_i$ . The converse is true if F satisfies  $(S_2)$ .

**Corollary 2.11.** Let I be an ideal of a ring R with  $I \leq \delta(R)$ . Then R is I-semiregular if and only every projective R-module M is IM-semiregular.

*Proof.* Let *M* be a projective module. Then  $IM \le \delta(M)$  by Zhou (2000, Lemma 1.9) and so *IM* satisfies (*S*<sub>2</sub>). Since any projective module is a summand of a free module, the proof is completed by Theorem 2.10.

Nicholson proves the following theorem in case  $F = Rad(M) \ll M$  in Nicholson (1976, Proposition 1.17). For a submodule N of M, if  $N \ll_{\delta} M$ , then N satisfies  $(S_1)$ . The converse of this property is not true, for example let  $M = \mathbb{Z}(p^{\infty})$  be the prüfer *p*-group.  $Rad(M) = \delta(M) = Z(M) = M$  satisfies  $(S_1)$  but not  $\delta$ -small in M. Hence the following theorem generalizes Nicholson (1976, Proposition 1.17).

**Theorem 2.12.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M. Consider the following conditions.

- (1) *M* is *F*-semiregular.
- (2) (i) Every finitely generated submodule of M/F is a direct summand.
  - (ii) If  $M/F = A/F \oplus B/F$  where A/F is finitely generated, there exists a decomposition  $M = P \oplus Q$  such that (P+F)/F = A/F and (Q+F)/F = B/F.

Then  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)(i)$ . If M is projective, then  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)(ii)$ . If M is projective and F satisfies  $(S_1)$ , then  $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Suppose *M* is *F*-semiregular and let  $A/F \leq M/F$  be finitely generated. Choose a finitely generated submodule *N* of *M* such that A/F = (N+F)/F. By Theorem 2.3, there is a decomposition  $M = C \oplus D$  such that  $N = C \oplus (D \cap N)$  and  $D \cap N \leq F$ . Then A/F = (N+F)/F = (C+F)/F. Since  $F = (F \cap D) \oplus (F \cap C)$  and  $(D+F) \cap (C+F) = (D + (F \cap C)) \cap (C + (F \cap D)) = F$ , we get  $(C+F)/F \oplus (D+F)/F = M/F$ . This proves (i).

Now, assume  $M/F = A/F \oplus B/F$  where A/F is finitely generated. Choose N and the decomposition of M as above. Then C + B = M. Since C is a summand of M, apply Nicholson (1976, Lemma 1.16) to write  $M = C \oplus Q$  where  $Q \le B$ . Then (ii) follows because (C + F)/F = A/F and  $(Q + F)/F \le B/F$ .

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . Assume that *M* is projective and *F* satisfies  $(S_1)$ . Take a finitely generated submodule *N* of *M*. By (2),  $M/F = (N+F)/F \oplus B/F$  for a submodule *B* of *M* with  $F \leq B$ . Then there exists a decomposition  $M = P \oplus Q$  such that (P+F)/F = (N+F)/F and (Q+F)/F = B/F. Hence M = N + Q + F. Since  $F = (P \cap F) \oplus (Q \cap F), M = N + Q + (P \cap F)$ . Since *F* satisfies  $(S_1)$ , there exists a decomposition  $P \cap F = K \oplus S$  where *K* is a summand of *M* and  $S \ll_{\delta} M$ . Then  $M = N + Q + K + S = (N + Q + K) \oplus D$  for a submodule  $D \leq S$  by Lemma 2.4. Let T = N + Q + K and so *T* is projective. Since for a submodule *L*,  $K \oplus L = P$  and  $M = P \oplus Q = K \oplus L \oplus Q$  we get that  $Q \oplus K$  is a summand of *T*. It gives that there is a decomposition  $T = (Q \oplus K) \oplus A$  where  $A \leq N$  by Nicholson (1976, Lemma 1.16). Since  $(Q + K + D) \cap N \leq (Q + F) \cap (N + F) = F$ , *M* is *F*-semiregular by Theorem 2.3.

By the proof of Theorem 2.12  $(2 \Rightarrow 1)$ , we get the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.13.** Let F be a fully invariant submodule of a module M and satisfy  $(S_1)$ . If M is F-semiregular and M/F is Noetherian, then for any submodule N of M there exists a decomposition  $M = A \oplus B$  such that  $A \leq N$  and  $N \cap B \leq F$ .

## 3. THE SINGULAR SUBMODULE Z(M)

In this section, we consider the fully invariant submodule Z(M) for a module M. An R-module M is called CS (or has  $(C_1)$ ), if every closed submodule is a summand. Equivalently, M is CS if and only if every submodule is essential in a summand of M. An R-module M has  $(C_2)$  if any submodule of M isomorphic to a summand of M is itself a summand. M is called *continous* if M is CS and has  $(C_2)$  (Mohamed and Müller, 1990). A module M is said to be an ACS-module if for every element  $a \in M$ ,  $Ra = P \oplus S$  where P is projective and S is singular (Nicholson and Yousif, 2001).

By Corollary 2.11 a ring R is left  $Z(_RR)$ -semiregular if and only if every projective module M is Z(M)-semiregular.

If R is left  $Z(_RR)$ -semiregular, then  $Z(_RR)$  satisfies  $(R_1)$  since  $Z(_RR) \leq J(R)$ . Furthermore

**Proposition 3.1.** Let *M* be a projective module with  $\delta(M) \ll_{\delta} M$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) Z(M) satisfies  $(R_1)$ .
- (2) Z(M) satisfies  $(R_1)$ .
- (3)  $Z(M) \leq \delta(M)$ .
- (4)  $Z(M) \leq Rad(M)$ .

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ . It is clear.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). Since  $Z(M) \cap M = Z(M), Z(M) = P \oplus S$  where P is a summand of M and  $S \ll_{\delta} M$ . Since M is projective, P = 0. Hence  $Z(M) \ll_{\delta} M$ .

- (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4). Since  $Z(M) \ll_{\delta} M$  and Z(M) is singular,  $Z(M) \ll M$ .
- $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$ . It is clear.

It is proved in Nicholson and Yousif (2001, Theorem 2.4) that a ring R is a left  $Z(_RR)$ -semiregular if and only if R is semiregular and  $J(R) = Z(_RR)$  if and only if R is a left ACS-ring with ( $C_2$ ). Now we give the module theoretic version of this result.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let *M* be a finitely generated projective module. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) M is Z(M)-semiregular.
- (2) *M* is semiregular and Z(M) = Rad(M).

- (3) *M* is an ACS-module and every finitely generated (cyclic) projective submodule of *M* is a summand.
- (4) *M* is an ACS-module and *M* has  $(C_2)$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). If *M* is Z(M)-semiregular, then  $Rad(M) \leq Z(M)$ . For the converse, let  $x \in Z(M)$ . To show that  $x \in Rad(M)$ , let  $L \leq M$  be such that M = Rx + L. Then  $M/Rx \cong L/(Rx \cap L)$  is finitely generated. Let *T* be a finitely generated submodule of *M* such that  $L/(Rx \cap L) = [T + (Rx \cap L)]/(Rx \cap L)$ . Then M = Rx + L = Rx + T. By Theorem 2.3, *T* has a decomposition  $T = P \oplus S$  where *P* is a projective summand of *M* and *S* is singular. Then  $Rx + S \leq Z(M)$ . M = Rx + T = Rx + P + S and then M/P is singular. Since *M* is projective,  $P \leq_e M$  (Nicholson and Yousif, 2001, Lemma 2.1). But this implies that P = M, because  $P \leq^{\oplus} M$ . Hence M = T = L. So  $Rx \ll M$ .

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (4)$ . They are clear.

 $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$ . Since *M* is finitely generated projective, it is a summand of a finitely generated free module *F*. Let *A* be such that  $F = M \oplus A$  and  $\{f_i\}_{i=1}^n$  be a basis of *F*. Write  $f_i = m_i + a_i$  where  $m_i \in M, a_i \in A$  for all i = 1, ..., n. Let  $x \in M$ . By hypothesis,  $Rx = P \oplus S$  where *P* is projective and *S* is singular. It is enough to show that *P* is a summand of *M*. We have an epimorphism  $M \to Rx$  defined by  $m = r_1f_1 + \cdots + r_nf_n = r_1m_1 + \cdots + r_nm_n \mapsto (r_1 + \cdots + r_n)x, m \in M, r_i \in R, 1 \le i \le n$ . Hence, we have an epimorphism from *M* to *P*. This implies that *P* is isomorphic to a summand of *M*. By  $(C_2)$ , *P* is a summand of *M*.

It is well known that if R is left continuous then R is semiregular and  $Z(_RR) = J(R)$ . By using Theorem 3.2, we prove the next result.

**Theorem 3.3.** Let M be a finitely generated projective module. If M is continuous, then M is semiregular and Z(M) = Rad(M).

*Proof.* It is enough to show that M is an ACS-module by Theorem 3.2. Let  $x \in M$ . Then there exists an epimorphism  $f: M \to Rx$  by the proof of  $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$  of Theorem 3.2. Since M is CS, there exists a summand L of M such that Ker(f) is essential in L. Let K be a submodule such that  $M = L \oplus K$ . Then we have isomorphisms  $\alpha : Rx \to M/Ker(f)$  and  $\beta : M/L \to K$ . Let  $\pi$  denote the epimorphism from M/Ker(f) to M/L. Then  $g := \alpha \pi \beta : Rx \to K$  is an epimorphism. Since K is projective, g splits. There exists a homomorphism  $h: K \to Rx$  such that  $Rx = Im h \oplus Ker(g)$ .  $Rx/Ker(g) \cong K \cong Im h$  is projective and  $Ker(g) = \alpha^{-1}(L/Ker(f)) \cong L/Ker(f)$  is singular. Hence Rx is a direct sum of a projective module and a singular module.

It is well known that any finite direct sum of modules having  $(C_2)$  need not have  $(C_2)$ . By Theorems 3.2 and 2.10, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.4.** Let M be a finitely generated projective module. If M is Z(M)-semiregular, then  $M^{(n)}$  has  $(C_2)$  for every  $n \ge 1$ .

The following corollary is a generalization of Yousif (1997, Proposition 1.21) and Nicholson and Yousif (2001, Corollary 2.7).

**Corollary 3.5.** Let M be a finitely generated projective module. Then

- (1) M is continuous if and only if M is Z(M)-semiregular and M is CS.
- (2) The following are equivalent.
  - (a) *M* is quasi-injective.
  - (b) *M* is Z(M)-semiregular and  $M \oplus M$  is CS.
  - (c) M has  $(C_2)$  and  $M \oplus M$  is CS.
  - (d) *M* is continuous and  $M \oplus M$  is CS.

*Proof.* (1) is clear by Theorems 3.2 and 3.3. (2) (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c). By Mohamed and Müller (1990, Proposition 1.18). (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). If  $M \oplus M$  is CS, then M is CS. By Theorem 3.3, M is Z(M)-semiregular. (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a). By Corollary 3.4,  $M \oplus M$  has (C<sub>2</sub>). Then  $M \oplus M$  is continuous. By Mohamed and Müller (1990, Theorem 3.16), M is quasi-injective. (c)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (d) is clear.

# 4. $\delta(M)$ AND Soc(M)

In this section, we investigate  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular and Soc(M)-semiregular modules. If a module M is semiregular, then it is  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular since  $Rad(M) \leq \delta(M)$ . The converse is true for finitely generated modules M with Soc(M) = Rad(M) by Lemma 2.4. If M is a projective module then  $\delta(M)$  is equal to the intersection of all essential maximal submodules of M (Zhou, 2000, Lemma 1.9), and hence  $Soc(M) \leq \delta(M)$ . So any projective Soc(M)-semiregular module Mis  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular. Also we will prove in Corollary 4.6 that projective Soc(M)semiregular modules are semiregular. Then we have the following implications for a projective module M.

*M* is Soc(M)-semiregular  $\Longrightarrow M$  is semiregular  $\Longrightarrow M$  is  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular.

By Theorem 3.2, for a finitely generated projective module M, we have that

*M* is Z(M)-semiregular  $\Longrightarrow$  *M* is semiregular  $\Longrightarrow$  *M* is  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular.

For the converse implications we give the examples at the end of the paper.

**Remark 4.1.** (1) Zhou (2000, Theorem 3.5), proved that *R* is left  $\delta(_R R)$ -semiregular if and only if  $R/\delta(_R R)$  is regular and idempotents can be lifted modulo  $\delta(_R R)$ . Indeed this result follows from Theorem 2.12 because  $\delta(_R R)$  satisfies  $(S_2)$ .

(2) Also  $Soc(_RR)$  satisfies  $(S_2)$ , since  $Soc(_RR) \leq \delta(_RR)$ . Hence *R* is left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular if and only if  $R/Soc(_RR)$  is regular and idempotents can be lifted modulo  $Soc(_RR)$ . Baccella proved that for any ring *R*, idempotents can be lifted modulo  $Soc(_RR)$  (see Yousif and Zhou, 2002, Lemma 1.2). Thus *R* is left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular if and only if  $R/Soc(_RR)$  is regular (see Yousif and Zhou, 2002, Theorem 1.6).

By Corollary 2.11, a ring R is left  $Soc(_RR)(\delta(_RR))$ -semiregular if and only if every projective module M is  $Soc(M)(\delta(M))$ -semiregular.

The next result is a structure theorem for countably generated  $\delta(\cdot)$ -semiregular modules.

**Theorem 4.2.** Let M be a countably generated  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular module. If  $\delta(M)$  is  $\delta$ -small in M then M is isomorphic to a direct sum of projective cyclic submodules.

*Proof.* Let  $x_1, x_2, \ldots$  be a generating set for M. There is a decomposition  $M = P_1 \oplus Q_1$  such that  $P_1 \leq Rx_1$  is projective and  $K_1 = Q_1 \cap Rx_1$  is  $\delta$ -small in M. As a summand of  $Rx_1$ , the module  $P_1$  is cyclic. Now we use induction. Assume, for a positive integer n, M has a decomposition  $M = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} P_i) \oplus Q_n$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} Rx_i \subset (\bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} P_i) + K_n$ , where  $K_n$  is  $\delta$ -small in M.

Since  $Q_n$  is a summand of M and  $\delta(Q_n) = Q_n \cap \delta(M)$ ,  $Q_n$  is  $\delta(Q_n)$ -semiregular. Then there is a decomposition  $Q_n = P_{n+1} \oplus Q_{n+1}$  such that  $P_{n+1} \leq Rx_{n+1}$  is projective and  $T = Q_{n+1} \cap Rx_{n+1}$  is  $\delta$ -small in  $Q_n$ . Hence  $M = (\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} P_i) \oplus Q_{n+1}$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} Rx_i \subset (\bigoplus_{i=1}^{n+1} P_i) + K_{n+1}$ , where  $K_{n+1} = K_n + T$  is  $\delta$ -small in M. Since  $K = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} K_i \leq \delta(M)$ , it is  $\delta$ -small in M and by Lemma 2.4 there exists a projective semisimple submodule P of K such that  $M = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} Rx_i = (\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} P_i) + K = (\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} P_i) \oplus P$ . The proof is completed.

**Corollary 4.3.** Any finitely generated  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular module M is projective and  $Z(M) \leq Rad(M)$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.3 and Proposition 3.1,  $Z(M) \leq Rad(M)$ .

Since every projective module is a direct sum of countably generated submodules we have,

**Corollary 4.4.** Any projective  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular module M with  $\delta(M) \ll_{\delta} M$  is isomorphic to a direct sum of cyclic submodules.

We have mentioned that if M is a projective Soc(M)-semiregular module then M is  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular. These modules are also semiregular and hence this result is a generalization of Yousif and Zhou (2002, Corollary 1.7(2)).

**Theorem 4.5.** If M is a Soc(M)-semiregular module and  $Z(M) \leq Rad(M)$ , then M is semiregular.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in M$  and  $M = A \oplus B$  where  $A \leq Rx$  is projective and  $Rx \cap B \leq Soc(M)$ . Then  $Rx = A \oplus (Rx \cap B)$ . Assume that  $Rx \cap B$  has a simple submodule  $S_1$  such that  $S_1 \not\subseteq Rad(M)$ , if not every simple submodule of  $Rx \cap B$  is in Rad(M) and hence this completes the proof. Then  $S_1$  is a summand of M, and hence summand of B. Let  $L_1$  be such that  $B = S_1 \oplus L_1$ . Then  $Rx \cap B = S_1 \oplus (Rx \cap L_1)$  and  $M = A \oplus S_1 \oplus L_1$ . This implies that  $Rx = (A \oplus S_1) \oplus (Rx \cap L_1)$ .

Similarly since  $Rx \cap L_1$  is semisimple assume that  $Rx \cap L_1$  has a simple submodule  $S_2$  such that  $S_2 \not\subseteq Rad(M)$ , if not again the proof is completed. Since  $S_2$  is a summand of M, there exists a submodule  $L_2$  such that  $L_1 = S_2 \oplus L_2$ . It follows that  $Rx \cap L_1 = S_2 \oplus (Rx \cap L_2)$  and  $M = A \oplus S_1 \oplus S_2 \oplus L_2$ . Then  $Rx = (A \oplus S_1 \oplus S_2) \oplus$  $(L_2 \cap Rx)$ . This process produces a strictly descending chain  $B \cap Rx \supset L_1 \cap Rx \supset$  $L_2 \cap Rx \supset \cdots$ . Since  $B \cap Rx$  is semisimple and finitely generated, it is Artinian. Hence this process must stop, so that  $L_n \cap Rx \leq Rad(M)$  for some positive integer n. Hence  $Rx = (A \oplus S_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus S_n) \oplus (L_n \cap Rx)$ . So M is semiregular.  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 4.6.** Any projective Soc(M)-semiregular module M is semiregular.

*Proof.* Since  $Z(M) \leq Soc(M)$ , let S be a singular simple submodule of M. If  $S \not\subseteq Rad(M)$ , then S is a summand of M. This implies that S = 0. Hence  $Z(M) \leq Rad(M)$ . By Theorem 4.5, M is semiregular.

**Corollary 4.7.** Let M be a finitely generated Soc(M)-semiregular module. Then M is projective if and only if  $Z(M) \leq Rad(M)$ .

*Proof.* It is clear by Theorem 4.5 and Corollary 4.3.

Hence if M is a projective Soc(M)-semiregular module then

$$Z(M) \leq Rad(M) \leq Soc(M) \leq \delta(M).$$

If R is a left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular ring, then  $\delta(_RR) = Soc(_RR)$ . For,  $\delta(_RR)/Soc(_RR) = J(R/Soc(_RR)) = 0$  (Zhou, 2000, Corollary 1.7). Also  $J(R)^2 = 0$  because  $J(R)Soc(_RR) = 0$ . But this does not necessarily hold if R is semiregular. For example there exists a local ring R such that J(R) is not nilpotent (see Zhou, 2000, Example 4.4 for the existence of such a ring). Then R is semiregular but  $J(R)^2 \neq 0$ .

**Proposition 4.8.** If a module M is Soc(M)-semiregular, then M is an ACS-module.

*Proof.* Let  $a \in M$ . Then  $Ra = A \oplus B$  where A is a projective summand of M and  $B \leq Soc(M)$ . Let  $B = B_1 \oplus B_2$  where  $B_1$  is a direct sum of projective simples and  $B_2$  is a direct sum of singular simples. Then  $Ra = A \oplus B_1 \oplus B_2$  where  $A \oplus B_1$  is projective and  $B_2$  is singular.

Next we consider the Noetherian Soc(M)-semiregular modules.

**Theorem 4.9.** Any Noetherian Soc(M)-semiregular module M is Artinian.

*Proof.* If M is Noetherian Soc(M)-semiregular, M/Soc(M) is semisimple by Theorem 2.12. Since M is Noetherian, M/Soc(M) is Artinian and so M is Artinian.

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**Corollary 4.10.** The following conditions are equivalent for a ring R.

- (1) R is a left Artinian ring with  $J(R)^2 = 0$ .
- (2) R is a left Noetherian left  $Soc(_{R}R)$ -semiregular ring.

*Proof.*  $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . It is clear.

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Since the left annihilator of J(R) is  $Soc(_RR)$ ,  $J(R) \leq Soc(_RR)$ . Left Artinian rings are semiregular. Hence R is left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular.

From now on, we deal with Soc(M)-semiregular modules M such that M has  $(C_2)$  or is min-CS or CS.

**Proposition 4.11.** Let *M* be a finitely generated projective module. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) *M* is Soc(M)-semiregular with  $(C_2)$ .
- (2) *M* is Soc(M)-semiregular and Z(M) = Rad(M).
- (3) M is Soc(M)-semiregular and every simple projective submodule of M is a summand.
- (4) *M* is Z(M)-semiregular and  $Z(M) \leq Soc(M)$ .

*Proof.*  $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$  and  $(4) \Rightarrow (2)$  are clear.  $(1) \Rightarrow (4)$  is by Theorem 3.2 and Proposition 4.8

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ . Let S be a projective simple submodule of M. Then  $S \not\subseteq Rad(M)$  and hence S is a summand of M.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$ . Let  $x \in M$ . Then M has a decompositon  $M = A \oplus B$  such that A is a projective submodule of Rx and  $B \cap Rx \leq Soc(M)$ . Then  $Rx = A \oplus (B \cap Rx)$ . Let  $B \cap Rx = S_1 \oplus S_2$  where  $S_1$  is a finite direct sum of projective simples and  $S_2$  is a finite direct sum of singular simples. Then  $S_1$  is a summand of B by the similar proof of Mohamed and Müller (1990, Proposition 2.2). Hence  $A \oplus S_1$  is a summand of M. This implies that M is Z(M)-semiregular.

By Theorems 2.10 and 3.2, if M is a finitely generated projective Soc(M)-semiregular module with  $(C_2)$ , then  $M^{(n)}$  is  $Soc(M^{(n)})$ -semiregular and has  $(C_2)$  for every  $n \ge 1$ .

For the following corollary see also Yousif and Zhou (2002, Theorem 2.11).

**Corollary 4.12.** The following conditions are equivalent for a ring R.

- (1) *R* is left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular,  $R/Soc(_RR)$  is Noetherian and any projective semisimple left ideal is a summand.
- (2) R is semiprimary and  $J(R) = Z(_R R) \leq Soc(_R R)$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). By Corollary 2.13 and the hypothesis, *R* is semiperfect. Since  $J(R)^2 = 0$ , *R* is semiprimary. By Proposition 4.11,  $J(R) = Z(_R R)$ .

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . Since *R* is semiprimary, it is semiregular and R/J(R) is semisimple Artinian. Since  $J(R) \leq Soc(_{R}R)$ , *R* is left  $Soc(_{R}R)$ -semiregular and  $R/Soc(_{R}R)$  is Noetherian. Since  $J(R) = Z(_{R}R)$ , any projective semisimple left ideal is a summand.

A module M is called a *min-CS module* if every simple submodule of M is essential in a summand of M. A ring R is called left *min-CS* ring if <sub>R</sub>R is a min-CS module.

**Proposition 4.13.** Let *M* be a Noetherian projective module. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) *M* is continuous and  $Rad(M) \leq Soc(M)$ .
- (2) *M* is Soc(M)-semiregualr, min-CS with  $(C_2)$ .

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ . It is clear by Theorem 3.3.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . We claim that *M* is *CS*. Let *N* be a submodule of *M*. Then *N* has a decomposition  $N = A \oplus S$  such that *A* is a summand of *M* and  $S \leq Soc(M)$ . Since *M* is min-*CS* and by Mohamed and Müller (1990, Proposition 2.2), there exists a summand *C* of *M* such that  $S \leq_e C$ . Then  $N \leq_e A \oplus C \leq^{\oplus} M$ . Hence *M* is *CS*.

A ring R is called *left Kasch* if every simple left R-module is embedded in R, or equivalently, for any maximal left ideal I in R, the right annihilator of I is nonzero. By Theorem 4.9 and Yousif (1997, Theorem 1.16), we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 4.14.** Let *R* be a left Noetherian ring. The following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) R is left continuous with  $J(R) \leq Soc(_R R)$ .
- (2) *R* is left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular left min-CS and left  $(C_2)$ .

In this case R is a left Artinian left and right Kasch ring.

If a ring R is left Artinian left continuous left and right Kasch with  $J(R) \leq Soc(_R R)$ , R need not be a QF-ring:

**Example 4.15** (Björk, 1970). Given a field *F* and an isomorphism  $a \mapsto \overline{a}$  from  $F \to \overline{F} \subseteq F$ , let *R* be the right *F*-space on basis {1, t} with multiplication given by  $t^2 = 0$  and  $at = t \overline{a}$  for all  $a \in F$ . Then *R* is a local ring and the only right ideals are 0, J(R) and *R*. Hence *R* is right Artinian right continuous and left and right Kasch. It follows that  $J(R) = Soc(_RR) = Soc(_RR)$ . If dim<sub> $\overline{F}$ </sub> (F)  $\geq$  2, then *R* is not left continuous (see Yousif and Zhou, 2002, Example 2.17).

**Theorem 4.16.** Let *M* be a finitely generated module. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) M is CS and M/Soc(M) is semisimple.
- (2) *M* is CS Artinian and  $Rad(M) \leq Soc(M)$ .

In addition if M is projective, (1) and (2) are equivalent to

(3) *M* is CS Soc(M)-semiregular and M/Soc(M) is Noetherian.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Since M/Soc(M) is semisimple,  $Rad(M) \leq Soc(M)$ . By Dung et al. (1994, 5.15 and 18.7), M is Artinian.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . Since *M* is Artinian, M/Rad(M) is semisimple.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ . Since *M* is Artinian and projective, *M* is semiregular (Wisbauer, 1991, 41.15) and M/Rad(M) is semisimple. Then *M* is Soc(M)-semiregular and M/Soc(M) is semisimple.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (1)$ . By Theorem 2.12, M/Soc(M) is semisimple.

Corollary 4.17. The following conditions are equivalent for a ring R.

- (1) *R* is left CS left Artinian with  $J(R)^2 = 0$ .
- (2) R is left CS left  $Soc(_{R}R)$ -semiregular and  $R/Soc(_{R}R)$  is left Noetherian.

**Theorem 4.18.** Let *M* be finitely generated projective module. The following conditions are equivalent.

- (1) *M* is Artinian quasi-injective and  $Rad(M) \leq Soc(M)$ .
- (2) *M* has  $(C_2)$ ,  $M \oplus M$  is CS and M/Soc(M) is semisimple.
- (3) *M* is Noetherian Soc(*M*)-semiregular with  $(C_2)$  and  $M \oplus M$  is min-CS.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2). Since *M* is quasi-injective,  $M \oplus M$  is *CS* by Mohamed and Müller (1990, Proposition 1.18).

 $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ . Since *M* is *CS* and *M*/*Soc*(*M*) is Artinian and Noetherian, *M* is Artinian and Noetherian by Dung et al. (1994, 5.15 and 18.17). Since *M* is Artinian and projective, it is semiregular (Wisbauer, 1991, 41.15). Since  $Rad(M) \leq Soc(M)$ , *M* is Soc(M)-semiregular.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Then  $M \oplus M$  is  $Soc(M \oplus M)$ -semiregular and by Proposition 4.11 and 4.13,  $Z(M \oplus M) = Rad(M \oplus M)$  and  $M \oplus M$  is continuous. Hence M is quasi-injective (Mohamed and Müller, 1990, Theorem 3.16).

Note that a left self-injective (resp. right and left continuous) ring R such that  $R/Soc(_RR)$  is left Noetherian is QF (Ara and Park, 1991). But there exists a Noetherian projective self-injective module which is not Artinian (see Dung et al., 1994, Example in p. 87). Hence in the above theorem it is not enough for M to be Artinian to assume that M/Soc(M) is Noetherian.

**Corollary 4.19.** The following conditions are equivalent for a ring R.

- (1) R is a QF-ring with  $J(R)^2 = 0$ .
- (2) <sub>R</sub>R has  $(C_2)$ , <sub>R</sub> $(R \oplus R)$  is CS and R/Soc $(_RR)$  is semisimple Artinian.
- (3) *R* is left  $Soc(_RR)$ -semiregular, left Noetherian with left  $(C_2)$  and  $R \oplus R$  is left min-CS.

 $\square$ 

Now we give the examples. First example shows that there is a projective module M which is  $\delta(M)$ -semiregular but not semiregular hence not Soc(M)-semiregular (see Nicholson, 1976, Example 2.15).

**Example 4.20.** Let F be a field, 
$$I = \begin{bmatrix} F & F \\ 0 & F \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $M = R = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n, x, x, \dots) : n \in \mathbb{N}, x_i \in M_2(F), x \in I\}.$ 

With component-wise operations, R is a ring.

$$\delta(_{R}R) = \{(x_{1}..., x_{n}, x, x, ...) : n \in \mathbb{N}, x_{i} \in M_{2}(F), x \in J\} \text{ where } J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$
  
Soc(\_RR) = \{(x\_{1}, ..., x\_{n}, 0, 0, ...) : n \in \mathbb{N}, x\_{i} \in M\_{2}(F)\}

Thus,

$$R/Soc(_{R}R) \cong \begin{bmatrix} F & F \\ 0 & F \end{bmatrix}$$

and so *R* is not left  $Soc(_{R}R)$ -semiregular. Also by Example 2.15 in Nicholson (1976) *R* is not semiregular, but  $\delta(_{R}R)$ -semiregular by Example 4.3 in Zhou (2000).

If M is finitely generated projective Z(M)-semiregular, then M need not be Soc(M)-semiregular. Hence there is a module M which is semiregular but not Soc(M)-semiregular (see also Yousif and Zhou, 2002, Example 1.8).

**Example 4.21.** Let  $M = R = \mathbb{Z}_8$ . Then R is a self-injective ring, J(R) = Z(R) = 2R and Soc(R) = 4R. Hence R is a Z(R)-semiregular ring by Nicholson and Yousif (2001) but not Soc(R)-semiregular since J(R)-semiregular is not contained in Soc(R).

If *M* is Soc(M)-semiregular then *M* need not be Z(M)-semiregular. The ring of  $2 \times 2$  upper triangular matrices over a field is the example of such a module, see Yousif and Zhou, 2002, Example 1.8).

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