

## SOME COMMENTS ON INJECTIVITY AND P-INJECTIVITY

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ABSTRACT. A generalization of injective modules (noted GI-modules), distinct from p-injective modules, is introduced. Rings whose p-injective modules are GI are characterized. If  $M$  is a left GI-module,  $E = \text{End}({}_A M)$ , then  $E/J(E)$  is von Neumann regular, where  $J(E)$  is the Jacobson radical of the ring  $E$ .  $A$  is semi-simple Artinian if, and only if, every left  $A$ -module is GI. If  $A$  is a left p.p., left GI-ring such that every non-zero complement left ideal of  $A$  contains a non-zero ideal of  $A$ , then  $A$  is strongly regular. Sufficient conditions are given for a ring to be either von Neumann regular or quasi-Frobenius. Quasi-Frobenius and von Neumann regular rings are characterized. Kasch rings are also considered.

Throughout,  $A$  denotes an associative ring with identity and  $A$ -modules are unital.  $J$ ,  $Z$ ,  $Y$  will stand respectively for the Jacobson radical, the left singular ideal and the right singular ideal of  $A$ .  $A$  is called *semi-primitive* or *semi-simple* (resp. (a) left *non-singular*; (b) right *non-singular*) if  $J = (0)$  (resp. (a)  $Z = (0)$ ; (b)  $Y = (0)$ ). An ideal of  $A$  will always mean a two-sided ideal of  $A$ .  $A$  is called *left* (resp. *right*) *quasi-duo* if every maximal left (resp. right) ideal of  $A$  is an ideal of  $A$ . It well-known that  $J$ ,  $Z$ ,  $Y$  are ideals of  $A$ . A left (right) ideal of  $A$  is called reduced if it contains no non-zero nilpotent elements.

Following C. Faith, write “ $A$  is VNR” if  $A$  is a von Neumann regular ring [8].  $A$  is called fully (resp. (1) fully left; (2) fully right) idempotent if every ideal (resp.(1) left ideal ; (2) right ideal) of  $A$  is idempotent.

It is well-known that  $A$  is VNR if and only if every left (right)  $A$ -module is flat (Harada ((1956); Auslander (1957)). Also,  $A$  is VNR if and only if every left (right)  $A$ -module is p-injective ([2], [4], [12], [22], [23]). Note that the Harada-Auslander’s characterization may be weakened as follows:  $A$  is VNR if and only if every singular right  $A$ -module is flat (cf. [38, p. 147]).

Recall that a left  $A$ -module  $M$  is p-injective if, for any principal left ideal  $P$  of  $A$ , every left  $A$ -homomorphism of  $P$  into  $M$  extends to one of  $A$  into  $M$  ([8, p. 122], [20, p. 577], [21, p. 340], [26]).  $A$  is called a left p-injective ring if  ${}_A A$  is p-injective. P-injectivity is similarly defined on the right side. A generalization of p-injectivity, noted YJ-injectivity, is introduced in [29](cf. also [22], [39]). YJ-injectivity is also called GP-injectivity by other authors (cf. [4], [6], [15]).

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${}_A M$  is called YJ-injective if, for any  $0 \neq a \in A$ , there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $a^n \neq 0$  and every left  $A$ -homomorphism of  $Aa^n$  into  $M$  extends to one of  $A$  into  $M$  [29].  $A$  is called a left YJ-injective ring if  ${}_A A$  is YJ-injective. YJ-injectivity is similarly defined on the right side.

Note that  $A$  is left YJ-injective if and only if for every  $0 \neq a \in A$ , there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $a^n A$  is a non-zero right annihilator [29, Lemma 3].

Also, if  $A$  is right YJ-injective, then  $Y = J$  [28, Proposition 1] (this is the origin of the notation). In recent years, p-injectivity and YJ-injectivity have drawn the attention of many authors ([2], [4], [6], [8, Theorem 6.4], [11], [15], [16], [17], [20], [22], [23], [40]).

We have consider the following generalization of injective modules.

**Definition 1.** A left  $A$ -module  $M$  is called GI (generalized injective) if, given any left submodule  $C$  of  $M$  which is isomorphic to a non-zero complement left submodule of  $M$ , any monomorphisms  $g, f$  of  $C$  into  $M$ , there exists a left  $A$ -homomorphism  $h : M \rightarrow M$  such that  $hf = g$ . Write “ $A$  is a left GI-ring” if  ${}_A A$  is GI.

Note that any simple left  $A$ -module is GI. Consequently, GI-modules generalize effectively injective modules.

GI-modules need not be p-injective (otherwise, any arbitrary ring would be fully left and right idempotent!).

The converse is not true either, as shown by the following result.

**Theorem 1.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $A$  is a left Noetherian ring whose p-injective left modules are injective;
- (2) Every p-injective left  $A$ -module is GI.

*Proof.* (1) implies (2) evidently.

Assume (2). Let  $M$  be a p-injective left  $A$ -module,  $E$  the injective hull of  ${}_A M$ . Write  $Q = {}_A M \oplus {}_A E$  and  $S = \{(y, o); y \in M\}$ . Then  ${}_A S$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A Q$  and  ${}_A S \approx {}_A M$ . If  $i : M \rightarrow E$  is the inclusion map:  $j : M \rightarrow Q$  and  $k : E \rightarrow Q$  the canonical injections, since  ${}_A Q$  is the direct sum of two p-injective left  $A$ -modules, then  $Q$  is p-injective and by hypothesis,  ${}_A Q$  is GI. There exists a left  $A$ -homomorphism  $h : Q \rightarrow Q$  such that  $hki = j$ . If  $p : Q \rightarrow M$  is the canonical projection, then  $v = phk : E \rightarrow M$  such that  $vi = pj =$  identity map on  $M$ . Therefore  ${}_A M$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A E$  which yields  $M = E$  is injective. We have shown that every p-injective left  $A$ -module is injective. Since any direct sum of p-injective left  $A$ -modules is p-injective, then every direct sum of injective left  $A$ -modules is injective which implies that  $A$  is left Noetherian [7, Theorem 20.1]. Thus (2) implies (1).  $\square$

As usual,  $A$  is called a left IF-ring if every injective left  $A$ -module is flat. The next theorem is motivated by [38, Proposition 6].

**Theorem 2.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $A$  is quasi-Frobenius;
- (2)  $A$  is a left IF-ring whose flat modules are GI;

(3) *The direct sum of any injective and any projective left  $A$ -modules is GI.*

*Proof.* Assume (1). Since  $A$  is left perfect, any flat left  $A$ -module  $F$  is projective. Now  $F$  is injective by [7, Theorem 24.20], hence GI. Therefore (1) implies (2).

Assume (2). Let  $Q$  be a direct sum of an injective and a projective left  $A$ -modules. Then  $Q$  is the direct sum of two flat left  $A$ -modules which is therefore flat. By hypothesis,  ${}_A Q$  is GI and therefore (2) implies (3).

Assume (3). Let  $P$  be a non-zero projective left  $A$ -module,  $E$  the injective hull of  ${}_A P$ . Write  $Q = {}_A P \oplus {}_A E$  and  $S = \{(y, 0); y \in P\}$ . Then  ${}_A S \approx {}_A P$  and  ${}_A S$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A Q$ . By hypothesis,  ${}_A Q$  is GI. The proof of Theorem 1 then shows that  ${}_A P$  must be injective. By [7, Theorem 24.20],  $A$  is quasi-Frobenius and (3) implies (1).  $\square$

**Corollary 2.1.** *If flat left  $A$ -modules coincide with GI left  $A$ -modules, then  $A$  is quasi-Frobenius.*

*Proof.* By hypothesis,  $A$  is a left IF-ring. The corollary then follows from Theorem 2 (2).  $\square$

The proof of Theorem 1 shows that if the direct sum of any two GI left  $A$ -modules is GI, then every GI left  $A$ -module is injective. The next proposition then follows.

**Proposition 3.**  *$A$  is semi-simple Artinian if and only if every left  $A$ -module is GI.*

Given a left  $A$ -module  $M$ ,  $\text{End}(M)$  denotes, as usual, the ring of endomorphisms of  ${}_A M$ . We now turn to an analogous result of a well-known theorem [7, Theorem 19.27].

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $M$  be a GI left  $A$ -module. If  $E = \text{End}(M)$ ,  $J(E)$  is Jacobson radical of  $E$ , then  $E/J(E)$  is VNR and  $J(E) = \{f \in E / \ker f \text{ is essential in } {}_A M\}$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $E = \text{End}(M)$ ,  $J(E)$  the Jacobson radical of  $E$ . Set  $V = \{f \in E / \ker f \text{ is essential in } {}_A M\}$ . It is well-known that  $V$  is an ideal of  $E$ . We first show that  $V \subseteq J(E)$ .

For any  $f \in V$ ,  $d \in E$ , since  $\ker f \cap \ker(1 - df) = 0$ , then  $\ker(1 - df) = 0$ . With  $u = 1 - df$ ,  $u$  is an isomorphism of  $M$  onto  $uM$ . Let  $v : uM \rightarrow M$  be the inverse isomorphism of  $u$ . Since  ${}_A M$  is GI, with  $j : uM \rightarrow M$  the inclusion map, there exists an endomorphism  $h$  of  ${}_A M$  such that  $hj = v$ .

Then

$$hu(m) = hj(u(m)) = v(u(m)) = m \quad \text{for all } m \in M$$

which implies that  $hu$  is the identity map on  $M$ . Therefore  $1 - df$  is left invertible in  $E$  for every  $d \in E$ , proving that  $f \in J(E)$ .

Now, let  $\bar{0} \neq \bar{g} \in E/J(E)$ ,  $g \in E$ . Then  $g \notin V$  (because  $V \subseteq J(E)$ ). By Zorn's Lemma, there exists a non-zero complement submodule  $K$  of  $M$  such that  $\ker g \oplus K$  is an essential submodule of  ${}_A M$ . If  $r : K \rightarrow M$  is the restriction of  $g$  to  $K$ , then  $r$  is a monomorphism and consequently  $r : K \rightarrow r(K)$  is an isomorphism. Let  $s : r(K) \rightarrow K$  be the inverse isomorphism. Then  $sr = \text{identity map on } K$ .

Since  $K$  is a non-zero complement submodule of  $M$ , if  $i : K \rightarrow M$  is the canonical injection, then  $is : r(K) \rightarrow M$  and is extends to an endomorphism  $t$  of  ${}_A M$ . For any  $k \in K$ ,

$$t(g(k)) = t(r(k)) = isr(k) = k$$

which implies that  $K + \ker g \subseteq \ker(gtg - g)$  and hence  $gtg - g \in V \subseteq J(E)$ . Therefore  $\bar{g}t\bar{g} = \bar{g} \in E/J(E)$  which proves that  $E/J(E)$  is VNR.

Now suppose there exists  $w \in J(E)$  such that  $w \notin V$ . Then the above proof shows that there exists  $z \in E$  such that  $y = w - wzw \in V$ . But there exists  $q \in E$  such that  $(1 - zw)q = 1$ . Therefore  $y = w(1 - zw)$  yields  $yq = w \cdot 1 = w$ , whence  $w \in V$  (since  $V$  is an ideal of  $E$ ), which is a contradiction! Therefore  $J(E) \subseteq V$  and finally,  $J(E) = V = \{f \in E/\ker f \text{ is essential in } {}_A M\}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 5.** *If  $A$  is a left GI-ring, then every non-zero-divisor of  $A$  is invertible in  $A$ . Consequently,  $A$  coincides with its classical left (and right) quotient ring.*

*Proof.* Let  $c$  be a non-zero divisor of  $A$ . Define  $f : Ac \rightarrow A$  by  $f(ac) = a$  for all  $a \in A$ . Then  $f$  is a well-defined left  $A$ -homomorphism which is a monomorphism. Now  ${}_A Ac \approx {}_A A$  and if  $Ac \rightarrow A$  is the inclusion map, since  ${}_A A$  is GI, there exists a left  $A$ -homomorphism  $h : A \rightarrow A$  such that  $hi = f$ . If  $h(1) = u \in A$ , then

$$1 = f(c) = hi(c) = h(c) = ch(1) = cu.$$

Then  $c = cuc$  which yields  $c(1 - uc) = 0$ , whence  $uc = 1$ . Therefore  $c$  is invertible in  $A$  and consequently,  $A$  coincides with its classical left (and right) quotient ring.  $\square$

Call  $A$  a left TC-ring if every non-zero complement left ideal of  $A$  contains a non-zero ideal of  $A$ .

**Corollary 5.1.** *If  $A$  is a left TC, left p.p., left GI-ring, then  $A$  is strongly regular.*

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is left non-singular, left TC, then  $A$  is reduced by [34, Lemma 1]. Now  $A$  is a reduced left p.p. ring which implies that every element  $a$  of  $A$  is of the form  $a = ce$ , where  $c$  is a non-zero-divisor and  $e$  is a central idempotent in  $A$  [30, Theorem 2]. By Proposition 5,  $c$  is invertible in  $A$ . Then

$$a = ce = cec^{-1}c = cec^{-1}ce \quad (\text{since } e \text{ is central})$$

which yields  $a = ac^{-1}a$ . Therefore  $A$  is VNR and since  $A$  is reduced, then  $A$  is strongly regular.  $\square$

In [17, Example 2.4], the given ring  $A$  has the following property: for every  $y \in J$ , the Jacobson radical of  $A$ ,  $l(y) = r(y)$ . This motivates the next result.

**Proposition 6.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $A$  is strongly regular;
- (2)  $A$  is a left quasi-duo ring whose simple left modules are either YJ-injective or flat and for every  $u \in J$ ,  $l(u) = r(u)$ .

*Proof.* (1) implies (2) evidently.

Assume (2). Suppose there exists  $0 \neq v \in J$  such that  $v^2 = 0$ . If  $I = AvA + l(v)$ , suppose that  $I \neq A$ . Let  $M$  be a maximal left ideal of  $A$  containing  $I$ . If  ${}_A A/M$  is YJ-injective, since  $v^2 = 0$ , every left  $A$ -homomorphism of  $Av$  into  $A/M$  extends to one of  $A$  into  $A/M$ .

Define

$$g : Av \rightarrow A/M \quad \text{by} \quad g(av) = a + M \quad \text{for all } a \in A.$$

Then

$$1 + M = g(v) = vy + M \quad \text{for some } y \in A.$$

Since  $vy \in J \subseteq M$ , then  $1 \in M$ , which contradicts  $M \neq A$ .

If  ${}_A A/M$  is flat, then  $v \in I \subseteq M$  implies that  $v = vd$  for some  $d \in M$  [3, p. 458]. Now  $(1-d) \in r(v) = l(v) \subseteq M$  which yields  $1 \in M$ , again a contradiction! Therefore  $I = A$ . Then  $1 = s + t$ ,  $s \in AvA$ ,  $t \in l(v)$  and  $v = sv$ . Since  $s \in J$ ,  $1-s$  is left invertible in  $A$  which yields  $v = 0$ , contradicting our original hypothesis. We have shown that  $J$  must be a reduced ideal of  $A$ .

Now suppose that  $J \neq 0$ . If  $0 \neq w \in J$ , since  $J$  is reduced, for any positive integer  $m$ ,

$$l(w^m) = l(w) = r(w) = r(w^m).$$

Set  $W = AwA + l(w)$ . If  $W \neq A$ , let  $N$  be a maximal left ideal of  $A$  containing  $W$ . If  ${}_A A/N$  is YJ-injective, there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that every left  $A$ -homomorphism of  $Aw^n$  into  $A/N$  extends to one of  $A$  into  $A/N$ . We may define a left  $A$ -homomorphism

$$h : Aw^n \rightarrow A/N \quad \text{by} \quad h(aw^n) = a + N \quad \text{for all } a \in A.$$

Then

$$1 + N = h(w^n) = w^n z + N \quad \text{for some } z \in A.$$

Now  $w^n z \in J \subseteq N$  implies that  $1 \in N$ , contradicting  $N \neq A$ . If  ${}_A A/N$  is flat,  $w = wc$  for some  $c \in N$ .

Now  $1 - c \in r(w) = l(w) \subseteq N$  implies that  $1 \in N$ , again a contradiction! Therefore  $W = A$  and  $1 = p + q$ ,  $p \in AwA$ ,  $q \in l(w)$ , whence  $w = pw$ .

Now  $1 - p$  is left invertible in  $A$  which yields  $w = 0$ , contradicting our first hypothesis. We have proved that  $J = 0$ . Since  $A$  is left quasi-duo, then  $A$  must be a reduced ring (cf. the proof of “(2) implies (3)” in [27, Theorem 2.1]). Now  $A$  is a left quasi-duo reduced ring whose simple left modules are either YJ-injective or flat which yields  $A$  strongly regular by a result of Chen and Ding [5, Corollary 7]. Thus (2) implies (1).  $\square$

In the above proposition, the expression “ $l(u) = r(u)$ ” is not superfluous as shown by the following example.

**Example.** If  $A$  denotes the  $2 \times 2$  upper triangular matrix ring over a field, then  $A$  is a left and right quasi-duo, Artinian, hereditary ring whose simple one-sided modules are either injective or projective but not semi-prime (indeed, the Jacobson radical  $J$  of  $A$  is non-zero and  $J^2 = 0$ ).

Singular modules play an important role in the theory of modules and rings. It is well-known that  $A$  is a left non-singular ring if and only if  $A$  has a VNR maximal left quotient ring  $Q$ . In that case,  ${}_A Q$  is the injective hull of  ${}_A A$  and  $Q$  is a left self-injective ring. If  $A$  is left non-singular, then for any injective left  $A$ -module  $M$ , the singular submodule  $Z(M)$  is injective [25, Theorem 4]. If  $A$  is left self-injective regular, then for any essentially finitely generated left  $A$ -module  $M$ ,  $Z(M)$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A M$  [39, Corollary 10]. The right singular ideal will be crucial in the next result. Recall that  $M$  is a maximal right annihilator ideal of  $A$  if  $M = r(S)$  for some non-zero subset  $S$  of  $A$  such that for any right annihilator  $R$  which strictly contains  $M$ ,  $R = A$ . In that case,  $M = r(s)$  for any  $0 \neq s \in S$ .

**Proposition 7.** *Let  $A$  be right YJ-injective such that each finitely generated right ideal is either a projective right annihilator or a maximal right annihilator. Then  $A$  is either VNR or quasi-Frobenius.*

*Proof.* First suppose that  $Y \neq 0$ . For any  $0 \neq y \in Y$ , since  $r(y)$  is an essential right ideal of  $A$ , then  $yA$  cannot be a projective right annihilator. Therefore  $yA$  is a maximal right annihilator.

If  $u \notin yA$ , then  $yA + uA = A$ , whence  $Y = yA$ . We have just shown that  $Y$  is a minimal right ideal of  $A$ . If  $a \in A$ ,  $a \notin Y$ , then  $aA + yA = A$ . This shows that  $Y$  must be a maximal right ideal of  $A$ . Since  $Y$  cannot contain a non-zero idempotent, then  $Y$  is an essential right ideal of  $A$ . For any non-zero proper right ideal  $I$  of  $A$ ,  $I \cap Y \neq 0$  which implies that  $I \cap Y = Y$  by the minimality of  $Y$ . Therefore  $Y \subseteq I$  which yields  $Y = I$  by the maximality of  $Y$ . We have proved that  $Y$  is the unique non-zero proper right ideal of  $A$ .  $A$  is therefore right Artinian local with  $J = Y$ .

Let  $V$  denote a minimal left ideal of  $A$ . If  $V = Av$ ,  $v \in A$ , either  $V^2 = 0$  or  $V$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A A$ . If  $v^2 = 0$ , since  $A$  is right YJ-injective,  $Av$  is a left annihilator by [29, Lemma 3]. If  $V$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A A$ , then  $V$  is again a left annihilator. We have shown that every minimal left ideal of  $A$  must be a left annihilator. Since, by hypothesis, every finitely generated right ideal of  $A$  is a right annihilator, then  $A$  is quasi-Frobenius by [18, Proposition 1].

Now suppose that  $Y = 0$ . If  $0 \neq b \in A$  such that  $bA$  is a maximal right annihilator, since  $Y = 0$ ,  $bA$  cannot be an essential right ideal of  $A$ . Therefore  $bA \cap cA = 0$  for some  $0 \neq c \in A$ . Now  $bA \oplus cA = A$  ( $bA$  being a maximal right annihilator). Then every principal right ideal of  $A$  must be projective.

Now for any  $0 \neq d \in A$ , there exists a positive integer  $m$  such that  $Ad^m$  is a non-zero left annihilator [29, Lemma 3]. Since  $d^m A$  is a projective right  $A$ -module, then  $r(d^m)$  is a direct summand of  $A_A$ . Therefore  $Ad^m = l(r(Ad^m)) = l(r(d^m))$  is a direct summand of  ${}_A A$ . We have just proved that every left  $A$ -module must be YJ-injective. By [40, Theorem 9],  $A$  is VNR.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.** *The following conditions are equivalent for a ring  $A$  with centre  $C$ :*

- (1)  $A$  is VNR;

- (2) *A is a semi-prime ring whose essential left ideals are idempotent and for every maximal ideal M of C, A/AM is a VNR ring.*

*Proof.* (1) implies (2) evidently.

Assume (2). If  $d \in C$  such that  $d^2 = 0$ , then  $(Ad)^2 = Ad^2 = 0$  implies that  $d = 0$ .  $C$  is therefore a reduced ring. For any  $c \in C$ , let  $K$  be a complement left ideal of  $A$  such that  $L = (Ac + l(c)) \oplus K$  is an essential left ideal of  $A$ . Then  $Kc = cK \subseteq Ac \cap K = 0$  implies that  $K \subseteq l(c)$ , whence  $K \subseteq K \cap (Ac + l(c)) = 0$ . Therefore  $L = Ac + l(c)$  and by hypothesis,  $L = L^2$ .

Now  $c = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i c + u_i)(b_i c + v_i)$ ,  $a_i, b_i \in A$ ,  $u_i, v_i \in l(c)$ , and

$$c - \sum_{i=1}^n a_i c b_i c = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i c v_i + u_i b_i c + u_i v_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i,$$

since  $a_i c v_i = a_i v_i c = 0$ ,  $u_i b_i c = u_i c b_i = 0$ . If  $w \in Ac \cap l(c)$ ,  $w = dc$ ,  $d \in A$ ,  $dc^2 = wc = 0$  and therefore  $cAdc = 0$  which implies that  $(Adc)^2 = 0$ . Since  $A$  is semi-prime,  $Adc = 0$  which yields  $w = dc = 0$ .

Now  $c - \sum_{i=1}^n a_i c b_i c = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i \in Ac \cap l(c) = 0$  which yields  $c = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i c b_i c = czc$ ,

where  $z = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \in A$ . Set  $y = c^2 z^3$ . Then

$$cyc = (czc)zcc = (czc)zc = c \quad \text{and} \quad c^2 z = zc^2 = czc = c.$$

For every  $b \in A$ ,

$$zc^2 b = cb = bc = bc^2 z = c^2 bz$$

and hence  $z^3 c^2 b = c^2 b z^3$  which shows that

$$yb = c^2 z^3 b = z^3 c^2 b = c^2 b z^3 = bc^2 z^3 = by,$$

whence  $y \in C$ . Therefore  $C$  is VNR. Then (2) implies (1) by [1, Theorem 3].  $\square$

**Proposition 9.** *The following conditions are equivalent for a commutative ring A:*

- (1) *A is VNR;*
- (2) *For each non-zero principal ideal P of A, there exists a positive integer n such that P^n is generated by a non-zero idempotent;*
- (3) *For each non-zero principal ideal P of A, there exists a positive integer n such that P^n is a non-zero flat complement ideal of A.*

*Proof.* It is clear that (1) implies (2) while (2) implies (3).

Assume (3). First suppose that  $A$  is not reduced. Then there exists  $0 \neq b \in A$  such that  $b^2 = 0$ . By hypothesis,  $Ab$  is a non-zero flat complement ideal of  $A$ . Now  $Ab \approx A/l(b)$  and since  $b \in l(b)$ , then  $b = bd$  for some  $d \in l(b)$  [3, p. 458]. Therefore  $bd = db = 0$  implies that  $b = 0$ , a contradiction! We have shown that  $A$  must be reduced.

By [33, Proposition 1], every complement ideal of  $A$  is an annihilator. By hypothesis, for any  $0 \neq a \in A$ , there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $Aa^n$

is a non-zero complement ideal of  $A$  and hence  $Aa^n$  is an annihilator. By [29, Lemma 3],  $A$  is YJ-injective. Then (3) implies (1) by [29, Lemma 5].  $\square$

**Question.** Is  $A$  VNR if every finitely generated right ideal of  $A$  is a flat complement right ideal of  $A$ ?

Recall that  $A$  is a right coherent ring if every finitely generated right ideal of  $A$  is finitely presented. For example, VNR rings are coherent.

**Proposition 10.** *If  $A$  is a commutative ring, then every factor ring of  $A$  is an IF-ring if and only if every factor ring of  $A$  is a coherent  $p$ -injective ring.*

*Proof.* Suppose that every factor ring  $B$  of  $A$  is a coherent  $p$ -injective ring. Then every factor ring  $B$  is a self FP-injective ring by [35, Proposition 3]. By [13, Corollary 2.5], every finitely generated ideal of  $B$  is an annihilator. Since  $B$  is coherent, then  $B$  is an IF-ring by [9, Theorem 2.1]. The converse is well-known.  $\square$

**Proposition 11.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *Every factor ring of  $A$  is QF;*
- (2)  *$A$  has the following properties: (a)  $A$  satisfies the maximum condition on left annihilators; (b) Every finitely generated left ideal of  $A$  is principal; (c) A left  $A$ -module  $M$  is  $p$ -injective if and only if  $M$  is flat.*

*Proof.* Assume (1). Then  $A$  is a principal left ideal ring which is QF [7, Proposition 25.4.6B]. Now every  $p$ -injective left  $A$ -module  $M$  is injective, which implies that  $M$  is flat [7, Theorem 24.12]. If  ${}_A N$  is flat, since  $A$  is left perfect, then  ${}_A N$  is projective [21, p. 392] which implies that  ${}_A N$  is injective [7, Theorem 24.20]. Therefore  ${}_A N$  is  $p$ -injective and (1) implies (2).

Assume (2). Then  $A$  is a left  $p$ -injective ring. Since  $A$  is a left IF-ring by (c), then  $A$  is right  $p$ -injective.  $\square$

Since  $A$  is left  $p$ -injective with maximum condition on left annihilators, then  $A$  is right Artinian [22, p. 34]. Then (2) implies (1) by [18, Proposition 2] and [7, Proposition 25.4.6B].

(Condition (a) is not superfluous since any VNR ring satisfies Conditions 2 (b), (c).)

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