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## ON RADICAL FORMULA IN MODULES

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Abstract. We will state some conditions under which if a quotient of a module M satisfies the radical formula of degree k (s.t.r.f of degree k), so does M. Especially, we will introduce some particular modules M' such that  $M' \oplus M''$  s.t.r.f of degree k, when M'' s.t.r.f of degree k. Furthermore, we will show that, under certain conditions, if the completion of a module M s.t.r.f of degree k, then there is a non-negative integer k' such that M s.t.r.f. of degree k'. Moreover, we state a corrected version of Leung and Man's theorem (K. H. Leung and S. H. Man, On commutative Noetherian rings which satisfy the radical formula, *Glasgow Math. J.* **39** (1997), 285–293) on Noetherian rings that satisfies the radical formula.

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**1. Introduction.** In this paper all rings are commutative and with identity, all modules are unitary, *R* denotes a ring and *M* denotes an *R*-module. Also, by  $\mathbb{N}$  we mean the set of positive integers and  $\mathbb{N}^* = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0, \infty\}$ .

A proper submodule *P* of *M* is called *prime* when from  $rm \in P$  for some  $r \in R$  and  $m \in M$ , we can conclude either  $m \in P$  or  $rM \subseteq P$  (see for example [1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16]). Let (P : M) be the set of all  $r \in R$  such that  $rM \subseteq P$ . If *P* is a prime submodule, then  $\mathfrak{P} = (P : M)$  is a prime ideal of *R* and we say that *P* is  $\mathfrak{P}$ -prime. Recall that if *R* is an integral domain, then *M* is called *torsion-free*, if for every  $0 \neq r \in R$  and  $0 \neq m \in M$ , we have  $rm \neq 0$ . One can easily verify that *P* is a  $\mathfrak{P}$ -prime submodule of *M* if and only if  $\frac{M}{P}$  is a torsion-free  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{N}}$ -module.

Another generalisation of prime ideals to modules was proposed in [7]. There a proper submodule W of M is said to be *weakly prime*, if from  $rsm \in W$  for  $r, s \in R$  and  $m \in M$ , we can conclude either  $rm \in W$  or  $sm \in W$ . One can easily see that it is equivalent to saying that (W : m) is a prime ideal for every  $m \in M \setminus W$ . So every prime submodule of M is weakly prime.

Recall that for an ideal  $\mathfrak{I}$  of R, the intersection of all prime ideals of R containing  $\mathfrak{I}$  is called the radical of  $\mathfrak{I}$  and is denoted by  $\sqrt{\mathfrak{I}}$ . Similarly, if N is a submodule of M, the intersection of prime (weakly prime) submodules of M containing N is called the *radical* (weak radical) of N and we denote it by  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N)$  or  $\operatorname{rad}(N)$  (wrad<sub>M</sub>(N) or wrad(N)).

It is well known that  $\sqrt{\Im} = \{r \in R | r^k \in \Im$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . In order to find a similar characterisation for rad(N), the notion of envelope of a submodule was introduced by McCasland and Moore [13]. The *envelope* of a submodule N of M,  $E_M(N)$  (or E(N) if no subtlety), is the set of all  $x \in M$  for which there exist  $r \in R$ ,  $m \in M$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that x = rm and  $r^k m \in N$ . In general, E(B) is not a submodule, so we consider RE(B) (or  $RE_M(B)$ ) to be the submodule of M generated by E(B).

Also in [3], the *k*th *envelope* of N was defined recursively by  $E_0(N) = N$  and  $E_k(N) = E(RE_{k-1}(N))$ , where  $RE_k(N)$  (or  $RE_{k,M}(N)$ ) is a submodule of M generated by  $E_k(N)$ . Moreover, here by  $RE_{\infty}(N)$  we mean  $\bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} RE_k(N)$ .

One can easily verify that for every submodule N of M

 $N = RE_0(N) \subseteq RE_1(N) \subseteq RE_2(N) \cdots \subseteq RE_\infty(N) \subseteq wrad(N) \subseteq rad(N).$ 

Now if  $rad(N) = RE_k(N)$  (wrad $(N) = RE_k(N)$ ) for a  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , then we say that N satisfies (weakly satisfies) the radical formula of degree k, or N s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k in M. A module M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, when every submodule of M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k in M. Also, we say that R s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, if every R-module s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. For k = 1 we simply drop k and write R s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) and write RE(N) instead of  $RE_1(N)$ .

In [3], it was proved that every arithmetical ring with the finite Krull dimension k, s.t.r.f. of degree k and that an arithmetical ring with DCC on prime ideals s.t.r.f. of degree  $\infty$ . Also, [4, Theorem 2.1] states that every arithmetical ring weakly s.t.r.f. of degree  $\infty$ . In [16] the rings that s.t.r.f. of degree 0 were named absolutely radical, and it was proved that a ring is absolutely radical if and only if it is the von Neumann regular ring. Moreover, in [4] it is proved that R s.t.r.f. of degree 0 if and only if it weakly s.t.r.f. of degree 0. Also in [9], the characterisation of Noetherian rings that s.t.r.f. is given, which, in Section 2, we will show that it needs a small correction.

A proper submodule N of M is called *semi-prime* if E(N) = N. It is said that R has the *s.p.a.r. property* when every semi-prime submodule N of an R-module is a radical submodule (that is, N equals an intersection of prime submodules). One can easily see that a proper submodule B of M is semi-prime if and only if B is of the form  $RE_{\infty}(N)$ for some submodule N of M. Thus, having the s.p.a.r. property is equivalent to s.t.r.f. of degree  $\infty$ . In [10], Noetherian rings with the s.p.a.r. property were characterized.

It is known that if M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k and N is a submodule of M, then  $\frac{M}{N}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. In Section 3 we state conditions on M and N under which the converse of this is true. Especially in Sections (3.4), (3.7), (3.11), (3.14) and (3.16), we will introduce some particular modules M' such that  $M' \oplus M''$  s.t.r.f. of degree k, when M'' s.t.r.f. of degree k.

Also, we will prove that if  $s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathfrak{I}$  is a finitely generated ideal of R such that  $\mathfrak{I} \subseteq \sqrt{(RE_s(0) : M)}$  and the  $\mathfrak{I}$ -adic completion of M s.t.r.f. of degree t, then M s.t.r.f. of degree s + t and moreover as an application of this, in (3.21) we will show that for Noetherian rings, having the s.p.a.r. property is equivalent to s.t.r.f. of degree 2. This result generalises Theorem 3.5 and Corollary 2.6 of [4], which state that a Noetherian domain R s.t.r.f. of degree k for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , if and only if R is a Dedekind domain.

**2.** A corrected version of Leung and Man's theorem. In [9] the following theorem is claimed to be proved.

THEOREM 2.1. Let R be a Noetherian ring and  $\mathfrak{P}_1, \mathfrak{P}_2, \ldots, \mathfrak{P}_n$  be all the minimal prime ideals of R. R s.t.r.f. if and only if R is Artinian or all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) *R* is one dimensional and for each i = 1, ..., n,  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{P}_i}$  is a Dedekind domain and  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  is the only  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ -primary ideal.

(b) For 
$$k = 1, ..., n - 1$$
,  $(\bigcap_{i=1}^{k} \mathfrak{P}_{i}) + \mathfrak{P}_{k+1} = \bigcap_{i=1}^{k} (\mathfrak{P}_{i} + \mathfrak{P}_{k+1})$  if  $n \ge 2$ .  
(c) For all  $1 \le i < j \le n$ ,  $R = \mathfrak{P}_{i} + \mathfrak{P}_{j}$  or  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{P}_{i} + \mathfrak{P}_{j}}$  is semi-simple Artinian, if  $n \ge 2$ .

Now we give a counter example of this theorem. Recall that a ring is called a *special principal ideal ring* (*SPIR*) if it has a unique prime ideal which is principal. These rings are sometimes called special primary rings (see [8]).

EXAMPLE 2.2. Let  $R_1$  be an SPIR, which is not a field, and  $R_2$  be discrete valuation domain, which is not filed. Set  $R = R_1 \times R_2$ . By [8, Theorem 9.10] any finite direct sum of SPIR and Dedekind's domains is a ZPI-ring; therefore, R is a ZPI-ring, hence s.t.r.f. by [16, Theorem 2.10]. Also, R is clearly Noetherian and one dimensional.

Now if  $\mathfrak{P}_1$  is the maximal ideal of  $R_1$ , it is easy to see that  $\mathfrak{P} = \mathfrak{P}_1 \times R_2$  is both a maximal and a minimal ideal of R. Also,  $0 \times R_2$  is a  $\mathfrak{P}$ -primary ideal of R not equal to  $\mathfrak{P} \times R_2$ , which contradicts condition (a) of (2.1).

THEOREM 2.3. For correcting Theorem 2.1, we need to replace condition (a) of this theorem with the following condition:

(*d'*) *R* is one dimensional and for each i = 1, ..., n; if  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  is not maximal, then  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{P}_i}$  is a Dedekind domain and  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  is the only  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ -primary ideal.

*Proof.* First note that if R satisfies the conditions of (2.1), then by the argument stated in [9], R s.t.r.f. Now let R be a ring that satisfies the conditions of the corrected version of the theorem. If  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a maximal ideal of R, then  $R_{\mathfrak{M}}$  is either Artinian or a one-dimensional local ring that satisfies the conditions of (2.1). Thus, in both cases  $R_{\mathfrak{M}}$  s.t.r.f., whence by [9, Theorem 3.4], R s.t.r.f.

Now, suppose that *R* is a one-dimensional Noetherian ring that s.t.r.f. By a careful reading of proof of [9, Corollary 2.3], we see that for every minimal prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of *R*, which is not maximal,  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{P}}$  is the Dedekind domain and  $\mathfrak{P}$  is the only  $\mathfrak{P}$ -primary ideal of *R* (in fact, in that proof its authors have assumed that if  $\mathfrak{P}$  is a minimal prime ideal of a one-dimensional Noetherian ring, then it is not maximal, which is not generally true). So condition (a') holds.

Now note that if (b) (or (c)) holds locally, then it holds globally. Now if  $\mathfrak{P}$  is a height zero prime ideal of R, then (b) and (c) hold trivially for  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$ . If  $\mathfrak{P}$  is a height one prime ideal of R, then  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$  is a Noetherian local ring of dimension one and hence by [9, Theorem 4.2],  $R_{\mathfrak{P}}$  satisfies (b) and (c). Thus, R satisfies these conditions.

COROLLARY 2.4. If R is a reduced Noetherian ring, then R s.t.r.f. if and only if R has the s.p.a.r property.

*Proof.* In fact this was noted in [10, p. 33], but there [9, Theorem 1.1] was used, which we showed is incorrect. Using (2.3) instead, one can prove the claim with a similar argument.  $\Box$ 

**3.** Quotient of modules and the radical formula. The proof of the following lemma is easy and it is left to the reader.

LEMMA 3.1. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and N be a submodule of M. For every submodule L of M containing N, we have

$$\frac{RE_{k,M}(L)}{N} = RE_{k,\frac{M}{N}}\left(\frac{L}{N}\right), \quad \frac{rad_M(L)}{N} = rad_{\frac{M}{N}}\left(\frac{L}{N}\right) \quad and \quad \frac{wrad_M(L)}{N} = wrad_{\frac{M}{N}}\left(\frac{L}{N}\right).$$

By the above lemma if M' is a submodule of M and M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, then  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k too. Here we study some conditions on M and M', under which the converse of this statement is true. Throughout this section, we assume that M' is a submodule of M. Consider the following properties of M', where  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  (note that each of  $(\mathbf{I}_k)$  and  $(\mathbf{II}_k)$  have two versions: one for radicals and another for weak radicals):

- (I<sub>k</sub>) For every submodule N of M,  $RE_{k,M}(N + M') = RE_{k,M}(N) + M'$  and  $M' \cap$  $\operatorname{rad}_{M}(N) \subseteq RE_{k,M}(N) [M' \cap \operatorname{wrad}_{M}(N) \subseteq RE_{k,M}(N)].$
- (II<sub>k</sub>) For every submodule N of M,  $RE_{k,M}(N + M') \cap rad_M(N) = RE_{k,M}(N)$  $[RE_{k,M}(N + M') \cap \operatorname{wrad}_M(N) = RE_{k,M}(N)].$

THEOREM 3.2. The following statements are equivalent for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ :

- (a) M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k.
- (b) There is a submodule M' of M such that  $(II_k)$  for radicals (weak radicals) holds for M' and  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. (c) Every proper submodule M' of M satisfies  $(II_k)$  for radicals (weak radicals).

*Proof.* We prove the radical version of the statement, the proof of the statement on weak radicals is similar.

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b), (c): Suppose that M s.t.r.f. of degree k and M' and N are arbitrary submodules of M. Now  $RE_k(N+M') \cap rad_M(N) = rad_M(N+M') \cap rad_M(N) =$  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = RE_k(N)$ . Thus, every submodule of M has the property (II<sub>k</sub>) for radicals. Also by (3.1), every quotient module of M s.t.r.f. of degree k.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Since  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. of degree k by (3.1),  $RE_k(N+M') = \operatorname{rad}_M(N+M')$ . Hence,  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = \operatorname{rad}_M(N+M') \cap \operatorname{rad}_M(N) = RE_k(N+M') \cap \operatorname{rad}_M(N) =$  $RE_k(N)$ .

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Let N be an arbitrary submodule of M. First, suppose that rad<sub>M</sub>(N)  $\neq$ M. This means that there exists a prime submodule P of M containing N. P being proper, P satisfies (II<sub>k</sub>) for radicals. Thus,  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = P \cap \operatorname{rad}_M(N) = RE_k(P) \cap$  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = RE_k(P+N) \cap \operatorname{rad}_M(N) = RE_k(N)$ . Now suppose that  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = M$ . If  $RE_k(N) \neq M$ , then let  $m \in M \setminus RE_k(N)$  and so  $Rm \neq M$  as  $rad_M(N) = M$ . Now  $m \in M$  $RE_k(N+Rm) = RE_k(N+Rm) \cap M = RE_k(N+Rm) \cap rad_M(N) = RE_k(N)$ , which is a contradiction. 

LEMMA 3.3. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . Then

- (a) The condition  $(I_k)$   $((II_k))$  for radicals implies  $(I_k)$   $((II_k))$  for weak radicals.
- (b) The condition  $(I_k)$  for radicals (weak radicals) implies  $(II_k)$  for radicals (weak radicals).
- (c) If  $(I_1)$  holds for radicals (weak radicals), then for all  $0 \neq k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,  $(I_k)$  holds for radicals (weak radicals).

*Proof.* (a) Obvious.

(b) If  $(I_k)$  holds for radicals and N is an arbitrary submodule of M, then using the modularity law, we get

$$RE_k(N + M') \cap rad(N) = (RE_k(N) + M') \cap rad(N)$$
$$= RE_k(N) + (M' \cap rad(N)) = RE_k(N).$$

(c) This follows from a simple induction, definition of  $RE_{\infty}(N)$  and the fact that  $RE_i(N) \subseteq RE_i(N)$  whenever  $i \leq j$  and N is a submodule of M.  Let *R* be an integral domain. An *R*-module *M* is called *divisible* if rM = M for every  $0 \neq r \in R$ . In [15] a module *M* was called *generalized torsion divisible* when  $M = \sum_{i \in I} M_i$  for submodules  $M_i$  such that for each  $i \in I$  there exists a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  of *R* such that  $\mathfrak{P}_i M_i = 0$  and  $M_i$  is a torsion divisible  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{P}_i}$ -module. The following generalises [15, Theorem 2.5].

COROLLARY 3.4. Let  $0 \neq k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . Suppose that M' is a generalised torsion divisible submodule of M. If  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, then M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. Particularly if M'' is a module that s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, then  $M' \oplus M''$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k.

*Proof.* Let *N* be an arbitrary submodule of *M*. By [15, Lemma 2.4],  $E(N + M') \subseteq RE(N)$ . Hence,  $RE(N) + M' \subseteq RE(N + M') \subseteq RE(N) \subseteq RE(N) + M'$ , that is RE(N + M') = RE(N). Also,  $M' \cap \operatorname{rad}_M(N) \subseteq M' \subseteq RE(N + M') = RE(N)$ . Thus, *M'* satisfies (I<sub>1</sub>) for radicals and the result follows from (3.3) and (3.2).

For every prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of R and every submodule N of M, let

 $\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{P}}(N) = \{ m \in M | sm \in N \text{ for some } s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{P} \}.$ 

Evidently  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{P}}(N) = N_{\mathfrak{P}} \cap M$ , where  $N_{\mathfrak{P}}$  is the localisation of N at  $\mathfrak{P}$ .

The proof of the following lemma follows from [11, Proposition 2.5].

LEMMA 3.5. For every submodule N of M, we have  $rad_M(N) = \bigcap \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{P}}(N + \mathfrak{P}M)$ , where  $\mathfrak{P}$  runs through all the prime ideals of R.

A secondary module M is a non-zero module in which for every  $r \in R$ , either rM = M or  $r^n M = 0$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If M is secondary, then  $\mathfrak{P} = \sqrt{(0:M)}$  is a prime ideal of R and we say that M is  $\mathfrak{P}$ -secondary.

A minimal secondary representation of M is an equation of the form  $M = \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_i$ , where each  $M_i$  is  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ -secondary for distinct  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ s and none of the  $M_i$ s in the sum is redundant. If M has such a representation, then M is called *representable*. By [12, Theorem 6.9], the set  $\{\mathfrak{P}_i | 1 \le i \le n\}$  is independent of the specific representation and it is denoted by Att(M).

LEMMA 3.6. Let M' be a  $\mathfrak{P}$ -secondary submodule of M. Then  $\mathfrak{P}M' + (M' : \mathfrak{P}M)\mathfrak{P}M \subseteq RE(0)$ .

*Proof.* We prove that the generators of the left-hand side are in RE(0). Let  $p \in \mathfrak{P}$ ,  $m \in M, m' \in M'$  and  $r \in (M' : \mathfrak{P}M)$ . Then  $p^k M' = 0$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus,  $pm' \in RE(0)$ . Also, since  $rpm \in M', p^{k+1}(rm) \in p^k M' = 0$  and hence  $p(rm) \in RE(0)$ .

THEOREM 3.7. Suppose that M' is a  $\mathfrak{P}$ -secondary submodule of M,  $0 \neq k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. Then M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k if one of the following holds:

(a)  $k \geq 2$  and  $(M' : \mathfrak{P}M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}$ .

(b) k = 1 and  $(\mathfrak{P}M' : \mathfrak{P}M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}$ .

*Proof.* By (3.3) and (3.2), in each case it suffices to show that M' satisfies  $(I_k)$  for radicals. So let N be an arbitrary submodule of M. First we show that in both cases  $RE_k(N + M') = RE_k(N) + M'$ . We just need to prove this for k = 1, and for k > 1 it is proved inductively.

Let  $x \in E(N + M')$ . Then x = rx', where  $r \in R$  and  $x' \in M$  and there exist  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \in N$  and  $m \in M'$  such that r'x' = n + m. We will find an  $m' \in M'$  such that  $r(x' - m') \in E(N)$ . If  $r \notin \mathfrak{P}$ , by M' being  $\mathfrak{P}$ -secondary, there is an  $m' \in M'$  such that r'm' = m. Thus,  $r'(x' - m') = n \in N$  and this m' has the required property. If  $r \in \mathfrak{P}$ , then there is a  $t' \in \mathbb{N}$  such that r'M = 0. In this case we choose m' = 0, therefore in this case  $r'+t'(x' - m') = rt'n \in N$  and  $r(x' - m') \in E(N)$ . Whence, in both cases  $x = r(x' - m') + rm' \in RE(N) + M'$ . Therefore, every generator of RE(N + M') is in RE(N) + M' and thus  $RE(N + M') \subseteq RE(N) + M'$ . The converse inclusion is obvious. Now in each of the above cases we must prove that  $M' \cap rad(N) \subseteq RE_k(N)$ .

Let  $x_1 \in M' \cap \operatorname{rad}_M(N)$ . By (3.5),  $x_1 \in \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{P}}(N + \mathfrak{P}M)$  and hence there exist  $r_1 \in R \setminus \mathfrak{P}, n \in N$  and  $m \in \mathfrak{P}M$  such that  $r_1x_1 = n + m$ .

(a) By the assumption of this case of the theorem, there exists an  $r' \in (M' : \mathfrak{M}M) \setminus \mathfrak{P}$ . If we set  $r'' = r_1r'$ , then  $r'' \in R \setminus \mathfrak{P}$  and  $r''x_1 = r'n + r'm \in N + (M' : \mathfrak{P}M)\mathfrak{P}M$ . Thus, by (3.6)  $r''x_1 \in RE(N)$ . Now, because  $r'' \notin \mathfrak{P}$  and  $x_1 \in M'$ , there is a  $y \in M'$  such that  $r''y = x_1$ . Therefore,  $r''^2y = r''x_1 \in RE(N)$  and so  $x_1 = r''y \in RE_2(N) \subseteq RE_k(N)$ . This means  $M' \cap \operatorname{rad}(N) \subseteq RE_k(N)$  and hence (I<sub>k</sub>) for radicals holds for M', which completes the proof of this case.

(b) By our assumption, there exists an  $r' \in (\mathfrak{P}M' : \mathfrak{P}M) \setminus \mathfrak{P}$ . If we set  $r'' = r'r_1$ , then  $r''x_1 = r'n + r'm$  and  $r'm \in \mathfrak{P}M'$ . Put m' = r'm. Then  $m' = \sum_{i=1}^{t} p_i m'_i$ , where  $p_i \in \mathfrak{P}$  and  $m'_i \in M'$ . As  $r'' \notin \mathfrak{P}$ , for each  $i \leq i \leq t$ , there exists  $m''_i \in M'$  such that  $m'_i = r''m''_i$ . Let  $m'' = \sum_{i=1}^{t} p_i m''_i \in \mathfrak{P}M'$ , which is in RE(N) by (3.6). Now r''m'' = m' and whence  $r''(x_1 - m'') = r''x_1 - m' = r'n \in N$ . Moreover,  $x_1 - m'' \in M'$ , thus  $x_1 - m'' = r''y$  for some  $y \in M'$ , as  $r'' \notin \mathfrak{P}$ . Therefore,  $r''^2y = r''(x_1 - m'') \in N$  and so  $x_1 - m'' = r''y \in RE(N)$ , and as  $m'' \in RE(N)$ , we have  $x_1 \in RE(N)$ . This means  $M' \cap rad(N) \subseteq RE(N)$ , which completes the proof.

Note that if R is an integral domain, then every divisible R-module is 0-secondary. Thus, (3.7) generalises [15, Theorem 2.2], which states if M is a direct sum of a divisible module and a module which s.t.r.f., then M s.t.r.f. Now we will state another application of (3.7).

PROPOSITION 3.8. Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and suppose for each  $1 \le i \le n$ ,  $M_i$  is a  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  secondary *R*-module such that  $M_i = M_j$  if  $\mathfrak{P}_i = \mathfrak{P}_j$ . If  $\mathfrak{I}$  is an ideal of *R* with  $\mathfrak{I} \not\subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{P}_i$ , then  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_n \oplus \frac{R}{2}$  s.t.r.f.

*Proof.* We use induction on *n*. As an application of the previous theorem, we have the result for n = 1. Now suppose the result is correct for n - 1.

By rearranging the indices, we may suppose that  $\mathfrak{P}_1$  is a minimal element of the set  $\{\mathfrak{P}_1, \mathfrak{P}_2, \cdots, \mathfrak{P}_n\}$ . Then for each  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , either  $\mathfrak{P}_i = \mathfrak{P}_1$  or  $\mathfrak{P}_i \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ . So by our assumption either  $M_i = M_1$  or  $\mathfrak{P}_i \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ . Put  $M'' = M_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_n \oplus \frac{R}{3}$ . We show that  $(\mathfrak{P}_1M_1 : \mathfrak{P}_1M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ , and by induction hypothesis  $\frac{M}{M_1} \cong M''$  s.t.r.f., therefore by the previous theorem, M s.t.r.f.

For each  $1 \le i \le n$ , if  $M_i = M_1$ , then put  $t_i = 1$ . Otherwise consider  $r_i \in \mathfrak{P}_i \setminus \mathfrak{P}_1$ . Then  $r_i \in \mathfrak{P}_i = \sqrt{(0:M_i)}$ , and so there exists  $n_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $r_i^{n_i} M_i = 0$ . Thus,  $t_i = r_i^{n_i} \in (\mathfrak{P}_1 M_1 : \mathfrak{P}_1 M_i) \setminus \mathfrak{P}_1$ . Let  $i \in \mathfrak{I} \setminus \mathfrak{P}_1$ , and put  $r = t_1 t_2 t_3 \cdots t_n i$ . Then  $r \in (\mathfrak{P}_1 M_1 : \mathfrak{P}_1 M_i)$ , for each  $1 \le i \le n$ , and whence  $r \in (\mathfrak{P}_1 M_1 : \mathfrak{P}_1 M) \setminus \mathfrak{P}_1$ , which completes the proof.

LEMMA 3.9. Suppose that  $M' = \sum_{i=1}^{t} M_i$  is a minimal secondary representation of M', where  $M_i$  is  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ -secondary. Also assume that  $\mathfrak{P}_1$  is minimal in Att(M). Let  $\mathfrak{I}$  be an ideal of R and N a submodule of M. Then  $(\Im M' : N) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ , if and only if  $(\Im M_1 : N) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ .

*Proof.* Assume that there exists an  $r \in (\Im M' : N) \setminus \mathfrak{P}_1$ . If t = 1, then the proof of the claim is trivial. So assume that t > 1. By minimality of  $\mathfrak{P}_1$  and minimality of the representation, no  $\mathfrak{P}_i$  is a subset of  $\mathfrak{P}_1$ , for  $i \neq 1$ . Thus,  $\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3\cdots\mathfrak{P}_t \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ . Let  $r' \in \mathfrak{P}_2 \cdots \mathfrak{P}_t \setminus \mathfrak{P}_1$ . Then for each  $2 \leq i \leq t$ , there is a  $k_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $r'^{k_i} M_i = 0$ . Set  $k = \max_{i=2}^t \{k_i\}$ . Since  $r' \notin \mathfrak{P}_1$ , we have  $r'^k M' = M_1$ . Now  $r'^k r N \subseteq \Im r'^k M = \Im M_1$  and  $r'^{k}r \notin \mathfrak{P}_{1}$ . The other side of the claim is obvious.  $\square$ 

LEMMA 3.10. If  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are submodules of M such that  $M_1 \not\subseteq M_2$  and  $M_1$  is  $\mathfrak{P}$ -secondary, then  $\frac{M_1+M_2}{M_2}$  is  $\mathfrak{P}$ -secondary.

*Proof.* The proof is easy and it is left to the reader.

THEOREM 3.11. Assume that  $M' = \sum_{i=1}^{t} M_i$  is a minimal secondary representation of M', where  $M_i$  is  $\mathfrak{P}_i$ -secondary. Also suppose that  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. Then M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, if one of the following holds:

(a)  $k \geq 2$  and  $(M' : \mathfrak{P}M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}$ , for each maximal element  $\mathfrak{P}$  of Att(M).

(b) k = 1 and  $(\mathfrak{P}M' : \mathfrak{P}M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}$ , for each maximal element  $\mathfrak{P}$  of Att(M).

*Proof.* We state the proof for s.t.r.f., the claim for weakly s.t.r.f. is proved similarly. (a) We use induction on t. The base step is true by (3.7)(a). One can easily check that our assumption implies  $(M':\mathfrak{P}M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}$ , for every element  $\mathfrak{P}$  of Att(M).

Suppose  $\mathfrak{P}_1$  is a minimal element of Att(*M*). Thus, by applying (3.9) with  $\mathfrak{I} = R$ and  $N = \mathfrak{P}_1 M$ , we see that  $(M_1 : \mathfrak{P}_1 M) \not\subseteq \mathfrak{P}_1$ . So by (3.7)(a), it suffices to prove  $\frac{M}{M_1}$ s.t.r.f. of degree k. By (3.10),  $\frac{M'}{M_1} = \sum_{i=2}^{t} \frac{M_i + M_1}{M_1}$  is a secondary representation of  $\frac{M'}{M_1}$ . Also, since

$$\frac{rac{M}{M_1}}{rac{M'}{M_1}}\cong rac{M}{M'} \quad ext{and} \quad \left(rac{M'}{M_1}:\mathfrak{P}rac{M}{M_1}
ight)\supseteq (M':\mathfrak{P}M),$$

for every  $\mathfrak{P} \in \operatorname{Att}(M)$ , we can apply the induction hypothesis and get  $\frac{M}{M_1}$  s.t.r.f. of degree k as required.

(b) Similar to (a), just use (3.7)(b) instead of (3.7)(a) and apply (3.9) with  $\Im = \mathfrak{P}_1$ instead of R.  $\square$ 

In [1], it is proved that if R is an integral domain with the Krull dimension one, then every Noetherian representable module s.t.r.f. ([1, Theorem 1.7]). The following corollary generalises this result.

COROLLARY 3.12. Every representable module s.t.r.f.

*Proof.* Just apply (3.11), with M' = M, where M is a representable module. 

According to [15] an *R*-module *M* is called *special* when for each maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$ of R, each  $a \in \mathfrak{M}$  and each  $m \in M$ , there exist  $c \in R \setminus \mathfrak{M}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $ca^k m = 0$ . Semi-simple modules (direct sum of simple modules), locally Artinian modules (modules in which every cyclic submodule is Artinian) and semi-Artinian modules (modules every homomorphic image of which has a non-zero simple submodule) are special (see [15, Section 3]).

It was proved there that if  $M = M' \oplus M''$ , where M' is special and M'' s.t.r.f., then M s.t.r.f. ([15, Theorem 4.8]). Here we will generalise this to s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k. Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be a maximal ideal of R and  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , consider the following property on a submodule M' of M:

(III<sub>k</sub>) For every submodule N of M,  $RE_k(N + \mathfrak{M}M') \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE_k(N))$ .

LEMMA 3.13. Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be a maximal ideal of R and M' a submodule of M.

(a) For each submodule N of M,  $RE(\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(N)) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE(N))$ .

(b) If M' satisfies (III<sub>1</sub>), then it satisfies (III<sub>k</sub>) for each  $0 \neq k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .

*Proof.* (a) It suffices to show that  $E(\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(N)) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE(N))$ , which one can easily prove.

(b) We prove (III<sub>k</sub>) by induction on k. Let N be an arbitrary submodule of M. For k > 1, if  $N' = RE_{k-1}(N + \mathfrak{M}M')$ , then by induction hypothesis we have  $N' \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE_{k-1}(N))$ . Now  $RE_k(N + \mathfrak{M}M') = RE(N') \subseteq RE(N' + \mathfrak{M}M') \subseteq$  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE(N')) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE(\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE_{k-1}(N))))$ . Thus, by part (a) of this lemma,  $RE_k(N + \mathfrak{M}M') \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE_k(N))) = \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE_k(N))$ . The case of  $k = \infty$  follows the definition of  $RE_{\infty}(N)$  and the case of  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

LEMMA 3.14. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . If  $M = M' \oplus M''$ , where M' is semi-simple and M'' s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k, then M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k.

*Proof.* In [15], through a series of lemmas, the s.t.r.f. case was proved for k = 1. In the same way, one can prove the corresponding lemmas for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and weak radicals, and hence prove the claim.

LEMMA 3.15. If M' is special, then for every maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$  of R,  $(III_1)$  holds for M'.

*Proof.* This is in fact [15, Lemma 4.7].

THEOREM 3.16. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . If for every maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$  of R, a submodule M' of M satisfies  $(III_k)$  and  $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{M}M'}$  s.t.r.f. of degree k, then M s.t.r.f. of degree k. In particular, if  $k \neq 0$  and  $M = M' \oplus M''$ , where M' is special and M'' s.t.r.f. of degree k, then M s.t.r.f. of degree k. The statement also holds if we replace s.t.r.f. with weakly s.t.r.f.

*Proof.* Let *N* be an arbitrary submodule of  $M, x \in \operatorname{rad}(N)$  and  $\mathfrak{I} = (RE_k(N) : Rx)$ . We must show that  $R = \mathfrak{I}$ . If  $\mathfrak{I} \neq R$ , then it is contained in a maximal ideal of *R*, say  $\mathfrak{M}$ . By our assumption,  $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{M}M'}$  s.t.r.f. of degree *k*, hence by (3.1), for every maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{M}$  of *R*,  $\operatorname{rad}(N + \mathfrak{M}M')/\mathfrak{M}M' = RE_k(N + \mathfrak{M}M')/\mathfrak{M}M'$ , whence

 $x \in \operatorname{rad}(N) \subseteq \operatorname{rad}(N + \mathfrak{M}M') = RE_k(N + \mathfrak{M}M') \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{M}}(RE_k(N)).$ 

This means that there exists an  $s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{M}$  such that  $sx \in RE_k(N)$ . But then  $s \in \mathfrak{I} \subseteq \mathfrak{M}$ , a contradiction. Thus, M s.t.r.f. of degree k.

Now suppose that  $k \neq 0$  and  $M = M' \oplus M''$ , where M' is an special module and M'' s.t.r.f. of degree k. Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be an arbitrary maximal ideal of R. According to (3.15) and (3.13), M' satisfies (III<sub>k</sub>), for  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Thus, to complete the proof, we just need to show that  $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{M}M'}$  s.t.r.f. of degree k. But  $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{M}M'} \cong \frac{M'}{\mathfrak{M}M'} \oplus M''$  and  $\frac{M'}{\mathfrak{M}M'}$  is semi-simple. Thus, the result follows from (3.14). The assertion on satisfying the weak radical formula can be proved similarly.

Next we state a condition on M' under which M s.t.r.f. of a higher degree than  $\frac{M}{M'}$  does. Recall that if  $\mathcal{C}: M_1 \supseteq M_2 \supseteq \cdots$  is a chain of submodules of M, then the

completion  $\widehat{M}$  of M with respect to C is the set  $\{[(x_i)]|(x_i)\}$  is a cauchy sequence in M, where  $[(x_i)]$  denotes the equivalency class of the sequence  $(x_i)$  with respect to the relation  $(x_i) \equiv (y_i)$  if and only if for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is an  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n_0 \leq i$  we have  $x_i - y_i \in M_n$  (see [2, Section 10]). In the particular case that  $M_i = \Im^i M$ , for an ideal  $\Im$  of R,  $\widehat{M}$  is called the  $\Im$ -adic completion of M.

Clearly  $\widehat{M}$  forms a module with element-wise operations. In the following, for each submodule N of M, we set  $\widehat{N} = \{[(x_i)] \in \widehat{M} | [(x_i)] = [(y_i)] \text{ for some } y_i \text{'s in } N\}$ , which is a submodule of  $\widehat{M}$ . Moreover, by  $\widehat{m}$  for an  $m \in M$  we mean  $[(m)] \in \widehat{M}$ , where (m)denotes a constant sequence, all terms of which equals m. Also, we denote the natural homomorphism from M to  $\hat{M}$ , which maps m to  $\hat{m}$ , by f.

THEOREM 3.17. Suppose that  $M_1 \supseteq M_2 \supseteq \cdots$  is a chain of submodules of M and  $\widehat{M}$  is the completion of M with respect to this chain. Also let N be a submodule of M.

- (a)  $\widehat{f}(rad_M(N)) \subseteq rad_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N})$  and if  $M_l \subseteq rad_M(N)$ , for some  $l \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $rad_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N}) \subseteq$
- $\widehat{f(E_M(N))}$ . (b)  $\widehat{f(E_M(N))} \subseteq E_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N})$  and if  $M_l \subseteq RE_k(N)$ , for some  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , then  $E_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N}) \subseteq R\widehat{E}_{k+1}(N).$
- (c) If  $M_l \subseteq RE_k(N)$ , for some  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k, k' \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and  $\widehat{M}$  s.t.r.f. of degree k', then  $\frac{M}{N}$  s.t.r.f. of degree k + k'.

*Proof.* (a) Let  $x \in rad(N)$ . Then by (3.5), for every prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of R there exists an  $s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{P}$  such that  $sx \in N + \mathfrak{P}M$ , say  $sx = m + \sum_{i=1}^{t} p_i m_i$ , for some  $m_i$ 's in M,  $p_i$ 's in  $\mathfrak{P}$  and  $m \in N$ . Thus,  $s\widehat{x} = \widehat{m} + \sum_{i=1}^{t} p_i \widehat{m}_i \in \widehat{N} + \mathfrak{P}\widehat{M}$ . Therefore, according to (3.5)  $\widehat{x} \in \operatorname{rad}_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N}).$ 

Now suppose that  $M_l \subseteq \operatorname{rad}(N)$  and  $[(x_i)] \in \operatorname{rad}_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N})$ . Then for each prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  of R there is an  $s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{P}$  such that  $s[(x_i)] \in \widehat{N} + \mathfrak{P}\widehat{M} \subseteq \widehat{N} + \mathfrak{P}\widehat{M}$ . So there are  $n_i s$ in N and  $m_i$ s in  $\mathfrak{P}M$  such that  $s[(x_i)] = [(n_i)] + [(m_i)]$ . Hence, if i is large enough we have  $sx_i = n_i + m_i + \delta_i$ , where  $\delta_i \in M_l \subseteq rad(N)$ . Consequently, for some  $s_i \in R \setminus \mathfrak{P}$ we have  $s_i \delta_i \in N + \mathfrak{P}M$ . Thus,  $s_i s_i \in N + \mathfrak{P}M$  and since  $\mathfrak{P}$  was arbitrary, we deduce that  $x_i \in \operatorname{rad}_M(N)$  for all large enough is and whence  $[(x_i)] \in \operatorname{rad}_M(N)$ .

(b) It is obvious that  $\widehat{f}(E_M(N)) \subseteq E_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N})$ . So suppose that  $M_l \subseteq RE_k(N)$  and let  $[(x_i)] \in E_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{N})$ . Then for some  $r \in R$ ,  $[(m_i)] \in \widehat{M}$ ,  $[(n_i)] \in \widehat{N}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $[(x_i)] = r[(m_i)]$  and  $r^t[(m_i)] = [(n_i)]$ . Therefore, for large enough is we have  $r^t m_i - n_i \in$  $M_l \subseteq RE_k(N)$ . Thus,  $r^t m_i \in RE_k(N)$  and hence  $rm_i \in RE_{k+1}(N)$ . But for large enough is  $x_i = rm_i + \delta_i$ , where  $\delta_i \in M_l \subseteq RE_k(N)$ . From this we conclude that  $x_i \in RE_{k+1}(N)$ for all large enough is, and the result follows.

(c) Let A be a submodule of M containing N and  $x \in \operatorname{rad}_M(A)$ . If k' > 0, then  $M_l \subseteq RE_k(N) \subseteq RE_k(A) \subseteq rad(A)$ . Therefore, by (a),  $\widehat{x} \in rad_{\widehat{M}}(\widehat{A}) = RE_{k'}(\widehat{A}) =$  $RE_{k'-1}(RE(\widehat{A}))$ , which according to (b) is contained in  $RE_{k'-1}(RE_{k+1}(\widehat{A}))$ . Now if we put  $B = RE_{k+1}(A)$ , then  $M_l \subseteq B = RE_0(B)$ . So by repeated use of (b) (with 0 as the k in (b)), we get

$$RE_{k'-1}(\widehat{B}) = RE_{k'-2}(RE(\widehat{B})) \subseteq RE_{k'-2}(\widehat{RE(B)}) \subseteq \ldots \subseteq R\widehat{E_{k'-1}(B)} = R\widehat{E_{k'+k}(A)}.$$

Therefore,  $\hat{x} = [(y_i)]$  for some  $y_i$ s in  $RE_{k'+k}(A)$ , and hence for a large enough *i*, we have  $x - y_i \in RE_k(N)$ . Consequently,  $x \in RE_{k'+k}(A)$ , as required. If k' = 0, then  $\widehat{x} \in \widehat{A}$  and by an argument similar to that of (b), we get  $x \in RE_k(A)$ .  COROLLARY 3.18. Let  $\mathfrak{I}$  be a finitely generated ideal of R and  $k, k' \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . If  $\mathfrak{I} \subseteq \sqrt{(RE_k(0): M)}$  and the  $\mathfrak{I}$ -adic completion of M (as an R-module) s.t.r.f. of degree k', then M s.t.r.f. of degree k + k'.

*Proof.* Note that since  $\Im$  is finitely generated, for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $\Im^n \subseteq (RE_k(0) : M)$ . Hence, the result follows from (3.17).

**PROPOSITION 3.19.** If  $M' \subseteq RE_k(0)$  and  $\frac{M}{M'}$  s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k', where  $k, k' \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , then M s.t.r.f. (weakly s.t.r.f.) of degree k + k'.

*Proof.* Noting that for every submodule N of M, we have  $M' \subseteq RE_k(0) \subseteq RE_k(N) \subseteq wrad(N) = wrad(RE_k(N))$ , the result for weak radicals follows (3.1). The case on radicals can be proved similarly or can be deduced from (3.17), setting  $M_i = M'$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

COROLLARY 3.20. Let R be a one-dimensional ring.

- (a) If R is a domain and  $(RE_k(0):m) \neq 0$  for each  $m \in M$ , then M s.t.r.f. of degree k + 1. Moreover, if  $(RE_k(0):M)$  is a non-zero radical ideal, then M s.t.r.f. of degree k.
- (b) If  $(RE_k(0) : M)$  is a prime ideal, then M weakly s.t.r.f. of degree k + 1.

*Proof.* (a) By our hypothesis,  $\frac{M}{RE_k(0)}$  is a torsion module. By [15, Corollary 3.6], every torsion module over a one-dimensional domain is special and hence s.t.r.f. Now use (3.19). For the second part, note that by [16, Theorem 2.4] if  $(RE_k(0) : M)$  is a non-zero radical ideal, then  $\frac{M}{RE_k(0)}$  s.t.r.f. of degree 0.

(b) This follows from (3.19) and [5, Corollary 3.3], which states that every one-dimensional domain weakly s.t.r.f.  $\Box$ 

The following corollary is proved in [14] but we bring it here for completeness.

COROLLARY 3.21. Assume that R is a Noetherian ring. The following are equivalent.

- (a) *R* has the s.p.a.r. property.
- (b) *R* s.t.r.f. of degree k, for some  $2 \le k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .
- (c) *R* s.t.r.f. of degree 2.
- (d) *R* is an Artinian ring, or all of the following conditions are satisfied, where  $\mathfrak{P}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{P}_n$  are all of the minimal ideals of *R*:
  - (1) dim R = 1 and for each *i*,  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{W}}$  is a Dedekind domain.
  - (2) If  $n \ge 2$ , then for each  $k = 1, 2, \cdots, n-1$ ,  $(\bigcap_{i=1}^{k} \mathfrak{P}_i) + \mathfrak{P}_{k+1} = \bigcap_{i=1}^{k} (\mathfrak{P}_i + \mathfrak{P}_{k+1})$ .
  - (3) If  $n \ge 2$ , then for each  $i, j, 1 \le i < j \le n$ ,  $R = \mathfrak{P}_i + \mathfrak{P}_j$ , or  $\frac{R}{\mathfrak{P}_i + \mathfrak{P}_j}$  is a semisimple Artinian ring.

*Proof.* As it was noted in the Introduction, *R* has the s.p.a.r. property if and only if *R* s.t.r.f. of degree  $\infty$ . So (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) and also (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (b), are clear. Thus, we just need to show that if *M* has the s.p.a.r. property, then *M* s.t.r.f. of degree 2. Suppose that *R* has the s.p.a.r. property and *M* is an arbitrary *R*-module. Now N(*R*) $M \subseteq RE(0)$ , where N(*R*) stands for the nil radical of *R*, and hence  $\frac{M}{RE(0)}$  is an  $\frac{R}{N(R)}$ -module. Since every  $\frac{R}{N(R)}$ -module is an *R*-module,  $\frac{R}{N(R)}$  has the s.p.a.r. property and hence by (2.4), s.t.r.f. Thus,  $\frac{M}{RE(0)}$  s.t.r.f. and by (3.19) *M* s.t.r.f. of degree 2.

(a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (d) The proof is given by [10, Theorem 1.1].

EXAMPLE 3.22. In [10, p. 33] it was noted that  $R = \frac{F[x,y]}{\langle x^2 y^2 \rangle}$  has the s.p.a.r. property but does not s.t.r.f. So by the previous corollary *R* s.t.r.f. of degree 2 but does not s.t.r.f. of degree 1.

At the end of this paper we turn our attention to a stronger form of radical formula. In [6] we stated that *M* satisfies the simplified radical formula (s.t.s.r.f.) if  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = \operatorname{E}_M(N) + N$ , for each submodule N of M. If every R-module s.t.s.r.f., then we say that R s.t.s.r.f. In [6, Theorem 2.15], it is proved that a Noetherian ring s.t.s.r.f. if and only if it is a ZPI-ring. Here we consider the generalisation of the above concept.

DEFINITION 3.23. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . If  $\operatorname{rad}_M(N) = k \mathbb{E}_M(N) + N$  (wrad $_M(N) = k \mathbb{E}_M(N) + N$ ) for every submodule N of M then we say that M satisfies (weakly satisfies) the simplified radical formula of degree k (s.t.s.r.f. (weakly s.t.s.r.f.) of degree k). Also we say that R satisfies (weakly satisfies) the simplified radical formula of degree k, when every R module does so.

Recall that  $E_M(N)$  is not necessarily a submodule of M, and  $kE_M(N)$  in the above definition is

$$kE_M(N) = \{x \in M \mid \exists x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_k \in E_M(N) \ni x = x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_k\}.$$

In [5] we have proved that a valuation domain of the Krull dimension k, s.t.s.r.f. of degree k but not of k - 1 and also we have shown that if R s.t.s.r.f. of degree k, then dim  $R \le k$ .

Lemma 3.24.

- (a) Let  $K \subseteq N$  be submodules of M. Then  $rad_{\frac{M}{K}}\left(\frac{N}{K}\right) = kE_{\frac{M}{K}}\left(\frac{N}{K}\right) + \frac{N}{K}$  if and only if  $rad_{M}(N) = kE_{M}(N) + N$ .
- (b) Let k ∈ N\*. If M = M' ⊕ M", where M' is semi-simple and M" s.t.s.r.f. (weakly s.t.s.r.f.) of degree k, then M s.t.s.r.f. (weakly s.t.s.r.f.) of degree k.

*Proof.* (a) is easy and (b) can be proved similar to [15, Lemma 4.5], using (a) instead of [15, lemma 4.1].  $\Box$ 

A ring R is called *weakly Bezout* when every finitely generated proper ideal of R is contained in a proper principal ideal (see [6]).

THEOREM 3.25. Let  $(R, \mathfrak{M})$  be a local weakly Bezout ring,  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and  $M = M' \oplus M''$ , where M' and M'' are submodules of M. If M' is a special module and M'' s.t.s.r.f. (weakly s.t.s.r.f.) of degree k, then M s.t.s.r.f. (weakly s.t.s.r.f.) of degree k + 1.

*Proof.* First suppose that  $x \in \mathfrak{M}M'$ , say  $x = \sum_{i=1}^{t} r_i m_i$  for some  $r_i s$  in  $\mathfrak{M}$  and some  $m_i s$  in M'. Then  $\mathfrak{I} = \langle r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_n \rangle \subseteq \mathfrak{M}$ , and since R is weakly Bezout,  $\mathfrak{I} \subseteq Rr$  for some  $r \in \mathfrak{M}$ , say  $r_i = a_i r$  for some  $a_i s$  in R. Then  $x = r \sum_{i=1}^{t} a_i m_i$  and because M' is special and  $r \in \mathfrak{M}$ , there is a  $t' \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $r' \sum_{i=1}^{t} a_i m_i = 0$ . Therefore,  $\mathfrak{M}M' \subseteq E_M(0)$ .

Since  $M = M' \oplus M''$ ,  $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{M}M'} \cong \frac{M'}{\mathfrak{M}M'} \oplus M''$ . As  $\frac{M'}{\mathfrak{M}M'}$  is semi-simple, by (3.24)(b)  $\frac{M}{\mathfrak{M}M'}$  s.t.s.r.f. of degree k. Consequently if N is a submodule of M, then rad(N)  $\subseteq$  rad( $N + \mathfrak{M}M'$ ) =  $kE(N + \mathfrak{M}M') + N + \mathfrak{M}M'$ . We will prove that  $E(N + \mathfrak{M}M') \subseteq E(N) + \mathfrak{M}M'$ . Then rad(N)  $\subseteq kE(N) + N + \mathfrak{M}M' \subseteq (k + 1)E(N) + N$  and the result follows. Let  $x \in E(N + \mathfrak{M}M')$ . Then x = rm and  $r^t m = n + r'm'$  for some  $r \in R$ ,  $r' \in \mathfrak{M}$ ,  $n \in N$ ,  $m \in M$ ,  $m' \in M'$  and  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ . If r is a unit, then  $x \in N + \mathfrak{M}M'$  as required. Suppose that  $r \in \mathfrak{M}$ . Note that M' is a special module, then there exists  $t' \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $r^t m' = 0$ . Now  $r^{t+t'}m = r^t n + r'r'm' \in N$ , whence  $x = rm \in E(N)$ , which completes the assertion. The case for weak radicals is quite similar.

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