

# A Characterization of Rings in which every Semi-Hopfian Module is Noetherian

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## Abstract:

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $M$  an  $R$ -module. It is well known that Hopfian modules are semi-Hopfian, but the converse is not always true. For instance, if  $p$  is a prime and  $M$  is any direct sum of copies of  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$ , then  $M$  is semi-Hopfian but not Noetherian. In this paper, we introduce and study a new class of rings, called **SHN-rings**, defined as rings for which every semi-Hopfian module is Noetherian. We investigate the structural properties of SHN-rings and explore their relationships with other well-known classes of rings and modules. Over commutative rings, we establish that SHN-rings coincide with Köthe rings,  $SU$ -rings, pure-semisimple rings, and Artinian principal ideal rings. Furthermore, we show that over commutative SHN-rings, the notions of multiplication modules, cyclic modules, finitely generated modules, and Noetherian modules are equivalent. Additionally, we prove that in the setting of regular rings, semiprime Artinian rings,  $PCI$ -rings, and SHN-rings are equivalent.

**Keywords:** Semi-Hopfian modules, SHN-rings,  $SU$ -rings, Semiprime artinian rings

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## 1. Introduction

The study of modules over rings plays a fundamental role in modern algebra and ring theory. Among the various classes of modules, Hopfian and semi-Hopfian modules have been of particular interest due to their inherent structural properties. A module is said to be Hopfian if every surjective endomorphism is an isomorphism, while a module is semi-Hopfian if every surjective endomorphism has a kernel that is a direct summand of the module. Recently, some works have been done concerning Hopfian and semi-Hopfian modules see [4, 5, 6, 12].

In this paper, we introduce a new class of rings, referred to as **SHN-rings**, defined as rings for which every semi-Hopfian module is Noetherian. It is known that every Noetherian module is semi-Hopfian, but the converse is not true. For example, Let  $p$  be a prime and  $M$  be any direct sum of copies of  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$ . Then we claim that  $M$  is a semi-Hopfian  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. Let  $f: M \rightarrow M$  be an epimorphism. Since  $p^2M = 0$ ,  $f$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$ -epimorphism. Since  $M$  is a free  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$ -module,  $f$  splits. This implies that  $M$  is a semi-Hopfian  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. But it is well known that  $M$  is not a Hopfian  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module (see: Example 3.2 of [9]). Therefore  $M$  is not Noetherian. This observation motivates the investigation of rings for which every semi-Hopfian module is Noetherian. These rings, which we term SHN-rings, form the central focus of this paper.

Throughout this paper, all rings are associative with identity and all modules are unitary left  $R$ -modules. A module  $M$  is called Dedekind finite if  $M \cong M \oplus N$  for some module  $N$ ,  $N \neq 0$ . For a ring  $R$ ,  $R$  is Dedekind finite if and only if  $ab = 1$  implies that  $ba = 1$  for any  $a, b \in R$ . It is well known that any Hopfian module is Dedekind finite. A module  $M$  is called generalized Hopfian if any surjective endomorphism of  $M$  has a small kernel. Recall that a Köthe ring is a ring  $R$  such that each right, and each left,  $R$ -module is a direct sum of cyclic submodules. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be finitely presented if there is an exact sequence:  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow F \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$  of  $R$ -modules, where  $F$  is finitely generated and free, and  $K$  is finitely generated. Such a sequence will be called a finite presentation of  $M$ . A finitely presented  $R$ -module  $M$  is called coherent if every finitely generated submodule of  $M$  is finitely presented. A ring  $R$  is said to be coherent if it is coherent as a  $R$ -module. We say that  $R$  is a right pure-semisimple ring if every right  $R$ -module is a direct sum of indecomposable submodules.  $R$  is called a right SU-ring if every right  $R$ -module is a direct sum of uniform submodules.

Our main result shows that, for commutative rings, SHN-rings coincide with several important classes of rings, including Köthe rings, SU-rings, pure-semisimple rings, and Artinian principal ideal rings. Additionally, we demonstrate that over a commutative SHN-ring, the classes of multiplication modules, cyclic modules, finitely generated modules, and Noetherian modules are equivalent. This establishes a strong connection between SHN-rings and other prominent classes in module theory.

Moreover, we investigate the equivalence between semiprime Artinian rings, PCI-rings, and SHN-rings, particularly in the context of regular rings, providing new insights into the structure of these rings and their modules. Our findings extend the current understanding of semi-Hopfian modules and open avenues for further exploration in module theory and ring theory.

The contributions of this paper enhance the theoretical framework surrounding SHN-rings, providing a comprehensive classification of these rings and their modules, while offering a deeper understanding of the role that semi-Hopfian modules play in ring theory.

## 2. Preliminary results

**Lemma 2.1** (Theorem 09 of [9]). For a commutative ring  $R$ , the following are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is an artinian principal ideal ring;
2.  $R$  is I-ring;
3.  $R$  is S-ring

**Lemma 2.2** (Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.4 of [8]). For a commutative ring  $R$ , the following are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is an artinian principal ideal ring;
2.  $R$  is Köthe-ring;

**Lemma 2.3.** Every SHN-ring is S-ring.

Proof. Let  $R$  be a SHN-ring and  $M$  an  $R$ -module. If  $M$  is Hopfian then, given that every Hopfian module is semi-Hopfian then  $M$  is Noetherian. Hence  $R$  is S-ring.

**Lemma 2.4.** (Proposition 3.6 of [12]) The following are equivalent for a module  $M$ .

1.  $M$  is Hopfian;
2.  $M$  is Dedekind finite;
3.  $M$  is generalized Hopfian and semi-Hopfian.

**Lemma 2.5** (Theorem 1 of [10]). Let  $R$  be a ring.

1. Let  $M$  be a co-Hopfian (Hopfian) module. If  $M$  decomposes as a direct sum of a family  $M_i$  of non trivial  $R$ -modules, then each  $M_i$  is co-Hopfian (Hopfian).
2. Let  $M_i$  be a family of non trivial  $R$ -module for which  $\text{Hom}(M_i, M_j) = \text{Hom}(M_j, M_i) = 0$  whenever  $i \neq j$ . If  $M_i$  is co-Hopfian (Hopfian) then so is  $\bigoplus M_i$

Recall that an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called locally noetherian if all its finitely generated submodules are noetherian.

**Proposition 2.6.** Every module over commutative SHN-ring is locally noetherian.

Proof. Let  $R$  be a commutative SHN-ring and let  $M$  be a  $R$ -module and  $N$  a finitely generated submodule of  $M$ . Since over commutative ring, every finitely generated module is Hopfian then  $N$  is Hopfian and so semi-Hopfian. As  $R$  is SHN-ring then  $M$  is Noetherian.

Recall that an  $R$ -module is called locally coherent if every finitely generated ideal of  $R$  is coherent.

**Proposition 2.7.** Let  $R$  be a SHN-ring, then  $R$  is locally coherent.

Proof. Let  $R$  be a SHN-ring and let  $I$  be a finitely generated ideal of  $R$ . As  $I$  is finitely generated then it is Hopfian  $R$ -module and so semi Hopfian. Since  $R$  is a SHN-ring then  $I$  is Noetherian. Therefore  $I$  is coherent because every Noetherian module is coherent. Hence  $R$  is a coherent ring.

**Proposition 2.8.** Let  $R$  be a commutative SHN-ring and  $M$  a  $R$ -module. The following are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is Noetherian;
2.  $M$  is Strongly Hopfian;
3.  $M$  is Hopfian;
4.  $M$  is Semi-Hopfian.

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Result from définitions  
 (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Over commutative SHN-ring, every semi-Hopfien module is noetherian.

### 3. Rings whose semi-Hopfian modules are Noetherian

**Theorem 3.1** .Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. We suppose for all family of no trivial  $R$ -modules  $M_i$ ,  $\text{Hom}(M_i, M_j) = \text{Hom}(M_j, M_i) = 0$ . The following are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is SHN-ring.
2.  $R$  is Köthe ring
3.  $R$  is artinian principal ideal ring.

Proof.(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Results from Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.1.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $M$  be a semi-Hopfian  $R$ -module.  $R$  is pricipal ideal ring implies every  $R$ -module is a direct sum of cyclic modules. Let  $M = \bigoplus M_i$ . By [Proposition 3.7 of [12] ], for all  $i \in I$ ;  $M_i$  is semi-Hopfian. Every  $M_i$  is cyclic and therefore finitely generated. All  $M_i$  are also finitely cogenerated because over artinian ring, finitely generated and finitely cogenerated coincide. As result all  $M_i$  is Dedekind finite. By Lemma 2.4,  $M_i$  is Hopfian. As result from Lemma 2.5 that  $M = \bigoplus M_i$  is Hopfian. Referring to Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2,  $R$  is a S-ring. Therefore  $M$  is Noetherian.

2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  3) Comes from Lemma 2.2.

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $R$  be a ring in which all idempotents are central. We suppose for all family of non trivial  $R$ -module  $M_i$ ,  $\text{Hom}(M_i, M_j) = \text{Hom}(M_j, M_i) = 0$ , for  $i \neq j$ . The following are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is an SHN-ring.
2.  $R$  is an artinian serial ring.

Proof.(1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2) Follows from Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.3 of [2] and Theorem 3.1.

Recall that a ring  $R$  is called Krull-Schmidt if every finitely presented left  $R$ -module is a direct sum of modules with local endomorphism rings.

**Lemma 3.3** (Proposition 2.6 of [7]). If every finitely generated left  $R$ -module is pure-injective, then  $R$  is a Krull-Schmidt left perfect ring.

**Corollary 3.4.** Every SHN-ring is Krull-Schmidt left perfect ring.

Proof. Let  $R$  a SHN-ring. By Theorem 3.1,  $R$  is Artinian principal ideal ring. It is well known, every Artinian ring is Noetherian then  $R$  is coherent. Referring to Theorem 2.8 of [7] every finitely generated  $R$ -module is pure-injective. Therefore  $R$  is Krull-Schmidt left perfect ring.

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. The following are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is an SHN-ring;
2.  $R$  is an SU-ring;
3.  $R$  is a pure-semisimple ring.

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $R$  be a SHN-ring, then by Theorem 3.1  $R$  is a Köthe ring. It's result from Corollary 3.3 of [16] that every  $R$ -module is serial. Thus every  $R$ -module is direct sum of uniserial modules. Since uniserial modules are uniform then every  $R$ -module is direct sum of uniform modules and therefore  $R$  is SU-modules.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) It is from to Theorem 4.1.13 of [14].

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) See [3].

Recall that if  $R$  is a ring and  $N$  is a submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$ , the ideal  $\{r \in R: rM \subseteq N\}$  will be denoted by  $[N: M]$ . Then  $[0: M]$  is the annihilator of  $M$ ,  $\text{Ann}(M)$ .

An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a multiplication module if for each submodule  $N$  of  $M$ ,  $N = IM$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $R$ . In this case we can take  $I = [N: M]$ . Clearly,  $M$  is a multiplication module if and only if for each  $m \in M$ ,  $Rm = [Rm: M]M$ .

The ring  $R$  is said to be semilocal if  $R/J(R)$  is semisimple artinian, with  $J(R)$  for the Jacobson radical of  $R$ .

**Lemma 3.6** (Proposition 4, of [1]). Let  $R$  be a semilocal ring. Then an  $R$ -module is a multiplication module if, and only if, it is cyclic.

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $R$  be a commutative SHN-ring and  $M$  an  $R$ -module. Then the following are equivalent:

1.  $M$  is a multiplication module;
2.  $M$  is cyclic;

3.  $M$  is finitely generated;

4.  $M$  is Noetherian.

Proof. (1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2). Since  $R$  be a SHN-ring. Then by Theorem 3.1,  $R$  is artinian and so semilocal. It results from Lemma 3.6 that the implications 1) and 2) are equivalent. It's easy to see that (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3).

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Let  $M$  be a finitely generated module. It is well know, over commutative ring, every finitely generated module is Hopfian, it follows that  $M$  is Hopfian and as Hopfian module is semi-Hopfian then  $M$  is semi-Hopfian. Since  $R$  is a SHN-ring then  $M$  is Noetherian.

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $M$  be a Noetherian module then  $M$  is a finitely generated module. Since by hypothesis  $R$  is a SHN-ring then it result for Theorem 3.1 that  $R$  is an artinian principal ideal ring and therefore  $M$  is direct sum of cyclic modules. Each cyclic module being a multiplication module, we deduce that  $M$  is the direct sum of the multiplication module. As  $M$  is of finite generate and  $R$  is a SHN-ring so  $R$  is Artinian and thus  $M$  is of finite length. It follows that  $M$  is a finite direct sum of multiplication module and consequently  $M$  is a multiplication module.

**Lemma 3.8.** If  $R$  is a commutative coherent ring, then  $R$  is an S-ring.

Proof. Let  $R$  be a commutative coherent ring and let  $M$  be a Hopfian  $R$ -module. If  $M$  is not Noetherian then There exists a submodule  $N$  of  $M$  that is not finitely generated. Hence there exists a sequence  $N_1 \subset N_2 \subset N_3 \subset \dots$  of submodules of  $M$ , where each  $N_i$  is strictly contained in  $N_{i+1}$  and  $N = \bigcup_{i \geq 1} N_i$ . Let  $f$  be an endomorphism of  $M$  defined by:

$$f(m) = \begin{cases} m & \text{if } m \notin N, \\ \text{the image of } m \text{ in } N_{i+1} & \text{if } m \in N_i. \end{cases}$$

So  $f$  is surjective, because every element of  $M$  is either fixed or moved to the next submodule and is not injective, because  $\text{Ker} f$  contains at least the elements of  $N_1$ . This contradicts the fact that  $M$  is a Hopfian module and therefore  $M$  is Noetherian.

**Theorem 3.9.** For a commutative ring  $R$  the following assertions are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is a SHN-ring;
2. Every finitely presented  $R$ -module is coherent.
3. Every free  $R$ -module is locally coherent;
4.  $R$  is left coherent.

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $R$  be a SHN-ring and let  $M$  a finitely presented  $R$ -module. As finitely presented module are finitely generated then  $M$  is finitely generated and so  $M$  is Hopfian because over commutative ring, every finitely generated module is Hopfian. Since every Hopfian module is semi-Hopfian, then  $M$  is semi-Hopfian and so  $M$  is Noetherian because  $R$  is SHN-ring. As every Noetherian  $R$ -module over Noetherian ring is coherent then  $M$  is coherent because by Theorem 3.1, we can deduce that  $R$  is Noetherian. Hence every finitely presented  $R$ -module is coherent.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) follows from 26.6 of [15]

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $R$  be a commutative coherent ring. It results from Lemma 3.8 that  $R$  is a S-ring and according to Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 3.1,  $R$  is SHN-ring.

Recall that a ring  $R$  is called a PCI-ring if and only if every proper cyclic  $R$ -module is injective. A fully invariant submodule  $X$  of a  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a semiprime submodule if it is an intersection of prime submodules of  $M$ . A  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a prime module if  $0$  is a prime submodule of  $M$ . A ring  $R$  is a prime ring if  ${}_R R$  is a prime module. A  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a semiprime module if  $0$  is a semiprime submodule of  $M$ . Consequently, the ring  $R$  is semiprime ring if  ${}_R R$  is semiprime.

**Theorem 3.10.** Let  $R$  be a commutative regular ring. Then the following assertions are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is semiprime Artinian;
2.  $R$  is PCI-ring;
3.  $R$  is a SHN-ring.

Proof. For (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) we use this result from Osofsky; see [11] "A ring  $R$  is semiprime Artinian if and only if every cyclic  $R$ -module is injective." It follows from this result that every semiprime ring is a PCI-ring.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $R$  be a PCI-ring. Since  $R$  is regular by hypothesis, then according to Proposition 6.11 of [17],  $R$  is semisimple. On a semisimple ring semi-Hopfian module and Noetherian module coincide and therefore  $R$  is a SHN-ring.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $R$  be a SHN-ring, then it's result from Theorem 3.1. that  $R$  is artinian principal ideal ring. Since  $R$  is regular then by Wisbauer 4.5 of [15] ,  $R$  is semisimple and by Theorem 4.4 of [15],  $R$  is semiprime. Hence  $R$  is Artinian semiprime ring.

Recall that an ring  $R$  is called SI-ring if every singular  $R$ -module is injective. The rings of which each of the right (left) cyclic modules is a direct sum of a projective module and an injective module are called CDPI-rings.

**Corollary 3.11.** Let  $R$  be a commutative regular ring. The following assertions are equivalent:

1.  $R$  is an SHN-ring;
2.  $R$  is a CDPI-ring.

Proof. Let  $R$  be a commutative regular ring. By Theorem 3.10,  $R$  is SHN-ring if and only if  $R$  is semiprime Artinian ring. Hence it results from the Theorem 4.6 of [13] that  $R$  is a SHN-ring if and only if  $R$  is CDPI-ring.

**Corollary 3.12.** The following statements are equivalent for a commutative ring  $R$  with socle  $S$ .

1.  $R$  is an SI-ring;
2.  $R$  is Von Neumann Regular ring and  $R/S$  is a SHN-ring.

Proof. According to Theorem 3.9 of [13]  $R$  is an SI-ring if and only if  $R$  is a Von Neumann Regular ring and  $R/S$  is a semiprime Artinian ring and consequently according to Theorem 3.10 we have the equivalence.

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## Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest On behalf of all authors, the corresponding author states that there is no conflict of interest

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