

ON CO- $r$ -SUBMODULES AND CO- $r$ -NOETHERIAN MODULESby Ünsal Tekir<sup>1</sup>, Suat Koç<sup>2</sup>, Seçil Çeken<sup>3</sup> and Violeta Leoreanu-Fotea<sup>4</sup>

*In this paper, we investigate some properties and characterizations of co- $r$ -submodules which is the dual notion of  $r$ -submodules. We prove that every nonzero submodule of a finitely generated module is a co- $r$ -submodule. We investigate when a submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  contains a co- $r$ -submodule. Also, we study the further properties of co- $r$ -Noetherian modules as a generalization of Noetherian modules.*

**Keywords:** co- $r$ -submodule, co- $r$ -Noetherian module,  $r$ -submodule,  $r$ -Noetherian module.

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## 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, we focus only on commutative rings with nonzero identity and nonzero unital modules. Let  $R$  always denote such a ring and  $M$  denote such an  $R$ -module. In recent years, some new classes of ideals and submodules have been defined and investigated by various authors (see [1], [9], [13], [19]).

The set of zero-divisors of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is defined as the set

$$Z(M) := \{a \in R : am = 0 \text{ for some } 0 \neq m \in M\} \text{ [8].}$$

For every submodule  $N$  of  $M$ , the annihilator of  $N$  is denoted by  $\text{ann}_R(N) := \{r \in R : rN = 0\}$  [8].

Koç and Tekir [15] introduced the following concept: a proper submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is said to be an  $r$ -submodule if  $Z(M/N) \subseteq Z(M)$  [15]. Also, they proved various properties of  $r$ -submodules, which are similar to those of prime submodules and gave a new characterization of torsion free modules in terms of  $r$ -submodules.

In recent years, there have been various studies about  $r$ -submodules. For instance, Anebri et al. investigated ascending and descending chain conditions on  $r$ -submodules in [3] and [4].

Recall that an  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to satisfy Property (A) if for each finitely generated ideal  $I$  of  $R$  contained in  $Z(M)$  there exists  $0 \neq m \in M$  such that  $Im = 0$  [17]. Mahdou et al. gave a characterization of modules satisfying Property (A) in terms of  $r$ -submodules in [17].

The dual notion of prime submodules was firstly introduced and studied by S. Yassemi in [21].

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Recall from [21] that a nonzero submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be a *second submodule* if, for all  $r \in R$ ,  $rN = 0$  or  $rN = N$ . If  $N$  is a second submodule of  $M$ , then  $p = \text{ann}_R(N)$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  and  $N$  is called a  $p$ -second submodule of  $M$  [21].

In recent years, second submodules have been studied by various authors in a number of papers (see for example [6], [7], [10], [11]).

In 2023, F. Farshadifar introduced the dual notion of  $r$ -submodules, which is called  $\text{co-}r$ -submodule, and studied ascending chain condition on  $\text{co-}r$ -submodules.

Recall from [20] that the dual notion of zero-divisors of a submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is defined as the set  $W(N) := \{r \in R : rN \neq N\}$ . A nonzero submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is said to be a *co- $r$ -submodule* if  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$  [13].

Also  $M$  is said to be a *co- $r$ -Noetherian module* if it satisfies the ascending chain condition on  $\text{co-}r$ -submodules [13].

Our aim in this paper is to study further properties of  $\text{co-}r$ -submodules and  $\text{co-}r$ -Noetherian modules. Among the other results in this paper, we prove that every nonzero submodule of a finitely generated module is an *co- $r$ -submodule* (see Proposition 2.9). We investigate when a submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  contains a *co- $r$ -submodule* (see Theorem 2.18).

We give a characterization of reduced *co- $r$ -Noetherian* modules via localization (see Theorem 2.21). We also investigate *co- $r$ -Noetherian* property for multiplication and comultiplication modules (see Proposition 2.25 and Theorem 2.27).

## 2. Main Results

**Definition 2.1** [13] We say that a non-zero submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule* of  $M$  if for  $a \in R$  and a submodule  $K$  of  $M$ , whenever  $aN \subseteq K$  and  $aM = M$ , then  $N \subseteq K$ .

**Remark 2.2.** [13, Remark 2.3] Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $N$  be a non-zero submodule of  $M$ . It is easily seen that  $N$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule* of  $M$  if and only if  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$ .

### Remark 2.3.

- (1) It is clear from the definition that every non-zero  $R$ -module  $M$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule* of itself.
- (2) If  $R$  is an integral domain and  $N$  is a non-zero divisible submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$ , then  $N$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule* of  $M$ .
- (3) Let  $M$  be a semisimple  $R$ -module. Then every non-zero submodule of  $M$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule* of  $M$ .

**Definition 2.4.** [18] A proper submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a *pure submodule* of  $M$  if  $rN = rM \cap N$  for every  $r \in R$ .

**Remark 2.5.** It is clear that if  $N$  is a non-zero pure submodule of  $M$ , then  $N$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule* of  $M$ .

**Definition 2.6.** [12] An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be a *multiplication module* if each submodule  $N$  of  $M$  has the form  $N = IM$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $R$ .

**Remark 2.7.** It is well-known that  $M$  is a multiplication module if and only if  $N = (N : M)M$  for every submodule  $N$  of  $M$  (see [12]).

**Proposition 2.8.** [13, Theorem 2.4] *Every non-zero submodule of a multiplication module is a *co- $r$ -submodule*.*

**Proposition 2.9.** *Every nonzero submodule  $N$  of a finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  is a *co- $r$ -submodule*.*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $N$  be a nonzero submodule of  $M$ . Assume that there exists  $a \in W(N) \setminus W(M)$ . Then it is clear that  $aM = M$ . Since  $M$  is finitely generated, by [8, Corollary 2.5], there exists  $x \in R$  such that  $(1 + xa)M = 0$  and so  $(1 + xa)N = 0$ .

This implies that  $N = xaN \subseteq aN$  and so  $N = aN$ , a contradiction. Hence, we have  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.10.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then the following hold.*

- (1) [13, Remark 2.3] *If  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ , then  $\text{ann}_R(N) \subseteq W(M)$ .*
- (2) [13, Proposition 2.6] *The sum of an arbitrary non-empty set of co- $r$ -submodules of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is a co- $r$ -submodule.*

**Proposition 2.11.** [13, Proposition 2.11] *Let  $N$  be a non-zero submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- (1)  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule.
- (2)  $(0 :_M a) + N = (N :_M a)$  for every  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$ .
- (3)  $aN = N$  for every  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$ .

Recall from [16], an  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be an  $\alpha$ -reduced module where  $\alpha$  is an endomorphism of  $R$  with  $\alpha(1) = 1$ , if for any  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ ,

- (1)  $a^2m = 0$  implies  $Rm \cap aM = 0$ .
- (2)  $am = 0$  if and only if  $\alpha(a)m = 0$ .

If  $\alpha$  is the identity map on  $R$ , then  $M$  is called a reduced module [16]. By [16, Lemma 1.2],  $M$  is a reduced module if and only if for any  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ ,  $a^2m = 0$  implies that  $am = 0$ .

**Proposition 2.12.** *Let  $M$  be a reduced module and  $N$  be a nonzero submodule of  $M$ . If  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule, then  $N = (N :_M a)$  for each  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $M$  is a reduced module and  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ . Then, by Proposition 2.12, we have  $(0 :_M a) + N = (N :_M a)$  for each  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$ . In order to complete the proof, it is enough to show that  $(0 :_M a) = 0$  for each  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$ . Let  $m^* \in (0 :_M a)$ . Then we have  $am^* = 0$ . Since  $a \notin W(M)$ ,  $aM = M$  and so  $m^* = am'$  for some  $m' \in M$ . This implies that  $am^* = a^2m' = 0$ . As  $M$  is reduced, we conclude that  $m^* = am' = 0$  and thus  $(0 :_M a) = 0$ . Therefore,  $N = (N :_M a)$ , as required.  $\square$

Recall that a proper submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is said to be a prime submodule if  $am \in N$ , where  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ , then either  $a \in (N : M)$  or  $m \in N$ . Note that a submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is a prime submodule if and only if  $N = (N :_M a)$  for each  $a \in R \setminus (N : M)$ . As an immediate consequence of Proposition 2.12 we give the following explicit result.

**Corollary 2.13.** *Assume that  $M$  is a reduced module and  $N$  is a nonzero submodule of  $M$  with  $W(M) \subseteq (N : M)$ . If  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule, then  $N$  is prime.*

**Definition 2.14.** Let  $S$  be a non-empty subset of  $R$ . We say that  $S$  is a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$  if  $R \setminus W(M) \subseteq S$  and  $ab \in S$  for every  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$  and  $b \in S$ .

**Proposition 2.15.** *If  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ , then  $R \setminus \text{ann}_R(N)$  is a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ , by Proposition 2.10 (1), we have  $R \setminus W(M) \subseteq R \setminus \text{ann}_R(N)$ . Let  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$  and  $b \in R \setminus \text{ann}_R(N)$ .  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$  and  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$  (since  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ ) implies  $aN = N$ . Assume that  $ab \in \text{ann}_R(N)$ . Then  $abN = 0$  and  $aN = N$ .

It follows that  $abN = bN = 0$  and so  $b \in \text{ann}_R(N)$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $ab \in R \setminus \text{ann}_R(N)$ , as required.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.16.** Suppose that  $N$  is a nonzero submodule of  $M$ . Then  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule if and only if  $R \setminus W(N)$  is a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $R \setminus W(N)$  is a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$ . Then  $R \setminus W(M) \subseteq R \setminus W(N)$  and so  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$ .

Conversely, assume that  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ . Then  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$  and so  $R \setminus W(M) \subseteq R \setminus W(N)$ . Let  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$  and  $b \in R \setminus W(N)$ . Now, we will show that  $ab \in R \setminus W(N)$ .

If  $ab \in W(N)$ , then  $abN \neq N$ . Since  $b \in R \setminus W(N)$ , we have  $bN = N$  and thus  $abN = aN \neq N$  and this yields that  $a \in W(N)$ . As  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule,  $W(N) \subseteq W(M)$  and so  $a \in W(M)$ , a contradiction.

Hence  $ab \in R \setminus W(N)$ , that is,  $R \setminus W(N)$  is a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.17.** Let  $T$  be a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$  and  $T^*$  be a non-empty subset of  $M$ . We say that  $T^*$  is a  $T$ -closed subset of  $M$  if  $ax \in T^*$  for each  $a \in T$  and  $x \in T^*$ .

The following theorem is the dual result of [15, Theorem 4].

**Theorem 2.18.** Let  $T$  be a co- $r$ -multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$  and  $T^*$  be a  $T$ -closed subset of  $M$ . Suppose that  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$  with  $N \cup T^* = M$ . Then there exists a co- $r$ -submodule  $L$  of  $M$  such that  $L \subseteq N$  and  $L \cup T^* = M$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\Psi := \{L' : L' \text{ is a submodule of } M \text{ with } L' \subseteq N \text{ and } L' \cup T^* = M\}$ . Then  $\Psi \neq \emptyset$  as  $N \in \Psi$ . By Zorn's Lemma,  $\Psi$  has a minimal element, say  $L$ . Suppose that  $L$  is not a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ . Then there exists an  $a \in R$  such that  $aL \neq L$  and  $aM = M$ . By the minimality of  $L$ , we have  $aL \cup T^* \neq M$ . Therefore, there exists  $m \in M$  such that  $m \notin aL$  and  $m \notin T^*$ .

Since  $aM = M$ , we have  $m = ax$  for some  $x \in M$ .  $m \notin aL$  implies  $x \notin L$ . It follows that  $x \in T^*$ . Since  $T^*$  is a  $T$ -closed subset of  $M$ , we have  $m = ax \in T^*$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $L$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.19.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. If  $M$  satisfies ascending chain condition on co- $r$ -submodules, then  $M$  is called co- $r$ -Noetherian module.

Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $S$  a multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$ . Then  $S^{-1}M$  denotes the quotient module of  $M$ . Note that  $S^{-1}M$  is both an  $R$ -module and  $S^{-1}R$ -module.  $0_{S^{-1}M}$  denotes the zero element of  $S^{-1}M$ .

The natural  $R$ -homomorphism  $\pi : M \rightarrow S^{-1}M$  is defined as  $\pi(m) = \frac{m}{1}$  for each  $m \in M$ . We use the notation  $K^c$  to denote  $\pi^{-1}(K)$  for a submodule  $K$  of  $S^{-1}M$  and  $N^e$  to denote the submodule generated by  $\pi(N)$ . It is well-known that  $K^{ce} = K$  for a submodule  $K$  of  $S^{-1}M$  [8].

**Lemma 2.20.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $S = R \setminus W(M)$ . If  $L$  is a non-zero submodule of  $S^{-1}M$ , then  $\pi^{-1}(L)$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ .

*Proof.* We have  $\pi^{-1}(L) = L^c \neq 0$  because if  $L^c = 0$ , then we would have  $L^{ce} = L = (0_{S^{-1}M})$ , a contradiction. Put  $\pi^{-1}(L) := N$ . Let  $a \in R \setminus W(M)$ . We will show that  $aN = N$ . Let  $x \in N$ . Then  $x = ay$  for some  $y \in M$ . We have  $\pi(x) = \frac{x}{1} \in L$ . Then  $\frac{y}{1} = \frac{1}{a} \frac{ay}{1} \in L$ .

This shows that  $y \in \pi^{-1}(L) = N$ . Thus  $x = ay \in aN$  and so  $aN = N$ . Therefore,  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.21.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Let us consider the following two assertions.

- (1)  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian  $R$ -module.

(2)  $S^{-1}M$  is a Noetherian  $S^{-1}R$ -module, where  $S = R \setminus W(M)$ .  
Then (1) implies (2). If  $M$  is a reduced  $R$ -module, then (2) implies (1).

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Suppose that  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module and let

$$L_1 \subseteq L_2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq L_n \subseteq \cdots$$

be an ascending chain of  $S^{-1}R$ -submodules of  $S^{-1}M$ . Consider the natural  $R$ -homomorphism  $\pi$  previously defined. By Lemma 2.20 we have the following ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$ :

$$\pi^{-1}(L_1) \subseteq \pi^{-1}(L_2) \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \pi^{-1}(L_n) \subseteq \cdots$$

As  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module, then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $\pi^{-1}(L_k) = \pi^{-1}(L_n)$  for all  $n \geq k$ . We fix an integer  $n \geq k$  and we show that  $L_n = L_k$ . By the above chain, we have  $L_k \subseteq L_n$ .

For the converse, take  $\frac{m}{s} \in L_n$ , where  $m \in M$ ,  $s \in R \setminus W(M)$ . Since  $sM = M$ ,  $m = sm'$  for some  $m' \in M$ . It follows that  $\frac{m}{s} = \frac{sm'}{s} = \frac{m'}{1} = \pi(m') \in L_n$  and so  $m' \in \pi^{-1}(L_n) = \pi^{-1}(L_k)$ . Thus  $\frac{m'}{1} = \frac{m}{s} \in L_k$ . Hence,  $L_n = L_k$ . Thus  $S^{-1}M$  is a Noetherian  $S^{-1}R$ -module.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Suppose that  $S^{-1}M$  is a Noetherian  $S^{-1}R$ -module. Take any ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules  $N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq N_n \subseteq \cdots$  of  $M$ . Then, by hypothesis, there is a  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $S^{-1}N_k = S^{-1}N_n$  for all  $n \geq k$ .

We fix an integer  $n \geq k$ . Note that  $N_k \subseteq N_n$ . Let  $m \in N_n$ . Then there exists an element  $s \in R \setminus W(M)$  such that  $m \in (N_k :_M s)$ . Since  $M$  is reduced, by Proposition 2.12, we have  $N_k = (N_k :_M s)$ . Hence  $m \in N_k$  and, thus  $N_n = N_k$ . This shows that  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module.  $\square$

In the previous theorem, if we remove the condition " $M$  is a reduced module", then (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) may be wrong. See the following example derived from [13, Example 3.7].

**Example 2.22.** Let  $p$  be a prime number and consider  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module

$M = \mathbb{Z}(p^\infty) \times \mathbb{Q}$ , where  $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty) = \{x \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} : x = (r/p^t) + \mathbb{Z}$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}\}$  is the Prüfer group.

Then note that  $M$  is a divisible  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, so by Example 2.28, every nonzero submodule of  $M$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$ . Also note that

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{p} + \mathbb{Z} \right\rangle \times \mathbb{Q} \subsetneq \left\langle \frac{1}{p^2} + \mathbb{Z} \right\rangle \times \mathbb{Q} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq \left\langle \frac{1}{p^n} + \mathbb{Z} \right\rangle \times \mathbb{Q} \subsetneq \cdots$$

is a strictly ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$ .

Thus,  $M$  is not a co- $r$ -Noetherian  $R$ -module.

On the other hand, note that  $\mathbb{Z} \setminus W(M) = \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $S^{-1}\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $S^{-1}M$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Q}$ -module  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Thus,  $S^{-1}\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $S^{-1}M$  is a Noetherian module.

Let  $S$  be a multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$  and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. An increasing sequence  $(N_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^+}$  of submodules of  $M$  is called  $S$ -stationary if there exists a positive integer  $k$  and  $s \in S$  such that for each  $n \geq k$ ,  $sN_n \subseteq N_k$  [14].

**Proposition 2.23.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $S$  be a multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$  such that  $S \cap W(M) = \emptyset$ . If every ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$  is  $S$ -stationary, then  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module.

*Proof.* Let  $N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq N_n \subseteq \cdots$  be an ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$ . Then, by hypothesis, there exists an  $s \in S$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $sN_n \subseteq N_k$  for all  $n \geq k$ . Since  $S \subseteq R \setminus W(M)$ ,  $sN_n = N_n$  by Proposition 2.11. Thus  $N_n = N_k$  for all  $n \geq k$  and this shows that  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module.  $\square$

Recall from [2] that a multiplicatively closed subset  $S$  of  $R$  is said to *satisfy the maximal multiple condition* if there exists an  $s \in S$  such that  $t|s$  for all  $t \in S$ .

Note that every finite multiplicatively closed set  $S$  of  $R$  and the set of all units in  $R$  are examples of multiplicatively closed sets satisfying the maximal multiple condition.

**Theorem 2.24.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module such that  $S = R \setminus W(M)$  satisfies the maximal multiple condition. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian  $R$ -module.
- (2)  $S^{-1}M$  is a Noetherian  $S^{-1}R$ -module.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) It follows from Theorem 2.21.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Suppose that  $N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq N_n \subseteq \dots$  is an ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$ . Then by assumption, there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $S^{-1}N_k = S^{-1}N_n$  for all  $n \geq k$ . Let  $m \in N_n$ . Then we have  $\frac{m}{1} \in S^{-1}N_n = S^{-1}N_k$  and this yields  $tm \in N_k$  for some  $t \in R \setminus W(M)$ .

Since  $R \setminus W(M)$  satisfies maximal multiple condition, there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $t|s$  for each  $t \in S$ . Then we have  $sm \in N_k$  and so  $sN_n \subseteq N_k$ . Thus every ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$  is  $S$ -stationary. Then by Proposition 2.23,  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module.  $\square$

Note that in Example 2.22,  $S = R \setminus W(M) = \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$  does not satisfy the maximal multiple condition. In Example 2.22, although  $S^{-1}\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $S^{-1}M$  is a Noetherian module,  $M$  is not a co- $r$ -Noetherian  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. This shows that the condition " $S = R \setminus W(M)$  satisfies the maximal multiple condition" in the previous theorem is necessary.

Recall from [15] that a proper ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is called an  $r$ -ideal if  $ab \in I$  and  $\text{ann}_R(a) = 0$ , then  $b \in I$  for all  $a, b \in R$ . Recall from [3] that a ring  $R$  is said to be  $r$ -Artinian if it satisfies descending chain condition on  $r$ -ideals.

An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be a *comultiplication module* if each submodule  $N$  of  $M$  has the form  $N = (0 :_M I)$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $R$ .

According to [5, Lemma 3.7], an  $R$ -module  $M$  is a comultiplication module if and only if for each submodule  $N$  of  $M$ ,  $N = (0 :_M \text{ann}_R(N))$ .

**Proposition 2.25.** *Let  $R$  be an  $r$ -Artinian ring and  $M$  be a comultiplication  $R$ -module such that  $W(M) \subseteq Z(R)$ . Then  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module.*

*Proof.* Let  $N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq N_n \subseteq \dots$  be an ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$ . Since  $W(M) \subseteq Z(R)$ , one can see that  $\text{ann}_R(N_i)$  is an  $r$ -ideal of  $R$  for each  $i$ .

Since  $R$  is an  $r$ -Artinian ring, there exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $\text{ann}_R(N_n) = \text{ann}_R(N_k)$  for all  $n \geq k$ . As  $M$  is a comultiplication module, this implies that  $N_n = N_k$  for all  $n \geq k$ . Thus  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.26.** *Let  $M$  be a co- $r$ -Noetherian module. Then, for every co- $r$ -submodule  $N$  of  $M$  and every family of co- $r$ -submodules  $\{K_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$  of  $N$ ,  $\sum_{i \in \Lambda} K_i = N$  implies that  $\sum_{i \in \Lambda'} K_i = N$  for some finite subset  $\Lambda'$  of  $\Lambda$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $N$  be a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$  and  $\{K_i\}_{i \in \Lambda}$  be a family of co- $r$ -submodules of  $N$  such that  $\sum_{i \in \Lambda} K_i = N$ . The fact that  $N$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$  implies that  $K_i$  is a co- $r$ -submodule of  $M$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . Now, set

$$\mathcal{F} = \{\sum_{i \in \Lambda'} K_i : \Lambda' \text{ is a finite subset of } \Lambda\}.$$

By Proposition 2.10-(2) and the hypothesis,  $\mathcal{F}$  has a maximal element  $N' = \sum_{i \in \Lambda'} K_i$ . Let  $j \in \Lambda \setminus \Lambda'$ . Then  $N' \subseteq N' + K_j$ . The maximality of  $N'$  implies that  $N' + K_j = N'$  and so  $K_j \subseteq N'$ . Thus  $N \subseteq N'$  which implies that  $N' = \sum_{i \in \Lambda'} K_i = N$ .  $\square$

The following result can be found in [13, Theorem 3.9]. However, we shall give it with a different proof.

**Theorem 2.27.** *Let  $R$  be a ring satisfying ascending chain condition on  $r$ -ideals and  $M$  be a multiplication  $R$ -module with  $W(M) \subseteq Z(R)$ . Then  $M$  is a Noetherian  $R$ -module.*

*Proof.* Let  $N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq N_n \subseteq \dots$  be an ascending chain of co- $r$ -submodules of  $M$ . Since  $M$  is multiplication module, we can write  $N_i = (N_i :_R M)M$  for each  $i$ . Now, we will show that  $(N_i :_R M)$  is an  $r$ -ideal of  $R$ . Let  $ab \in (N_i :_R M)$  with  $a \in R \setminus Z(R)$ .

Then, by assumption,  $aM = M$ . It follows that  $abM = bM \subseteq N_i$  and so  $b \in (N_i :_R M)$ . Thus  $(N_1 :_R M) \subseteq (N_2 :_R M) \subseteq \dots \subseteq (N_n :_R M) \subseteq \dots$  is an ascending chain of  $r$ -ideals of  $R$ . By the hypothesis, there exists  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $(N_i :_R M) = (N_m :_R M)$  for each  $i \geq m$ .

Since  $M$  is a multiplication module, this gives that  $N_i = N_m$  for each  $i \geq m$ . Thus  $M$  is a co- $r$ -Noetherian module. By Proposition 2.8,  $M$  is a Noetherian  $R$ -module.  $\square$

The condition " $M$  is a multiplication module" can not be removed from Theorem 2.27. See the following example.

**Example 2.28.** Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$  where  $p$  is a prime number and  $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$  is the Prüfer group. Then clearly  $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$  is not a multiplication  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module and  $W(\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)) = 0 = Z(\mathbb{Z})$ .

Also note that  $\mathbb{Z}$  satisfies ascending chain condition on  $r$ -ideals since it is a domain. However,  $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$  is not a Noetherian  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

### 3. Conclusions

In this paper, we give some new properties and characterizations of co- $r$ -submodules and co- $r$ -Noetherian modules. We prove that every nonzero submodule of a finitely generated module is an co- $r$ -submodule. We investigate when a submodule  $N$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  contains a co- $r$ -submodule. We give a characterization of reduced co- $r$ -Noetherian modules via localization. We also investigate co- $r$ -Noetherian property for multiplication and comultiplication modules.

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