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# On $X$ -sub-linearly independent modules

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**Abstract.** The notion of  $X$ -sub-exact sequence of modules is a generalization of exact sequences. Let  $K, L, M$  be  $R$ -modules and  $X$  a submodule of  $L$ . The triple  $(K, L, M)$  is said to be  $X$ -sub-exact at  $L$  if  $K \rightarrow X \rightarrow M$  is exact at  $X$ . The exact sequence is a special case of  $X$ -sub-exact by taking  $X = L$ . We introduce an  $X$ -sub-linearly independent module which is a generalization of linearly independent relative to an  $R$ -module  $M$  by using the concept of  $X$ -sub-exact sequence.

## 1. Introduction

Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module, A subset  $S \subseteq M$  is  $R$ -linearly dependent if there exist distinct  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  in  $S$  and elements  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  of  $R$ , not all of which are 0, such that  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n = 0$ . A set that is not  $R$ -linearly dependent is said to be  $R$ -linearly independent [1]. Let  $N$  be a left  $R$ -module, then  $N$  is said linearly independent to  $R$  (or  $N$  is  $R$ -linearly independent) if there exists a monomorphism  $\varphi : R^{(\Lambda)} \rightarrow N$  [5].

Suprpto [6] introduced a generalization of linearly independency relative to an  $R$ -module  $M$  as follows: Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. The family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  is said to be linearly independent to  $M$  if there exist a monomorphism  $f : \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda \rightarrow M$ . If  $\{N_\lambda = N\}_\Lambda$ , then  $f : N^{(\Lambda)} \rightarrow M$ . We can say that  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  is linearly independent to  $M$  if the sequence  $0 \rightarrow \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda \xrightarrow{f} M$  is exact at  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ .

Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$  be an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules, i.e.  $Im f = Ker g (= g^{-1}(\{0\}))$ . We can generalize the submodule  $\{0\}$  to any submodule  $U \subseteq C$  as we refer to [2] in which Davvaz and Parnian-Garamaleky introduced the concept of quasi-exact sequences. A sequence of  $R$ -modules and  $R$ -homomorphisms  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$  is quasi-exact in  $B$  or  $U$ -exact in  $B$  if there exists a submodule  $U$  in  $C$  such that  $Im f = g^{-1}(U)$ .

Then, Anvariye dan Davvaz [7] proved further results about quasi-exact sequences and introduced generalization of Schanuel Lemma. Moreover, they obtained some relationships between quasi-exact sequences and superfluous (or essential) submodules.

Furthermore, Davvaz and Shabani-Solt introduced a generalization of some notions in homological algebra [3]. They gave a generalization of the Lambek Lemma, Snake Lemma, connecting homomorphism and exact triangle and they established new basic properties of the  $U$ -homological algebra. In [8], Anvariye dan Davvaz studied  $U$ -split sequences and established several connections between  $U$ -split sequences and projective modules.



Let  $K, L, M$  be  $R$ -modules and  $X$  a submodule of  $L$ . The triple  $(K, L, M)$  is said to be an  $X$ -sub-exact at  $L$  if

$$K \rightarrow X \rightarrow M$$

is exact, i.e.  $Im f = Ker g$ . The exact sequence is a special case of  $X$ -sub-exact by taking  $X = L$  [4].

In this paper, we introduce an  $X$ -sub-linearly independent module which is a generalization of linearly independent relative to an  $R$ -module  $M$  by using the concept of  $X$ -sub-exact sequence.

Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. The family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  is said to be  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$  if the triple  $(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$  is  $X$ -sub-exact (where  $X$  is a submodule of  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ ). Then, we collect all submodules  $X$  of  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$  such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , we denote it by  $\sigma(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$ . In this paper, we give some basic properties of  $X$ -sub-linearly independent modules and  $\sigma(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$ . We will show that  $\sigma(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$  is closed under submodules and intersections. Furthermore,  $\sigma(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$  always has a maximal element, for every family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N}$  and  $R$ -module  $M$ . In other words, for every family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  and  $R$ -module  $M$ , there exist a submodule  $X$  maximal such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is an  $X$ -sublinearly independent.

## 2. Main Results

As a generalization of linearly independent relative to an  $R$ -module  $M$ , we define  $X$ -sub-linearly independent by using the concept of  $X$ -sub-exact sequence as follows:

**Definition 2.1** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. The family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  is said to be  $X$ -sublinearly independent to  $M$  if the triple  $(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$  is  $X$ -sub-exact (where  $X$  is a submodule of  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ ), i.e. the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow M$$

is exact.

**Example 2.1** Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_5\}$  the family of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules and let  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  be  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. We define  $f : \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$ , where  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f(1) = 3$ . So,  $f$  is a monomorphism. Hence, the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}_6$$

is exact. Therefore, the triple  $(0, \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5, \mathbb{Z}_6)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -sub-exact. So,  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -sub-linearly independent to  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ .

Assume  $f$  is a monomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ . Then,

$$0 = f(0, 0) = f(5(0, 1)) = 5f(0, 1).$$

We get  $f(0, 1) = f(0, 0) = 0$ , a contradiction. So, we can not define a monomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ . Hence  $\mathcal{N}$  is not linearly independent to  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ .

Example 2.1 shows that if the family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N}$  is an  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to an  $R$ -module  $M$ , for some submodule  $X$  of  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ ,  $N_\lambda \in \mathcal{N}$ , for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , then  $\mathcal{N}$  is not necessary linearly independent to  $M$ .

We already know that any set that containing 0 is linearly dependent since  $1 \cdot 0 = 0$ . In the following Proposition, we want to show that the family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N}$  is 0-sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for any  $R$ -module  $M$ .

**Proposition 2.1** *Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  be a family of  $R$ -modules. Then  $\mathcal{N}$  is 0-sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for any  $R$ -module  $M$ .*

**Proof.** Since the sequence  $0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow M$  is exact, the triple  $(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, M)$  is 0-sub-exact at  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{N}$  is 0-sub-linearly independent to  $M$ .  $\square$

In fact, we can define a monomorphism from  $R$ -module  $M$  to itself. So, Any  $R$ -module  $M$  is  $M$ -sub-linearly independent relative to  $M$ . We already know that any subset of a linearly independent set is linearly independent. In the following proposition, we will prove that  $M$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for every submodule  $X$  of  $M$ .

**Proposition 2.2** *For any  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $M$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for every submodule  $X$  of  $M$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and let  $X$  be a submodule of  $M$ . We have the inclusion  $i : X \rightarrow M$  such that the sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{i} M$  is exact. Hence, the triple  $(0, M, M)$  is  $X$ -sub-exact. Therefore  $M$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ .  $\square$

Then, we will give some properties of  $X$ -sub-linearly independent relative to an  $R$ -module  $M$ .

Clearly, we can define a monomorphism from  $N_\lambda$  to  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ . So, we have the following proposition:

**Proposition 2.3** *Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  be a family of  $R$ -modules. Then  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $N_\lambda$ -sub-linearly independent to  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ , for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ .*

**Proof.** For every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , we have the inclusion  $i : N_\lambda \rightarrow \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$  such that the sequence  $0 \rightarrow N_\lambda \xrightarrow{i} \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$  is exact. Therefore, the triple  $(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda)$  is  $N_\lambda$ -sub-exact at  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ . So,  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $N_\lambda$ -sub-linearly independent to  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ , for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ .  $\square$

Since for any submodule  $X$  of  $N_\lambda$ , we can define a monomorphism from  $X$  to  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ , we have the following proposition.

**Proposition 2.4** *Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$  be a family of  $R$ -modules. Then, for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $N_\lambda$  for any submodule  $X$  of  $N_\lambda$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be a submodule of  $N_\lambda \subset \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ . We have the inclusion  $i : X \rightarrow N_\lambda$  such that the sequence  $0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow N_\lambda$  is exact. This implies the triple  $(0, \coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda, N_\lambda)$  is  $X$ -sub-exact sequence at  $\coprod_\Lambda N_\lambda$ . Hence  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $N_\lambda$ .  $\square$

Let  $K, L, M$  be  $R$ -modules. We define

$$\sigma(K, L, M) = \{X \leq L \mid (K, L, M) \text{ } X\text{-sub-exact at } L\}.$$

Then  $\sigma(K, L, M) \neq \emptyset$  since  $0 \in \sigma(K, L, M)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be a family of  $R$ -modules. If we take  $K = 0$ ,  $L = \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  and  $K = M$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(0, L, M) &= \{X \leq L \mid (0, L, M) \text{ is } X\text{-sub-exact at } L\} \\ &= \{X \leq L \mid \mathcal{N} \text{ is } X\text{-sub-linearly independent to } M\}.\end{aligned}$$

We recall the properties of  $\sigma(0, L, M)$  as follows:

**Proposition 2.5** [4] *Let  $L, M$  be two  $R$ -modules and  $X_{\lambda}$  be a submodule of  $L$ , for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . If  $X_{\lambda} \in \sigma(0, L, M)$ , for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , then  $\cap_{\Lambda} X_{\lambda} \in \sigma(0, L, M)$ .*

In the following Proposition, we will prove that  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is closed under intersections, i.e. if  $X_i \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , for every  $i \in I$ , then  $\cap_{i \in I} X_i \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ .

**Proposition 2.6** *Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$  be a family of  $R$ -modules and let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. If  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X_i$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for every  $i \in I$ , then  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $\cap_{i \in I} X_i$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ . In other words,  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is closed under intersections.*

**Proof.** Since  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X_i$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for every  $i \in I$ , then the triple  $(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is  $X_i$ -sub-exact. Therefore,  $X_i \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , for every  $i \in I$ . By Proposition 2.5, we get  $\cap_{i \in I} X_i \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ . So,  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $\cap_{i \in I} X_i$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ .  $\square$

Furthermore, in the following proposition, we want to show that  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is closed under submodules.

**Proposition 2.7** *Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$  be a family of  $R$ -modules and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. If  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , then  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X'$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , for every submodule  $X'$  of  $X$ . In other words,  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is closed under submodules.*

**Proof.** Since  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , then there is a monomorphism  $f : X \rightarrow M$ . Let  $X'$  be a submodule of  $X$ . Then, we can define the inclusion  $i : X' \rightarrow X$ . So,  $f \circ i : X' \rightarrow M$  is a monomorphism. Hence,  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X'$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ . Therefore, if  $X \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , then  $X' \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , for every submodule  $X'$  of  $X$ .  $\square$

We already know that a basis for a free  $R$ -module  $F$  is a maximal linearly independent set in  $R$ -module  $F$ . So, we will investigate the maximal element of  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , i.e. the maximal subset  $X$  of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to an  $R$ -module  $M$ . If there is a monomorphism  $f : \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda} \rightarrow M$ , then  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  is the maximal element in  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , i.e. for every  $X \in \sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ , if  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda} \subseteq X$ , then  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda} = X$ . But,  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  is not necessary belong to  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ .

The most important criterion for the existence of maximal elements in a partially ordered set is Zorn's lemma. We recall Zorn's lemma as follows:

**Proposition 2.8 (Zorn's Lemma)**[1] *Let  $X$  be a partially ordered set and assume that every chain in  $X$  has an upper bound. Then  $X$  has a maximal element.*

By using Zorn's lemma, we want to show that there exist a submodule  $X$  in  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  maximal such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is an  $X$ -sublinearly independent to  $M$ , for every family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N}$  and  $R$ -module  $M$ .

**Theorem 2.1** *Let  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$  be a family of  $R$ -modules and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then there exist a submodule  $X$  in  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  maximal such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is an  $X$ -sublinearly independent to  $M$ . In other words,  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  always has a maximal element.*

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{X} = \{X | X \subseteq \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda} \text{ and } X \subseteq M\}$ . The set  $\mathcal{X}$  is not empty since  $0 \in \mathcal{X}$ . Let  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a chain (totally ordered set) in  $\mathcal{X}$ . Let  $Y = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$ , where  $X_i \in \mathcal{X}$ , for all  $i \in I$ . As a set,  $Y$  certainly contains all the  $X_i$ 's. Since a union of submodules is not usually a submodule, we will show that  $Y$  is a submodule of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$ .

If  $x$  and  $y$  are in  $Y$ , then  $x \in X_i$  and  $y \in X_j$ , for two of the submodules  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$ . Since the set of submodules  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$  is totally ordered,

$$X_i \subset X_j \text{ or } X_j \subset X_i.$$

Without loss of generality,  $X_i \subset X_j$ . Therefore  $x$  and  $y$  are in  $X_j$ , so  $x + y \in X_j \subset Y$  and  $rx \in X_j \subset Y$ , for every  $r \in R$ . We can conclude that  $Y = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$  is a submodule of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$ . Similarly, we obtain  $Y$  is a submodule of  $M$ .

Since  $Y$  contains every  $X_i$ , for all  $i \in I$ ,  $Y$  is an upper bound on the totally ordered set  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I}$ . By Zorn's lemma,  $\mathcal{X}$  contains a maximal element. This maximal element is a submodule of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  and  $M$  that is maximal for inclusion among all submodule of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  and  $M$ . We can conclude that there exist a submodule  $X$  in  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  maximal such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is an  $X$ -sublinearly independent to  $M$  or  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  always has a maximal element.  $\square$

### 3. Conclusion

The family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$  is an  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$  if the triple  $(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is  $X$ -sub-exact (where  $X$  is a submodule of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$ ). If we take  $X = \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$ , then  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$  is linearly independent. Hence, sub-linearly independent module is a generalization of linearly independent module.

Then, we collect all submodules  $X$  of  $\coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}$  such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is  $X$ -sub-linearly independent to  $M$ , we denote it by  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$ . We have proved that  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  is closed under submodules and intersections. Furthermore, for every family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N} = \{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$  and  $R$ -module  $M$ , there exist  $X$  maximal such that  $\mathcal{N}$  is an  $X$ -sublinearly independent. In other words,  $\sigma(0, \coprod_{\Lambda} N_{\lambda}, M)$  always has a maximal element, for every family of  $R$ -modules  $\mathcal{N}$  and  $R$ -module  $M$ .

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