CORRESPONDENCES OF CLOSED SUBMODULES

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ABSTRACT. If N is an M -faithful R -module, then there is an order-preserving correspondence between the closed R -submodules of N and the closed S -submodules of $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$, where $S = \text{End}_R M$.

There is a considerable body of research dealing with correspondences between the lattice of submodules of an R -module M and the lattice of left ideals of its endomorphism ring S . This literature includes the well-known Morita theory and its generalizations. When a complete correspondence between all submodules and all left ideals fails to hold, one may still ask whether there is a correspondence between designated sublattices of submodules and left ideals. One particular situation that has attracted much attention has been cases when there is a correspondence between the closed (i.e., essentially closed) submodules of M and the closed left ideals of S . It is known that such a correspondence exists when M is a semisimple module (an elementary observation), when M is a free module [2], when M is a nonsingular retractable module satisfying an additional condition [7], and when M is a nondegenerate module [8]. This article began as a search for a conceptual link among these special cases. Eventually, it was realized that a common denominator is the notion of a self-faithful module, a concept first introduced for generators in [6], and recently exploited to good effect in [3], [4] and [5].

The principal contribution of this article is to demonstrate that a natural correspondence of closed submodules with closed left ideals occurs whenever M is a self-faithful module. In fact, taking a cue from the approach in [1], we show more generally in Theorem 1.2 that when N is an M -faithful R -module, then there exists an order-preserving correspondence between the closed R -submodules of M and the closed S -submodules of $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$, where $S = \text{End}_R M$. Taking $N = M$ then specializes to the self-faithful case. Additional examples of M being self-faithful, and of the desired correspondence holding, occur when M is a quasi-projective retractable module (Proposition 1.2 in [3]) and when M is a polyform retractable module (Corollary 2.3).

Of purely technical interest is the fact that the results contained in this paper remain true even over rings which fail to have an identity element.

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1. A CORRESPONDENCE OF CLOSED SUBMODULES

In what follows, R is an associative ring, *not necessarily containing an identity element*. Unless otherwise indicated, all modules are left modules and homomorphisms are written as right operators. M and N will be left R -modules with $U = \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ and $S = \text{End}_R M$; U is then a left S -module. We write $K \leq L$ to indicate that K is a submodule of L ; $K \leq^e L$ means that K is an essential submodule of L ; $K \leq^c L$ means that K is an essentially closed submodule of L .

For any R -module N , we set $N_M = M\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$. N_M is the largest submodule of N generated by M , and N is called *M -generated* if $N = N_M$. We let $\sigma[M]$ denote the class of all submodules of M -generated modules. As in [3], a module $N \in \sigma[M]$ is called *M -faithful* if for every $0 \neq g \in \text{Hom}_R(X, N)$ with $X \in \sigma[M]$, $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)g \neq 0$; equivalently, if for every $0 \neq g \in \text{Hom}_R(X, N)$ with $X \leq M^{(t)}$ for some positive integer t , $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)g \neq 0$. For instance, when M is Σ -self-generated (that is, when every submodule of every $M^{(t)}$ is M -generated), then every $N \in \sigma[M]$ is M -faithful and conversely. When M is itself M -faithful, M is called a *self-faithful* module.

Without further ado, we develop the correspondence theorem for closed submodules of an M -faithful module.

Proposition 1.1. *For N an M -faithful R -module with $S = \text{End}_R M$ and $U = \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$, the following conditions hold.*

- (1) $\text{Hom}_R(X/X_M, N) = 0$ for every $X \in \sigma[M]$.
- (2) If $0 \neq K \leq N$, then $0 \neq K_M \leq^e K$; in particular, $\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \neq 0$.
- (3) For every $A \leq {}_S U$, $A \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, MA)$.
- (4) If $K \leq^e L \leq N$, then $\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, L) \leq U$.
- (5) If $A \leq^e B \leq U$, then $MA \leq^e MB \leq N$.
- (6) If $K \leq^c N$, then N/K is M -faithful.
- (7) If $K \leq N$, then K is contained in every closed submodule of N which contains K_M . In particular, if $K \leq^c N$, then K is the unique essential closure of K_M in N .

Condition (1) actually characterizes M -faithful modules (see Proposition 1.1 of [3]). The proofs of (2) through (5) appear in [5] for the special case $N = M$, and are repeated here in full generality for the convenience of the reader. (6) and (7) are key steps in securing a correspondence of closed submodules.

Proof. (1) Assume that $X \in \sigma[M]$. If there exists $0 \neq g \in \text{Hom}_R(X/X_M, N)$, then $0 \neq \pi g: X \rightarrow N$ where $\pi: X \rightarrow X/X_M$ is the natural projection. Since $M\text{Hom}_R(M, X) = X_M = \ker \pi$, $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)\pi g = 0$, which contradicts the hypothesis that N is M -faithful.

(2) If $\iota: K \rightarrow N$ is the natural inclusion map, then $\text{Hom}_R(M, K)\iota \neq 0$ because $K \in \sigma[M]$. So $K_M = M\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \neq 0$. If $0 \neq L \leq K$ is given, then $0 \neq L_M = M\text{Hom}_R(M, L) \subseteq K_M \cap L$. Hence $K_M \leq^e K$.

(3) Let $0 \neq f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, MA)$ be given. We may choose a finitely generated submodule X of M and $a_1, \dots, a_t \in A$ such that $0 \neq Xf \subseteq \text{Hom}_R(M, \sum_{i=1}^t Ma_i)$. Consider the pullback $P = \{(m, m_1, \dots, m_t) \in X \times M^{(t)} \mid mf = \sum_{i=1}^t m_i a_i\}$ with associated projections $\pi_X: P \rightarrow X$ and $\pi: P \rightarrow M^{(t)}$, and let $\varepsilon_i: M \rightarrow M^{(t)}$ and $\pi_i: M^{(t)} \rightarrow M$ be the canonical injection and projection on the i th coordinate of $M^{(t)}$. We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
P & \xrightarrow{\pi_X} & X \\
\downarrow \pi & & \downarrow f' \\
M & \xrightleftharpoons[\pi_i]{\varepsilon_i} & M^{(t)} & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & MA
\end{array}$$

where $(m_1, \dots, m_t)\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^t m_i a_i$ and $f' = f|_X$. Then $0 \neq \pi_X f = \pi\alpha: P \rightarrow MA$. Since $P \in \sigma[M]$, there exists $h \in \text{Hom}_R(M, P)$ with $h\pi_X f \neq 0$. Then we may regard $h\pi_X$ as an element of S , and so $0 \neq (h\pi_X)f = h\pi\alpha = h\pi(\sum_{i=1}^t \pi_i \varepsilon_i)\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^t (h\pi\pi_i)a_i \in A$, proving that $A \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, MA)$.

(4) Suppose that $K \leq^e L \leq N$ and let $0 \neq {}_S A \leq \text{Hom}_R(M, L)$ be given. Then $0 \neq MA \leq L$, so $MA \cap K \neq 0$. Hence $0 \neq \text{Hom}_R(M, MA \cap K) \subseteq \text{Hom}_R(M, MA) \cap \text{Hom}_R(M, K)$. Since $A \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, MA)$ from (3), it follows that $A \cap \text{Hom}_R(M, K) \neq 0$. Thus $\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, L)$.

(5) Suppose that $A \leq^e B \leq U$ and let $0 \neq {}_R L \leq MB$ be given. Then $0 \neq \text{Hom}_R(M, L) \leq \text{Hom}_R(M, MB)$. Since $A \leq^e B \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, MB)$ by (3), $\text{Hom}_R(M, L) \cap A \neq 0$. Hence $0 \neq M(\text{Hom}_R(M, L) \cap A) \subseteq L \cap MA$, which proves that $MA \leq^e MB$.

(6) Suppose that $0 \neq g \in \text{Hom}_R(X, N/K)$ is given with $X \in \sigma[M]$ and $K \leq^c N$. By Zorn's lemma, there exists a submodule $L \leq N$ satisfying $K \cap L = 0$ and $K \oplus L/K \leq^e N/K$. Then $Xg \cap (K \oplus L/K) \neq 0$. Set $X' = (K \oplus L/K)g^{-1} \leq X$, and let g' denote the composition $X' \xrightarrow{g|_X} K \oplus L/K \xrightarrow{\cong} L \xrightarrow{\subseteq} N$. Then $0 \neq g' \in \text{Hom}_R(X', N)$ so, by hypothesis, there exists $0 \neq h \in \text{Hom}_R(M, X')$ with $hg' \neq 0$. Regarding h as an element of $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)$, it follows that $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)g \neq 0$, and this proves that N/K is M -faithful.

(7) Let $K \leq_R N$ and suppose that $K_M = M\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \subseteq L \leq^c N$. Then the composition $K \xrightarrow{\subseteq} N \xrightarrow{\pi} N/L$ induces a homomorphism $\iota: K/K_M \rightarrow N/L$. From (1) and (6), $\iota = 0$, and so $K \subseteq L$. $\square$

Theorem 1.2. *If N is an M -faithful module, then MA has a unique essential closure $(MA)^c$ in N , for each $A \leq^c {}_S U = \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$, and the assignments*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
K & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_R(M, K) \\
(MA)^c & \longleftarrow & A
\end{array}$$

define mutually inverse correspondences between the closed R -submodules of N and the closed S -submodules of $U = \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$.

Proof. If $K \leq^c N$ and $\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \leq^e A \leq {}_S U$ then, from (5), $M\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \leq^e MA$. Applying (7), we learn that $MA \leq^e K$. Hence $A \subseteq \text{Hom}_R(M, K)$, so $A = \text{Hom}_R(M, K)$, proving that $\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \leq^c U$. Also, from (7), $K = K_M^c = (M\text{Hom}_R(M, K))^c$.

Suppose that $A \leq^c {}_S U$; we first show that MA has a unique closure in N . Say $MA \leq^e K \leq^c N$. Then, from (3) and (4), $A \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, MA) \leq^e \text{Hom}_R(M, K)$, from which it follows that $A = \text{Hom}_R(M, K)$. Therefore, $MA = M\text{Hom}_R(M, K) = K_M$, which has K as its unique essential closure, by (7). Thus $A = \text{Hom}_R(M, K) = \text{Hom}_R(M, (MA)^c)$, and with this, the proof is completed. $\square$

A *CS-module* is one in which every closed submodule is a direct summand; a *left CS-ring* is a ring which is a *CS-module* over itself.

Corollary 1.3. *For N an M -faithful module, the following are true.*

(1) ${}_R N$ and ${}_S U$ have the same uniform dimension; i.e., an internal direct sum of submodules of one of these modules gives rise to an internal direct sum in the other module with the same cardinal number of summands.

(2) $(MA)^c = MA$ for each $A \leq^c {}_S U$ if and only if each $K \leq^c N$ is M -generated.

(3) If ${}_R N$ is a CS -module, then ${}_S U$ is a CS -module; and the converse holds when N is M -generated.

Proof. The proof of (1) is straightforward and is left to the reader.

(2) Suppose that $(MA)^c = MA$ for each $A \leq^c {}_S U$ and let $K \leq^c N$ be given. Then $\text{Hom}_R(M, K) \leq^c U$ so, from the theorem and the hypothesis, $K = (M\text{Hom}_R(M, K))^c = M\text{Hom}_R(M, K)$. Thus, K is M -generated.

Conversely, suppose that each $K \leq^c N$ is M -generated and let $A \leq^c {}_S U$ be given. From the theorem, $A = \text{Hom}_R(M, (MA)^c)$. On the other hand, $(MA)^c = M\text{Hom}_R(M, (MA)^c)$ by hypothesis, so $(MA)^c = MA$.

For (3), suppose that ${}_R N$ is a CS -module and that $A \leq^c U$. Then $N = (MA)^c \oplus L$ for some $L \leq N$. Hence $U = \text{Hom}_R(M, N) = \text{Hom}_R(M, (MA)^c) \oplus \text{Hom}_R(M, L) = A \oplus \text{Hom}_R(M, L)$.

For the converse, assume that N is M -generated and let ${}_S U$ be a CS -module and $K \leq^c N$. Then $U = \text{Hom}_R(M, K) \oplus B$ for some $B \leq {}_S U$. Hence $N = M\text{Hom}_R(M, N) = M\text{Hom}_R(M, K) + MB = K + MB$. This last sum is direct because $K \cap MB \neq 0$ would imply that $0 \neq \text{Hom}_R(M, K \cap MB) \subseteq \text{Hom}_R(M, K) \cap \text{Hom}_R(M, MB)$, whence $0 \neq \text{Hom}_R(M, K) \cap B$, a contradiction. So $N = K \oplus MB$, and the proof is completed. $\square$

2. APPLICATIONS TO RETRACTABLE MODULES

Observe that an M -faithful module N is M -retractable in the sense that $\text{Hom}_R(M, X) \neq 0$ for every $0 \neq X \leq N$ (Proposition 1.1(2)). When M is itself M -retractable, we say simply that M is *retractable*. Our next objective is to show that M -retractability characterizes M -faithfulness for some important families of modules.

An R -module M is called *polyform* if every homomorphism $f \in \text{Hom}_R(X, M)$ with $X \leq M$ has a closed kernel in X . Such a homomorphism is called a *partial homomorphism* from M into itself. Nonsingular modules form a proper subclass of polyform modules, as do semisimple modules. We begin by showing that when M is polyform, so are many modules in $\sigma[M]$.

Lemma 2.1. *Suppose that $\{M_i | i \in I\}$ is a family of modules such that partial homomorphisms from M_i to M_j have closed kernels for each $i, j \in I$, and let $K_i \leq^c M_i$ for each $i \in I$. Then $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i/K_i$ is a polyform module.*

Proof. From Proposition 3.3 of [9], it suffices to show that a nonzero partial homomorphism from M_1/K_1 to M_2/K_2 does not have an essential kernel. Let $0 \neq f \in \text{Hom}_R(N_1/K_1, M_2/K_2)$ be given with $K_1 \leq N_1 \leq M_1$. As in the proof of Proposition 1.1(6), one may choose $K_1 \leq L_1 \leq N_1$ and $0 \neq L_2 \leq M_2$ such that $K_2 \cap L_2 = 0$ and $0 \neq (L_1/K_1)f \subseteq K_2 \oplus L_2/K_2$. Set $f' = f|_{L_1/K_1}$ and let $\pi: L_1 \rightarrow L_1/K_1$ denote the quotient homomorphism. By hypothesis, the composition $L_1 \xrightarrow{\pi} L_1/K_1 \xrightarrow{f'} K_2 \oplus L_2/K_2 \xrightarrow{\cong} L_2 \subseteq M_2$ must have a closed kernel. From this it follows that the kernel of f is not essential in N_1/K_1 . $\square$

Proposition 2.2. (1) Suppose that M is a quasi-projective module and that $N \in \sigma[M]$. Then N is M -faithful if and only if N is M -retractable.

(2) Suppose that M is a polyform module and that $N \leq M^{(I)}/K$ for some index set I and $K \leq^c M^{(I)}$. Then N is M -faithful if and only if N is M -retractable.

(3) Suppose that (R, M, M', R') is a Morita context and that $N \in \sigma[M]$ is an R -module which satisfies $(M, M')n \neq 0$ for any $0 \neq n \in N$. Then N is M -faithful.

Proof. The proof of (1) is straightforward and is given in Proposition 1.2 of [3].

(2) Suppose that $N \leq M^{(I)}/K$ and that N is M -retractable. It suffices to prove that $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)g \neq 0$ whenever $0 \neq X \leq M^{(t)}$ for some integer t and $0 \neq g \in \text{Hom}_R(X, N)$. We may regard g as a partial endomorphism of $M^{(t)} \oplus (M^{(I)}/K)$, which is a polyform module by the preceding lemma. Hence there exists $0 \neq X' \leq X$ such that $g|_{X'}$ is a monomorphism, and thus X' is isomorphic to a submodule of N . By hypothesis, there exists $0 \neq h \in \text{Hom}_R(M, X') \subseteq \text{Hom}_R(M, X)$. Then $hg \neq 0$, completing the proof.

(3) As in (2), it suffices to prove that $\text{Hom}_R(M, X)g \neq 0$ whenever $0 \neq X \leq M^{(t)}$ for some integer t and $0 \neq g \in \text{Hom}_R(X, N)$. Choose any $x \in X$ with $0 \neq xg \in N$. By hypothesis, there exist $m \in M$ and $m' \in M'$ with $(m, m')(xg) \neq 0$. Define $h \in \text{Hom}_R(M, X)$ by $nh = (n, m')x$ for any $n \in M$. Then $hg \neq 0$ because

$$mhg = ((m, m')x)g = (m, m')(xg) \neq 0. \quad \square$$

We now combine the information in the previous proposition with that in Theorem 1.2 and Corollary 1.3 in the special case when $N = M$ and $U = S$.

Corollary 2.3. Suppose that either (i) M is a quasi-projective retractable module, or (ii) M is a polyform retractable module, or (iii) there exists a Morita context (R, M, M', R') such that $(M, M')m \neq 0$ for any $0 \neq m \in M$, or (iv) M is a Σ -self-generator.

Then the assignments in Theorem 1.2 define mutually inverse lattice correspondences between the closed submodules of M and the closed left ideals of $S = \text{End}_R M$; M is a CS -module if and only if S is a left CS -ring; and the uniform dimension of M equals the left uniform dimension of S .

The instances (i)–(iv) in the preceding corollary include and generalize a number of previously studied situations. The correspondence of closed submodules with closed left ideals had been known in the following cases.

- Semisimple modules—these are covered by (i) and (iv).
- Free modules over a ring with identity element, [2]—these are covered by (i) and (iii).
- Nonsingular retractable modules which satisfy the condition given in Proposition 1.1(3), [7]—these are a special case of (ii), so that, for a nonsingular module, retractability is enough for the correspondence reported in [7] to hold, without additional conditions.
- Nondegenerate modules, [8]—these are included in (iii).

Final comments. The fact that M is a CS -module if and only if S is a left CS -ring when M is self-faithful was first shown in [4]. For semisimple or free modules, Corollary 1.3(2) applies, so that $MA \leq^c M$ for each $A \leq^c S$ in these cases.

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