Pacific Journal of Mathematics

A NOTE ON REFLEXIVE MODULES

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Vol. 14, No. 3 July 1964

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For any ring A and left (resp. right) A-module E we let E^* denote the right (resp. left) A-module $\mathrm{Hom}_A(E, A_s)$ (resp. $\mathrm{Hom}_A(E, A_d)$) where A_s (resp. A_d) denotes A considered as a left (resp. right) A-module. Then the mapping $E \to E^{**}$ such that $x \in E$ is mapped onto the mapping $\varphi \to \varphi(x)$ is linear.

Specker [3] has shown that if E is a free Z-module with a denumerable base (where Z denotes the ring of integers) then E is reflexive, i.e. the canonical homomorphism $E \to E^{**}$ is a bijection. In this paper it is shown that a free module E with a denumerable base over a discrete valuation ring A is reflexive if and only if A is not complete and if and only if E is complete when given the topology having finite intersections of the kernels of the linear forms as a fundamental system of neighborhoods of 0. Specker's result can be deduced from these results. We note that this topology has been used and studied by Nunke [2] and Chase [1].

THEOREM 1. *Let A be a discrete valuation ring with prime Π and let E be a free A-module with a denumerable base. Then E is reflexive if and only if A is not complete.*

Proof. Let $(a_i)_{i \in N}$ (N the set of natural numbers) be a base of E and let $E_j = \{\varphi \mid \varphi \in E^*,\ \varphi(a_i) = 0,\ i = 0, 1, 2, \cdots, j-1$. Let $a'_j \in E^*$ be such that $a'_j(a_j) = 1$, $a'_j(a_k) = 0$ if $j \neq k$. Then clearly a'_0, $a'_1, \cdots a'_{j-1}$ generate a supplement of E_j in E^*. For each $x \in E$ the canonical image of x in E^{**} annihilates some E_j and conversely if $\psi \in E^{**}$ annihilates E_j then ψ is the canonical image of $\sum_{i=0,1,\cdots,j-1} \psi(a'_i)ai$. Hence $E \to E^{**}$ is a surjection if and only if each $\psi \in E^{**}$ annihilates some E_j. If $E \to E^{**}$ is not a surjection let $\psi \in E^{**}$ be such that $\psi(E_j) \neq 0$ for each $j \in N$ and let $\varphi_j \in E_j$ be such that $\psi(\varphi_j) \neq 0$. We can suppose that $\varphi_j \in \Pi^j E_j$ and that $\psi(\varphi_j) \in \Pi^m_j A$ but $\psi(\varphi_j) \notin \Pi^{m_j+1} A$ where $m_{i+1} > m_i$ for all $i \in N$. To show A complete it suffices to show that every series $\sum_{j \in N} \beta_j \Pi^{mj}$, $\beta_j \in A$ converges. We can find a scalar multiple of φ_j say φ'_j such that $\psi(\varphi'_j) = \beta_j \Pi^m_j$. Then let $\varphi \in E^*$ be such that $\varphi(x) = \sum_{j \in N} \varphi'_j(x)$ for all $x \in E$. This sum is defined since for a fixed $x \in E$ and M sufficiently large positive integer we have $\varphi_{M+i}(x) = 0$ for all $i \in N$. Furthermore, since $\varphi'_j \in \Pi^j E_j$ it is clear that the series $\sum \varphi'_j$ converges to φ when E^* is given the topology having

Received December 6, 1963.

the submodules $\Pi^n E^*$, $n \in N$ as a fundamental system of neighborhoods of 0. Under this topology $\psi: E^* \to A$ is continuous. Hence

$$\sum_{j \in N} \psi(\varphi'_j) = \sum_{j \in N} \beta_j \Pi^{m_j}$$

converges to $\psi(\varphi)$. Thus A is complete.

Conversely if A is complete let $(a'_i)_{i \in N}$ as defined above be a subfamily of the family $(a'_i)_{i \in N_1}$, $N_1 \supset N$ where $(a'_i + \Pi E^*)_{i \in N_1}$ is a base of the $A/\Pi\ A$ module $E^*/\Pi\ E^*$. Then if E' is the submodule of E^* generated by the family $(a'_i)_{i \in N_1}$ it is easy to see that E' is free with base $(a'_i)_{i \in N_1}$ and that E' is a dense pure submodule of E^*, i.e. E^*/E' is divisible and torsion free. Then, since A is complete the map $E^{**} \to E'^*$ which maps an element of E^{**} onto its restriction to E' is a bijection. But this clearly implies the existence of a $\psi \in E^{**}$ such that $\psi(a'_i) \neq 0$ for all $i \in N_1$ and hence for all $i \in N$. Thus $E \to E^{**}$ is not a surjection.

COROLLARY. *If A is an integral domain with a prime Π such that the discrete valuation ring A_π is not complete then free A-modules with denumerable bases are reflexive.*

Proof. There exist canonical injections of E, E^* and E^{**} in E_π, E^*_π, and E^{**}_π and furthermore if for $x \in E$, $\varphi \in E^*$, and $\psi \in E^{**}$ we let $\bar{x}$, $\bar{\varphi}$, and $\bar{\psi}$ denote the image of x, φ, and ψ in E_π, E^*_π, and E^{**}_π then $\varphi(x) = \bar{\varphi}(\bar{x})$ and $\psi(\varphi) = \bar{\psi}(\bar{\varphi})$. Then if $(a_i)_{i \in N}$ is a base of E, $(\bar{a}_i)_{i \in N}$ is a base of E_π and if $(a'_i)_{i \in N}$ is defined as above we get $\bar{a}'_i(\bar{a}_i) = 1$, $\bar{a}'_i(\bar{a}_j) = 0$ if $i \neq j$. Then if $\psi \in E^{**}$ is such that $\psi(E_j) = 0$ for each j then $\bar{\psi}$ is not in the image E_π under the canonical homomorphism since $\bar{\psi}((E_\pi)_j) \neq 0$ where E_j and $(E_\pi)_j$ are defined as above.

THEOREM 2. *If A is a left Noethrian hereditary ring, then a left A module E is reflexive if and only if E is complete when endowed with the topology having the finite intersections of the kernels of the linear forms as a fundamental system neighborhoods of* 0.

Proof. Clearly E is separated with the topology described in the theorem if and only if the map $E \to E^{**}$ is an injection hence we suppose that E is separated. For each finite subset X of E^* consider the subset X° of E^{**} consisting of all $\psi \in E^{**}$ such that $\psi(X) = 0$. Let E^{**} be endowed with the topology having the submodules X° as a fundamental system of neighborhoods of 0 where X ranges through all finite subsets of E^*. Then it is immediate that E^{**} is complete with this topology. If we can establish that the canonical map $E \to E^{**}$ maps E isomorphically onto a dense subset of E^{**} then it will follow immediately that E is complete if and only if E is reflexive.

Let X be a finite subset of E^*. Then clearly the intersection of the kernels of the elements in X is mapped onto the intersection of X° with the canonical image of E in E^{**} hence E is mapped isomorphically onto a subset of E^{**}. Thus it only remains to prove that the image of E in E^{**} is dense in E^{**}. If $\psi \in E^{**}$ and $X = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \cdots \varphi_n\}$ is a finite set of elements of E^* consider the map $E \rightarrow \prod_{i=1,\cdots,n} A_i$ such that $x \rightarrow (\varphi_i(x))_{i=1,\cdots,n}$ where $A_i = A_s$. Since A is left hereditary the kernel of this map $E_1 = \bigcap_{i=1,\cdots,n} \varphi_i^{-1}(0)$ is a direct summand of E so let $E = E_1 + E_2$ (direct). Then since A is left Noetherian E_2 is a finitely generated projective module so it is relfexive. Now $E^* = E_i^\circ + E_2^\circ$ (direct) and $E^{**} = E_1^{\circ\circ} + E_2^{\circ\circ}$ (direct). Clearly $E_2^{\circ\circ}$ is isomorphic to E_2^{**} and the restriction of the canonical homomorphism $E \rightarrow E^{**}$ maps E_2 isomorphically onto $E_2^{\circ\circ}$. If $\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2$ where $\psi_1 \in E_1^{\circ\circ}$ let $x \in E_2$ be such that $x \rightarrow \psi_2$ under the map $E \rightarrow E^{**}$. Then since $\psi - \psi_2 \in E_1^{\circ\circ}$ and since $X = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \cdots, \varphi_n\} \subset E_1^\circ$ we get $\psi - \psi_2 \in X^\circ$. This completes the proof.

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Subscriptions, orders for back numbers, and changes of address should be sent to Pacific Journal of Mathematics, 103 Highland Boulevard, Berkeley 8, California.

Printed at Kokusai Bunken Insatsusha (International Academic Printing Co., Ltd.), No. 6, 2-chome, Fujimi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

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Pacific Journal of Mathematics
Vol. 14, No. 3 July, 1964