



Available online at <http://scik.org>

Algebra Letters, 2018, 2018:1

<https://doi.org/10.28919/al/3697>

ISSN: 2051-5502

## ON $\chi$ -INJECTIVE MODULES

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we introduce the notion of  $\chi$ -injective modules where  $\chi$  denotes a collection of right ideals of a ring  $R$ . We establish various important properties of this module.

**Keywords:**  $\chi$ -injective module, essential ideal, direct summand, divisible module..

**2010 AMS Subject Classification:** 16D50.

### 1. Introduction

The notion of injective modules was first introduced by Baer in 1940 in [2] in the form of divisible abelian groups. A right  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be injective if it satisfies Baer's criteria of injectivity: every homomorphism from any right ideal  $I$  of  $R$  to  $M$  can be extended to whole of  $R$ . Since then many researchers have embarked on to determine a class of ideals of a ring  $R$  such that an  $R$ -module  $M$  is injective if and only if it satisfies Baer's criteria of injectivity for such a class. For instance, Smith [11] showed that if  $R$  is a commutative Noetherian ring, then the collection of all prime ideals of  $R$  is such a class. Later on, Vamos [12] termed such a class

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Received March 13, 2018

as a test set for injectivity of a module. Beachy et. al. [3] finally showed that for a piecewise Noetherian ring a set of prime ideals is a test set if and only if it contains all essential prime ideals. In the same spirit, in our present work, we introduce the notion of  $\chi$ -injective module. Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\chi$  be a collection of right ideals of  $R$ . A right  $R$  module  $M$  is said to be  $\chi$ -injective if for every ideal  $I \in \chi$ , every homomorphism  $f : I \rightarrow M$  can be extended to whole of  $R$ . Unlike the authors listed above, we study the properties of such a module rather than emphasizing on the collection  $\chi$ .

We have also related various other notions like pure-exact sequence, multiplication module with the notion of  $\chi$ -injective module in [8] and [9].

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 1.1.** An essential (large) submodule of a module  $B$  is any submodule  $A$  which has non-zero intersection with every non-zero submodule of  $B$ . We write  $A \leq_e B$  to denote the situation. Moreover we say that  $B$  is an essential extension of  $A$ .

**Definition 1.2.** A ring  $R$  is said to be Baer if the left annihilator of any subset of  $R$  is generated as a left ideal by an idempotent of  $R$ .

**Definition 1.3.** For a ring  $R$  a right  $R$  module  $M$  is called semisimple (or completely reducible) if it is a direct sum of simple modules. Thus, a ring  $R$  is said to be left (right) semisimple if it is semisimple as a left (right)  $R$  module.

**Definition 1.4.** A short exact sequence is an exact sequence of the form  $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \rightarrow 0$ . A short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \rightarrow 0$  is split if  $\exists$  a homomorphism  $j : C \rightarrow B$  with  $gj = 1_C$ .

**Definition 1.5.** A ring  $R$  is said to be von-Neumann regular if for each  $r \in R$ ,  $\exists r' \in R$  with  $rr'r = r$ .

**Definition 1.6.** A right  $R$  module  $P$  is said to be projective if whenever  $p$  is a surjective homomorphism from  $A$  to  $B$  and  $h$  is any homomorphism from  $P$  to  $B$ , there exists another homomorphism  $g$  from  $P$  to  $A$  such that  $pg = h$ .

**Definition 1.7.** An  $R$  module  $M$  is said to be divisible if for any  $u \in M$  and  $a \in R$  such that  $\text{ann}_r(a) \subseteq \text{ann}(u)$ ,  $u$  is divisible by  $a$ , i.e.  $\exists v \in M$  such that  $u = va$ , where  $\text{ann}_r(a)$  denotes the right annihilator of the element  $a$ .

Any other terminology or result relevant to the present work can be found in [4], [5],[6], [7] and [10].

### 3. Main results

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $M$  be a right  $R$  module and  $\chi$  be a collection of right ideals of  $R$ . Then  $M$  is said to be  $\chi$ -injective if every homomorphism  $f : I \rightarrow M$ ,  $I \in \chi$  can be extended to whole of  $R$ .

**Example 3.1.** Let  $M$  be a right  $R$  module where  $R$  is a commutative Noetherian ring. If we let  $\chi$  to be collection of all prime ideals of  $R$ , then by [11] it follows that  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective.

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $M$  be a right  $R$  module and  $\chi$  be a collection of right ideals of  $R$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective.
- (2) for any  $I \in \chi$  and for every homomorphism  $f : I \rightarrow M$ , there exists  $m \in M$  such that  $f(a) = ma$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2) Let  $i$  be a natural embedding from  $I$  to  $R$  and  $f : I \rightarrow M$  be any homomorphism such that there exists another homomorphism  $\varphi : R \rightarrow M$  such that  $f = \varphi i$ . As  $f, \varphi$  are module homomorphisms, for  $a \in I$ , we have,

$$\begin{aligned} f(a) &= \varphi(a) \\ &= \varphi(1 \cdot a) \\ &= \varphi(1)a \\ &= ma \end{aligned}$$

where  $\varphi(1) = m$  for  $m \in M$ . Thus, (2) follows.

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Let for a right ideal  $I \in \chi$  and for a homomorphism  $f : I \rightarrow M$ , there exists  $m \in M$

such that  $f(a) = ma$ . If we define  $\varphi : R \rightarrow M$  by  $\varphi(a) = ma$  for  $a \in R$ , then clearly  $\varphi$  is a module homomorphism and  $\varphi|_I = f$ . This shows that  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective.

From the definition of  $\chi$ -injective modules, it is clear that an injective module is  $\chi$ -injective. However a  $\chi$ -injective module need not be injective. We consider the following example.

**Example 3.1.** We recall from [1] that a right ideal of a ring  $R$  is said to be pure if and only if for every  $x \in I$ ,  $\exists y \in I$  such that  $x = xy$ . We consider the ring of integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a module over itself. If  $\chi$  denotes the collection of all non-zero proper pure ideals, then  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a module over itself is  $\chi$ -injective. Infact  $\mathbb{Z}$  does not possess any non-zero proper pure ideal in this case as  $\mathbb{Z}$  is free from non-zero one sided zero divisors. But  $\mathbb{Z}_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is not injective.

We now establish a condition under which a  $\chi$ -injective module is injective.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $Q$  be a  $\chi$ -injective module, where  $\chi$  is the collection of all essential right ideals of  $R$ . Let  $M, N$  be right  $R$  modules. Then  $Q$  is injective if  $M \leq_e N$  and any homomorphism  $\varphi : M \rightarrow Q$  can be extended to  $N$ .

**Proof.** Let a module  $Q$  be  $\chi$ -injective, and let us consider the following diagram, where  $M \leq_e N$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & M & \rightarrow & N \\ & & \downarrow & & \\ & & Q & & \end{array}$$

We now consider a set  $\kappa$  of extensions, i.e. the set of all pairs  $(C, h)$  where  $M \leq C \leq_e N$  and  $h : C \rightarrow Q$  such that  $h|_M = \varphi$ . Then clearly  $\kappa \neq \emptyset$  as  $(M, \varphi) \in \kappa$ . We now introduce an ordering relation by setting  $(C_1, h_1) \leq (C_2, h_2)$  if and only if  $C_1 \subseteq C_2$  and  $h_2$  extends  $h_1$ . This can be easily verified to be a partial ordering on  $\kappa$ . Every non-empty increasing chain  $\{(C_i, h_i) | i \in I\}$  in  $\kappa$  has an upper bound  $(C', h')$ , where  $C' = \bigcup_{i \in I} C_i$  and  $h'|_{C'} = h_i$ . Thus, in view of Zorn's lemma,  $\exists$  a maximal element  $(C^*, h^*)$  in  $\kappa$ . By construction,  $M \leq C^* \leq_e N$ . We need to show  $C^* = N$  i.e.  $N \subseteq C^*$

Suppose  $\exists$  a non-zero  $b \in N$  such that  $b \notin C^*$ . We set  $I = \{a \in R : ba \in C^*\}$ . Then  $I$  is an essential right ideal of  $R$  and hence  $I \in \chi$ . Thus  $\exists$  a homomorphism  $f : I \rightarrow Q$  defined by  $f(a) = h^*(ba)$ . By assumption,  $\exists q \in Q$  such that  $f(a) = qa = h^*(ba)$  (as  $Q$  is  $\chi$ -injective)  $\forall a \in I$ . Then we can define a homomorphism  $g : C^* + bR \rightarrow Q$  by setting  $g(c + ba) = h^*(c) + qa$   $\forall c \in C^*$  and  $a \in R$ . It extends to a homomorphism  $h^*$  and is well defined. For suppose,

$c_1 + ba_1 = c_2 + ba_2$  for  $c_1, c_2 \in C^*$  and  $a_1, a_2 \in R$ . Then  $a_1 - a_2 \in I$  and hence  $f(a_1 - a_2) = f(a_1) - f(a_2) = qa_1 - qa_2$ . On the other hand  $f(a_1) - f(a_2) = h^*(ba_1) - h^*(ba_2) = h^*(ba_1 - ba_2) = h^*(c_2 - c_1) = h^*(c_2) - h^*(c_1)$ . Hence we have  $h^*(c_2) - h^*(c_1) = qa_1 - qa_2$ . Thus  $g(c_1 + ba_1) = h^*(c_1) + qa_1 = h^*(c_2) + qa_2 = g(c_2 + ba_2)$ , as required i.e. the function is well-defined.

Thus we have  $(C^*, h^*) \leq (C^* + bR, g)$  i.e. we have obtained a contradiction regarding the maximality of  $(C^*, h^*)$ . This completes the proof.

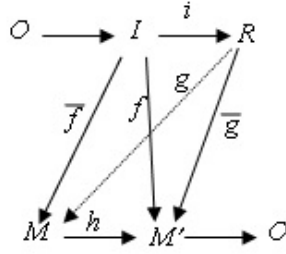
**Remark 3.1.** At this point, we note that in Theorem 3.2, the condition of essentiality is a sufficient condition for a  $\chi$ -injective module to be injective. However, the condition is not necessary. For instance, let us consider the  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$  as a module over  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 6 \rangle$ .  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 6 \rangle$  has two non-trivial ideals,  $\langle 3 \rangle = \{0, 3\} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$  and  $\langle 2 \rangle = \{0, 2, 4\} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/\langle 3 \rangle$ . Since there is no non-zero homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 3 \rangle$  to  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$  so the only ideal at stake is  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$ . The homomorphism  $f$  from  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$  to itself is determined by  $f(1)$ . Also, the inclusion map  $i: \mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/\langle 6 \rangle$  can be defined as  $f(1) = 3$ . Thus if  $\tilde{f}: \mathbb{Z}/\langle 6 \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$  then we have  $\tilde{f} \circ i(1) = \tilde{f}(3) = 3\tilde{f}(1) = \tilde{f}(1)$ . Thus if we define  $\tilde{f}(1) = f(1)$  then  $\tilde{f}$  is an extension of  $f$ . Consequently  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 2 \rangle$  is injective over  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 6 \rangle$  but none of  $\langle 3 \rangle$  or  $\langle 2 \rangle$  is essential in  $\mathbb{Z}/\langle 6 \rangle$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $R$  be a semisimple ring. Let  $M$  be a  $\chi$ -injective right  $R$  module. Then the following hold:

- (1) any submodule  $K$  of  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective.
- (2) the homomorphic image of  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective module.
- (3) the quotient of  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective module.

**Proof.**(1) Since  $R$  is semisimple, we have  $K$ ,  $M$  and  $M/K$  all are projective. So, the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/K \rightarrow 0$  splits. Thus, if  $i: K \rightarrow M$  be the inclusion, then there exists a homomorphism  $k: M \rightarrow K$  such that  $ki = id_K$ . Let  $I \in \chi$  and  $f: I \rightarrow K$  a homomorphism. Then the composite  $if: I \rightarrow M$  extends to a homomorphism  $g: R \rightarrow M$  as  $M$  is  $\chi$ -injective. If we take  $h: R \rightarrow K$  to be the composite  $kg$ , then the restriction of  $h$  on  $I$  is equal to the composite  $k(\text{restriction of } g \text{ on } I) = kif = f$ . So,  $h$  is an extension of  $f$ . This proves that  $K$  is  $\chi$ -injective.

(2) Let  $M'$  be the homomorphic image of  $M$  and we consider the following diagram



Using the  $\chi$ -injectivity of  $M$ , we get

$$gi = \bar{f} \quad (1)$$

Again  $R$  being semisimple and  $I$  as a module over  $R$  is projective. Thus, we have

$$h\bar{f} = f \quad (2)$$

By similar arguments, we have

$$hg = \bar{g} \quad (3)$$

Then, (1) gives;

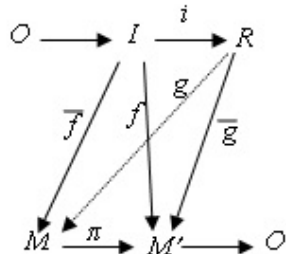
$$(gi) = h\bar{f}$$

$$(hg)i = h\bar{f}$$

$$\bar{g}i = f \text{ (using (2) and (3))}$$

as required.

(3) Let  $M$  be  $\chi$ -injective and  $K$  be a submodule of  $M$ . Then to show that  $M' = \frac{M}{K}$  is also  $\chi$ -injective. We consider the following diagram



where  $\pi$  denotes the natural homomorphism. Using the fact that,

$$gi = \bar{f}$$

and that the homomorphic image of a  $\chi$ -injective module is  $\chi$ -injective, we get the desired result.

**Theorem 3.4.** The direct sum of two  $\chi$ -injective modules is again  $\chi$ -injective.

**Proof.** Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be  $\chi$ -injective modules. Then to show that  $M_1 \oplus M_2$  is  $\chi$ -injective. Since  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are  $\chi$ -injective, so given  $I \in \chi$  and homomorphisms  $f_1 : I \rightarrow M_1$  and  $f_2 : I \rightarrow M_2$ , we have extensions  $g_1 : R \rightarrow M_1$  and  $g_2 : R \rightarrow M_2$  respectively. Again any homomorphism  $f : I \rightarrow M_1 \oplus M_2$  can be written as  $f = (f_1, f_2)$ , where  $f_1 = p_1 f$  and  $f_2 = p_2 f$ ,  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  being the projections of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  to  $M_1 \oplus M_2$  respectively. Now if we take  $(g_1, g_2) : R \rightarrow M_1 \oplus M_2$ , then  $(g_1, g_2)$  extends  $f = (f_1, f_2)$ . Consequently,  $M_1 \oplus M_2$  is  $\chi$ -injective.

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $R$  be a right Noetherian Von-Neumann regular ring. Then a right  $R$  module  $I$  is  $\chi$ -injective if and only if it is divisible,  $\chi$  being the collection of all right ideals of  $R$  of the type  $\{aR : a \in R\}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $I$  be divisible. Let  $f : aR \rightarrow I$  be a homomorphism where  $aR \in \chi$ . Let

$$u = f(a) \in I$$

. Then by definition

$$x \in \text{ann}_r(a)$$

$$ax = 0$$

$$f(ax) = 0$$

$$f(a)x = 0$$

$$ux = 0$$

$$x \in \text{ann}(u)$$

Then, by definition  $u = va$  for some  $v \in I$ . Then, if we take  $g : R_R \rightarrow I$  defined by  $g(1) = v$ . Then;

$$\begin{aligned} g(1)a &= va \\ g(a) &= va \\ &= u \\ &= f(a), \forall a \in aR \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$g|_{aR} = f$$

or that  $f$  extends  $R_R$ . Consequently  $I$  is  $\chi$ -injective.

Conversely, let  $I$  be  $\chi$ -injective. Then any homomorphism  $f : aR \rightarrow I$ ,  $aR \in \chi$  extends to  $R_R$ .

We now show that  $I$  is divisible, i.e.  $ann^I(ann_r(a)) = Ia$ , where  $ann^I(ann_r(a))$  denotes the annihilator of  $ann_r(a)$  taken in  $I$ . We first show that

$$Ia \subseteq ann^I(ann_r(a))$$

Let  $x \in Ia$ . Then  $x = ra$  for some  $r \in I$ . Then, we have,

$$ann_r(a) \cdot a = 0$$

$$r \cdot ann_r(a) \cdot a = 0$$

$$ann_r(a) \cdot ra = 0$$

$$ann_r(a) \cdot x = 0$$

$$x \in ann(ann_r(a))$$

Since  $x \in I$ , we have

$$x \in ann^I(ann_r(a))$$

i.e.

$$Ia \subseteq ann^I(ann_r(a)).$$

Now to show that



$$\text{ann}^I(\text{ann}_r(a)) \subseteq Ia$$

Let

$$x \in \text{ann}^I(\text{ann}_r(a)).$$

As  $I$  is  $\chi$ -injective, the homomorphism  $f : aR \rightarrow I$  extends  $g : R_R \rightarrow I$ . Then  $f(aR) = xR$  is a well-defined homomorphism as for

$$ar = as$$

$$a(r - s) = 0$$

$$r - s \in \text{ann}_r(a)$$

$$x(r - s) = 0$$

$$xr = xs$$

Again,

$$x = f(a) = g(a) = g(1)a = va$$

for some  $g(1) = v$  Thus

$$\text{ann}^I(\text{ann}_r(a)) \subseteq Ia$$

consequently,

$$\text{ann}^I(\text{ann}_r(a)) = Ia$$

or that,  $I$  is divisible.

**Corollary 3.1** Over a Baer ring  $R$ , a right  $R$  module is  $\chi$ -injective if and only if it is divisible.

**Proof.** We need to establish that a right Noetherian von Neumann regular is Baer, since in that case the result will follow from proposition 5. If  $R$  is right Noetherian, it follows that the ideals of  $R$  are finitely generated [6]. Also if  $R$  is von-Neumann regular, every finitely generated ideal is principal and is generated by an idempotent [10]. Thus, we may conclude that  $R$  is Baer.

### Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

## Acknowledgement

The authors would like to extend their cordial thanks to UGC for providing the financial assistance for this work. The authors would also like to thank Prof. H. K. Mukerjee of North Eastern Hill University, Shillong for suggesting corrected proofs of Theorem 3.3 (1) and Theorem 3.4.

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