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CHARACTERIZATIONS OF UNIQUE MAXIMAL SUBMODULE AND STRONG *m*-SYSTEM

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Abstract. In this paper we have introduced the concept of strong *m*-system in modules over non-commutative rings. Using the strong *m*-system, the existence of unique maximal submodule is proved. In fact we have shown that if *I* is a submodule and *S* is a strong *m*-system with $I \cap S = \emptyset$ then there exists a unique maximal submodule *P* with $I \subset P$ such that $P \cap S = \emptyset$. We have also obtained a characterization for unique maximal submodule.

Keywords: unique maximal submodule; strong *m*-system.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper *R* stands for a ring with identity and *M* stands for a unital left *R*-module. Prime submodules over the rings which are not necessarily commutative have been studied in a number of paper, for example [5],[1]. The notion of prime submodules was first introduced by J. Dauns in [2]. A proper submodule *P* of *M* is called a prime submodule, if for any ideal *A* of *R* and for any submodule *N* of *M*, $AN \subseteq P$ implies either $N \subseteq P$ or $AM \subseteq P$. David Ssevviiri[[4],Proposition 4.1.1] has shown that as in ring theory, a prime submodule *P* of *M*, is defined equivalently as, for any *a* in *R* and for any *m* in *M*, $aRm \subseteq P$ implies $m \in P$ or

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 $aM \subseteq P$. So as in ring theory an *m*-system in a module should have been defined as follows. A nonempty subset *S* of *M* is said to be an *m*-system if for any *m* in *S* and for any *a* in *R* with $ak \in S$ for some *k* in *M* then there exists an *r* in *R* such that $arm \in S$. One can easily prove that a submodule *P* of *M* is prime submodule if and only if C(P), the compliment of *P* is an *m*-system. But David Ssevviiri[4] has defined *m*-system in modules by taking sum of two submodules instead of taking two elements. Of course they have shown that a submodule is prime if and only if it's compliment is an *m*-system. Following David Ssevviiri[4] we have the definition of an *m*-system for modules as follows. A subset $S \subseteq M \setminus \{0\}$ of *M* is an *m*-system if for any submodules *K*, *L* and if $(K + L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ then $(K + AL) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. In this paper, we have introduced the notion of strong *m*-system in modules.

We have shown that a strong m-system in modules is always an m-system but the converse need not to be true. We have given an example of an m-system which is not a strong m-system. Using strong m-system we have proved the existence of a unique maximal submodule.

We have shown that if *I* is a submodule and *S* is a strong *m*-system with $I \cap S = \emptyset$ then there exists a unique maximal submodule *P* with $I \subset P$ such that $P \cap S = \emptyset$. If *A*, *B* are the submodules of *M*, one can easily check that $(A : B) = \{r \in R : rB \subseteq A\}$ is an ideal of *R*. For any $a \in R, <a >$ denotes the ideal generated by *a*.

2. PRELIMINARIES

If *R* is any ring with unity, we say that *M* is a unital left *R*-module if, for any $r \in R$ and $m \in M$, an element $rm \in M$ is defined such that the following conditions hold for all $m, n \in M$ and $r, s \in R$:

$$r(m+n) = rm + rn$$
$$(r+s)m = rm + sm$$
$$(rs)m = r(sm)$$
$$1m = m$$

A subset N of M is called an R-submodule if the following conditions are satisfied:

N is a subgroup of the (additive, abelian) group *M*.

rn is in *N* for all $r \in R$ and $n \in N$.

A proper submodule *P* of *M* is called a prime submodule, if for any ideal *A* of *R* and for any submodule *N* of *M*, $AN \subseteq P$ implies either $N \subseteq P$ or $AM \subseteq P$.

The definition of an *m*-system for modules as follows[4]. A subset $S \subseteq M \setminus \{0\}$ of *M* is an *m*-system if for any submodules *K*, *L* and if $(K + L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ then $(K + AL) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

3. MAIN RESULTS

Theorem 3.1. For a proper submodule P of M, the axioms that follows are equivalent

- (i) P is the unique maximal submodule.
- (ii) For any ideal A of R and for submodules $K \neq M$, N of M such that $K \cap N = \{0\}$ and if $A(K+N) \subseteq P$, then either $K+N \subseteq P$ or $K+AM \subseteq P$.
- (iii) For all $a \in R$ and for a submodule $K \neq M$ and for all m in M such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$ and if $a(K + Rm) \subseteq P$, then either $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + aM \subseteq P$.
- (iv) For all $a \in R$, submodule $K \neq M$ and for all m in M such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$ and if $\langle a \rangle (K + Rm) \subseteq P$, then either $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + \langle a \rangle M \subseteq P$.
- (v) For every left ideal $A \subseteq R$, submodule $K \neq M$ and for all m in Msuch that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$ and if $A(K + Rm) \subseteq P$, then either $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + AM \subseteq P$.
- (vi) For every right ideal $B \subseteq R$, submodule $K \neq M$ and for all m in M such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$ and if $B(K+Rm) \subseteq P$, then either $K+Rm \subseteq P$ or $K+BM \subseteq P$.

Proof $(i) \Longrightarrow (ii)$ Let *A* be an ideal of *R* and let $K \neq M$, *N* be the submodules of *M* such that $K \cap N = \{0\}$ and $A(K+N) \subseteq P$. As *P* is the unique maximal submodule, we have $K \subseteq P$. Suppose $K + N \notin P$. Then (K+N) + P = M. Let $m \in M$. Then there exists $k \in K$, $n \in N$ and $p \in P$ such that m = (k+n) + p. Let $a \in A$ and $k_1 \in K$. Then $k_1 + am = k_1 + a(k+n) + ap \in P$ since $k_1 \in K \subseteq P$, $a(k_1+n) \in A(K+N) \subseteq P$ and $ap \in AP \subseteq P$. Hence $K + AM \subseteq P$. $(ii) \implies (i)$ First let us show that *P* is a maximal submodule. Suppose there exists a submodule *K* such that $P \subseteq K \subseteq M$ with $K \neq M$. If $A = \{0\}$ and $N = \{0\}$ then $A(K+N) \subseteq P$ and hence by assumption $K \subseteq P$. Thus P = K.

Suppose *L* is any other maximal submodule of *M*. By taking $A = \{0\}$ and $N = \{0\}$ we have $\{0\}(L + \{0\}) \subseteq P$. Hence by (ii) $L \subseteq P$. Hence *P* is the unique maximal submodule.

 $(ii) \Longrightarrow (iii)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ be such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$. Suppose $a(K + Rm) \subseteq P$. Now, $RaR(K + Rm) \subseteq Ra(K + Rm) \subseteq RP \subseteq P$. Hence $(K + Rm) \subseteq P$ or $K + (RaR)M \subseteq P$. Thus $(K + Rm) \subseteq P$ or $K + aM \subseteq P$.

 $(iii) \Longrightarrow (ii)$ Let A be an ideal of R. Suppose $K \neq M$, N are submodules of M in such a way that $K \cap N = \{0\}$ and $A(K+N) \subseteq P$. Let $a \in A$ and $n \in N$. Clearly $K \cap Rn = \{0\}$ and we have $a(K+Rn) \subseteq A(K+N) \subseteq P$. This implies that $K+Rn \subseteq P$ or $K+aM \subseteq P$. Hence $K+N \subseteq P$ or $K+AM \subseteq P$.

 $(iii) \Longrightarrow (iv)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$. Suppose $\langle a \rangle (K + Rm) \subseteq P$. Then for all $x \in \langle a \rangle$, $x(K + Rm) \subseteq \langle a \rangle (K + Rm) \subseteq P$ and from (iii), $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + xM \subseteq P$. This is true for all x in $\langle a \rangle$. Hence (iv) holds.

 $(iii) \Longrightarrow (v)$ and $(iii) \Longrightarrow (vi)$ are similar to the above proof.

 $(iv) \Longrightarrow (iii)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ be such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$. Suppose $a(K + Rm) \subseteq P$. Then $a \in (P : K + Rm)$. As P and K + Rm are submodules of M, (P : K + Rm) is an ideal of R. It follows that $\langle a \rangle \subseteq (P : K + Rm)$ and hence $\langle a \rangle (K + Rm) \subseteq P$. Hence $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + \langle a \rangle M \subseteq P$. Hence it is clear that $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + aM \subseteq P$.

 $(v) \Longrightarrow (iii)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ be such that $K \cap Rm = \{0\}$. Suppose $a(K + Rm) \subseteq P$. Then $a \in (P : K + Rm)$. It follows that $\langle a \rangle \subseteq (P : K + Rm)$ since (P: K+Rm) is an ideal of R. Then $\langle a \rangle (K+Rm) \subseteq P$.

As < a > is an ideal of R, < a > is a left ideal also. Hence $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + < a > M \subseteq P$. Hence $K + Rm \subseteq P$ or $K + aM \subseteq P$.

 $(vi) \Longrightarrow (iii)$ Similar to the above proof.

This completes the proof.

4. UNIQUE MAXIMAL SUBMODULES IN TERMS OF STRONG *m*-System

A nonempty set $S \subseteq M \setminus \{0\}$ is said to be a *m*-system in the sense of David Ssevviiri[4] if, for each ideal $A \subseteq R$ and for all submodules *K*, *L* of *M*, if $(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ then $(K+AL) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

Now we define the notion of strong *m*-system.

Definition 4.1. A nonempty set $S \subseteq M \setminus \{0\}$ is called strong *m*-system if for each ideal $A \subseteq R$ and for all submodules *K*, *L* of *M* such that $K \cap L = \{0\}$ and if $(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ then $A(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

For let us show that every strong *m*-system is an *m*-system. Let *S* be a strong *m*-system. Suppose *A* is an ideal of *R* and *K*, *L* are submodules of *M* such that $(K + L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. If $K \cap L = \{0\}$, then $A(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $A(K+L) \subseteq (K+AL)$, we have $(K+AL) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

If $K \cap L \neq \{0\}$, let K' = K + L and $L' = \{0\}$. Then $K' \cap L' = \{0\}$, $(K' + L') \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K' + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since S is a strong *m*-system $A(K' + L') \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $A(K + L) \subseteq K + AL$ we have $(K + AL) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and it follows that S is an *m*-system.

Hence every strong *m*-system is an *m*-system. But the converse need not to be true. The following example shows that a *m*-system need not be a strong *m*-system.

Let $R = \mathbb{Z}_6$ be the ring and let the *R*-module be R_R . Then the subset $S = \{1,3,5\}$ is an *m*-system but not a strong *m*-system. Since $A(K+L) \cap S = \emptyset$ where $A = \{0,2,4\}$ is an ideal of $R = \mathbb{Z}_6$, $K = \{0,3\}$ and $L = \{0,2,4\}$ are submodules of $M = R_R$ with $K \cap L = \{0\}$ and $(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

In the case of prime submodules, a submodule *P* of *M* is prime and $M \setminus P$ is an *m*-system are both equivalent. Now, let us extend the result to unique maximal submodules.

Theorem 4.2. Let M be an R-module and let P be a submodule of M. Then P is a unique maximal submodule if and only if $M \setminus P$ is a strong m-system.

Proof Let *P* be a unique maximal submodule. Let $S = M \setminus P$. Let *A* be an ideal of *R*. Let *K*, *L* be the submodules of *M* with $K \cap L = \{0\}$ and $(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. If $A(K+L) \cap S = \emptyset$, then $A(K+L) \subseteq P$. By Theorem 3.1, we have $K+L \subseteq P$ or $K+AM \subseteq P$. Hence $(K+L) \cap S = \emptyset$ or $(K+AM) \cap S = \emptyset$, leads a contradiction.

Thus $A(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and hence *S* is a strong *m*-system.

Conversly, let $S = M \setminus P$ be a strong *m*-system. Suppose $A(K+L) \subseteq P$ where *A* is an ideal of *R* and $K \neq M$, *L* are the submodules of *M* be such that $K \cap L = \{0\}$.

If $K + L \nsubseteq P$ and $K + AM \nsubseteq P$, then $(K + L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. As S is a strong *m*-system, we have $A(K + L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Then $A(K + L) \nsubseteq P$, leads a contradiction. Hence P is a unique maximal submodule.

The well known fact is, if $S \subseteq M$ is an *m*-system and if *P* is a submodule of *M* such that $P \cap S = \emptyset$ is maximal in concert with this property, then *P* is prime submodule. A similar result does hold for strong *m*-system.

Theorem 4.3. Let $S \subseteq M$ be non-void strong m-system in M and I, a submodule of M with $I \cap S = \emptyset$. Then I is contained in a unique maximal submodule P with $P \cap S = \emptyset$.

Proof Let $\mathscr{A} = \{J : J \text{ is a submodule of } M \text{ with } I \subseteq J \text{ and } J \cap S = \emptyset\}$. Clearly $I \in \mathscr{A}$. Then by Zorn's lemma, \mathscr{A} contains a maximal element say P with $P \cap S = \emptyset$. Now to claim that P is unique maximal submodule of M.

If $A(K+L) \subseteq P$ where A is an ideal of R and $K \neq M$, L are the submodules of M in such a manner that $K \cap L = \{0\}$. Suppose $K + L \nsubseteq P$ and $K + AM \nsubseteq P$. Then by the maximality of P, we have P + (K+L) and P + (K+AM) are submodules and $P + (K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $P + (K+AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Now, let $L' = \{0\}$, the zero submodule of M. Then $((P + K + L) + L') \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $(P + K + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$, this implies $(P + K + L + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Let P + K + L = K'. Then $(K' + L') \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K' + AM) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ with $K' \cap L' = \{0\}$. Since S is a strong *m*-system, $A(K'+L') \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Thus $A((P+K)+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

Since $A(P + (K + L)) \subseteq AP + A(K + L) \subseteq P$, a contradiction to the fact that $P \cap S = \emptyset$. Hence *P* is a unique maximal submodule of *M* containing *I*.

CONCLUSION

In this paper, the properties of unique maximal submodules related with m-system is studied. We have estabilished the concept of strong m-system in modules over non-commutative rings and the existence of unique maximal submodule using the strong m-system. As a future work we will extend the results in semimodules over semirings.

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author(s) declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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