# CHARACTERIZATIONS OF UNIQUE MAXIMAL SUBMODULE AND STRONG $m$-SYSTEM 

G.N. SUDHARSHANA*, D. SIVAKUMAR<br>Department of Mathematics, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram, 608002, Tamil Nadu, India<br>Copyright © 2021 the author(s). This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits<br>unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.


#### 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 $M, A N \subseteq P$ implies either $N \subseteq P$ or $A M \subseteq P$. 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 $M, a R m \subseteq P$ implies $m \in P$ or

[^0]$a M \subseteq P$. 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 $a k \in S$ for some $k$ in $M$ then there exists an $r$ in $R$ such that $\operatorname{arm} \in S$. 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. Ofcourse 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 $S \subseteq M \backslash\{0\}$ of $M$ is an $m$-system if for any submodules $K, L$ and if $(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ then $(K+A L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. 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 $(A: B)=\{r \in R: r B \subseteq A\}$ is an ideal of $R$. For any $a \in R,\langle a\rangle$ 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 $r m \in M$ is defined such that the following conditions hold for all $m, n \in M$ and $r$, $s \in R:$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r(m+n)=r m+r n \\
& (r+s) m=r m+s m \\
& (r s) m=r(s m) \\
& 1 m=m
\end{aligned}
$$

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 $M$.
$r n$ 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 $M, A N \subseteq P$ implies either $N \subseteq P$ or $A M \subseteq P$.

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

## 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
$K+A M \subseteq P$.
(iii) For all $a \in R$ and for a submodule $K \neq M$ and for all $m$ in $M$ such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$ and if $a(K+R m) \subseteq P$, then either
$K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+a M \subseteq P$.
(iv) For all $a \in R$, submodule $K \neq M$ and for all $m$ in $M$ such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$
and if $\langle a\rangle(K+R m) \subseteq P$, then either $K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+<a>M \subseteq P$.
(v) For every left ideal $A \subseteq R$, submodule $K \neq M$ and for all $m$ in $M$
such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$ and if $A(K+R m) \subseteq P$, then either $K+R m \subseteq P$
or $K+A M \subseteq P$.
(vi) For every right ideal $B \subseteq R$, submodule $K \neq M$ and for all
$m$ in $M$ such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$ and if $B(K+R m) \subseteq P$, then either
$K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+B M \subseteq P$.

Proof $(i) \Longrightarrow(i i)$ 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 $K+N \nsubseteq P$. 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 $k_{1}+a m=k_{1}+a(k+n)+a p \in P$ since $k_{1} \in K \subseteq P, a\left(k_{1}+n\right) \in A(K+N) \subseteq P$ and $a p \in A P \subseteq P$. Hence $K+A M \subseteq P$.
$(i i) \Longrightarrow(i)$ 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) $\Longrightarrow(i i i)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ be such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$. Suppose $a(K+R m) \subseteq P$. Now, RaR $(K+R m) \subseteq R a(K+R m) \subseteq R P \subseteq P$. Hence $(K+R m) \subseteq P$ or $K+(R a R) M \subseteq P$. Thus $(K+R m) \subseteq P$ or $K+a M \subseteq P$.
$($ 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 $K \cap R n=\{0\}$ and we have $a(K+R n) \subseteq A(K+N) \subseteq P$. This implies that $K+R n \subseteq P$ or $K+a M \subseteq P$. Hence $K+N \subseteq P$ or $K+A M \subseteq P$.
(iii) $\Longrightarrow(i v)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$. Suppose $\langle a>(K+R m) \subseteq P$. Then for all $x \in<a>, x(K+R m) \subseteq<a>(K+R m) \subseteq P$ and from (iii), $K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+x M \subseteq P$. This is true for all $x$ in $\langle a\rangle$. Hence (iv) holds.
$(i i i) \Longrightarrow(v)$ and $(i i i) \Longrightarrow(v i)$ are similar to the above proof.
$(i v) \Longrightarrow(i i i)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ be such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$. Suppose $a(K+R m) \subseteq P$. Then $a \in(P: K+R m)$. As $P$ and $K+R m$ are submodules of $M,(P:$ $K+R m)$ is an ideal of $R$. It follows that $\langle a>\subseteq(P: K+R m)$ and hence $<a>(K+R m) \subseteq P$. Hence $K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+<a>M \subseteq P$. Hence it is clear that $K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+a M \subseteq P$.
$(v) \Longrightarrow(i i i)$ Let $a \in R$. Let $K \neq M$ be a submodule and let $m \in M$ be such that $K \cap R m=\{0\}$. Suppose $a(K+R m) \subseteq P$. Then $a \in(P: K+R m)$. It follows that $<a>\subseteq(P: K+R m)$ since
$(P: K+R m)$ is an ideal of $R$. Then $\langle a\rangle(K+R m) \subseteq P$.
As $<a>$ is an ideal of $R,<a>$ is a left ideal also. Hence $K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+<a>M \subseteq P$. Hence $K+R m \subseteq P$ or $K+a M \subseteq P$.
$(v i) \Longrightarrow(i i i)$ Similar to the above proof.
This completes the proof .

## 4. Unique Maximal Submodules in Terms of Strong m-System

A nonempty set $S \subseteq M \backslash\{0\}$ 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 $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ then $(K+A L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

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

Definition 4.1. A nonempty set $S \subseteq M \backslash\{0\}$ 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 $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ 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 $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. If $K \cap L=\{0\}$, then $A(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $A(K+L) \subseteq(K+A L)$, we have $(K+A L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

If $K \cap L \neq\{0\}$, let $K^{\prime}=K+L$ and $L^{\prime}=\{0\}$. Then $K^{\prime} \cap L^{\prime}=\{0\},\left(K^{\prime}+L^{\prime}\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $\left(K^{\prime}+A M\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $S$ is a strong $m$-system $A\left(K^{\prime}+L^{\prime}\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $A(K+L) \subseteq K+A L$ we have $(K+A L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ 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 $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.

In the case of prime submodules, a submodule $P$ of $M$ is prime and $M \backslash P$ 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 $M \backslash P$ is a strong $m$-system.

Proof Let $P$ be a unique maximal submodule. Let $S=M \backslash P$. 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 $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. If $A(K+L) \cap S=\emptyset$, then $A(K+L) \subseteq P$. By Theorem 3.1, we have $K+L \subseteq P$ or $K+A M \subseteq P$. Hence $(K+L) \cap S=\emptyset$ or $(K+A M) \cap S=\emptyset$, leads a contradiction.

Thus $A(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and hence $S$ is a strong $m$-system.
Conversly, let $S=M \backslash P$ 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 $K+A M \nsubseteq P$, then $(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $(K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. 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 $\mathscr{A}=\{J: J$ is a submodule of $M$ with $I \subseteq J$ 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 $K+A M \nsubseteq P$. Then by the maximality of $P$, we have $P+(K+L)$ and $P+(K+A M)$ are submodules and $P+(K+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $P+(K+A M) \cap S \neq$ $\emptyset$. Now, let $L^{\prime}=\{0\}$, the zero submodule of $M$. Then $\left((P+K+L)+L^{\prime}\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Since $(P+K+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$, this implies $(P+K+L+A M) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Let $P+K+L=K^{\prime}$. Then $\left(K^{\prime}+L^{\prime}\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ and $\left(K^{\prime}+A M\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ with $K^{\prime} \cap L^{\prime}=\{0\}$. Since $S$ is a strong $m$-system,
$A\left(K^{\prime}+L^{\prime}\right) \cap S \neq \emptyset$. Thus $A((P+K)+L) \cap S \neq \emptyset$.
Since $A(P+(K+L)) \subseteq A P+A(K+L) \subseteq P$, 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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[^0]:    *Corresponding author
    E-mail address: sudharshanasss3@gmail.com
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