

# A NOTE ON REFLEXIVE MODULES

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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  $\text{Hom}_A(E, A_s)$  (resp.  $\text{Hom}_A(E, A_d)$ ) where  $A_s$  (resp.  $A_d$ ) denotes  $A$  considered as a left (resp. right)  $A$ -module. Then the mapping  $E \rightarrow E^{**}$  such that  $x \in E$  is mapped onto the mapping  $\varphi \rightarrow \varphi(x)$  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  $E \rightarrow E^{**}$  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  $\Pi$  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  $E_j = \{\varphi \in E^*, \varphi(a_i) = 0, i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, j-1\}$ . Let  $a'_j \in E^*$  be such that  $a'_j(a_j) = 1, a'_j(a_k) = 0$  if  $j \neq k$ . Then clearly  $a'_0, a'_1, \dots, a'_{j-1}$  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  $\psi$  is the canonical image of  $\sum_{i=0,1,\dots,j-1} \psi(a'_i) a_i$ . Hence  $E \rightarrow E^{**}$  is a surjection if and only if each  $\psi \in E^{**}$  annihilates some  $E_j$ . If  $E \rightarrow E^{**}$  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  $\psi(\varphi_j) \in \Pi_j^m A$  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  $\sum_{j \in N} \beta_j \Pi^{m_j}, \beta_j \in A$  converges. We can find a scalar multiple of  $\varphi_j$  say  $\varphi'_j$  such that  $\psi(\varphi'_j) = \beta_j \Pi_j^m$ . 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  $\varphi$  when  $E^*$  is given the topology having

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Received December 6, 1963.