

# SOME COREFLECTIVE CATEGORIES OF TOPOLOGICAL MODULES

ALINA ALB

*Mathematics Department  
University of Oradea, Romania  
E-mail: dalb@uoradea.ro*

There are essential differences between the theory of topological algebraic systems with a discrete signature and the theory of topological algebraic systems with a continuous signature (see [C]). A topological module is a classic example of a topological algebraic system with a continuous signature.

It is well known that the class of all topological  $P$ -groups ( $P$ -rings) is a coreflective subcategory of the category of all topological groups (topological rings). For some results in coreflective subcategories of the category of topological abelian groups see in [GT], [HH].

In this context Professor M. Choban posed the following question: Is the class of all  $P$ -modules of  $TopMod$  a coreflective subcategory of  $TopMod$ ?

We give in this paper a partial answer to this question; the general case remains open.

## **Notation**

All topological rings are assumed associative, Hausdorff and with identity. All topological modules are assumed unitary and Hausdorff. For a topological ring  $R$  with identity  $TopMod$  denotes the category of all topological left  $R$ -modules. If  $M$  is a left  $R$ -module,  $X \subseteq R$  and  $Y \subseteq M$ , set  $X \cdot Y = \{rm : r \in X, m \in Y\}$ .

Recall that a subcategory  $\mathfrak{B}$  of a category  $\mathfrak{A}$  is said to be *coreflective* provided for each  $X \in \mathfrak{A}$  there is  $X' \in \mathfrak{B}$  and a morphism  $c_X : X' \rightarrow X$  such that for each  $Y \in \mathfrak{B}$  and each morphism  $\alpha : Y \rightarrow X$  there is a unique morphism  $\beta : Y \rightarrow X'$  in  $\mathfrak{B}$  such that the following diagram is

commutative,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & \xrightarrow{c_X} & X \\ & \swarrow \beta & \nearrow \alpha \\ & Y & \end{array}$$

i.e.,  $\alpha = c_X \circ \beta$ .

We will introduce a new cardinal invariant for topological rings.

**Definition 1.** Let  $R$  be a topological ring. Denote by  $h(R)$  the minimal infinite regular cardinal number for which there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of zero which can be represented as a reunion of a family of cardinality  $< h(R)$  of compact subsets.

**Remark 2.** We note that if  $m$  is an arbitrary infinite cardinal number then there exist regular cardinal numbers  $m'$  such that  $m \leq m'$ .

Indeed, let  $m = \aleph_\alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is an ordinal. Then  $\aleph_\alpha < \aleph_{\alpha+1}$  and  $\aleph_{\alpha+1}$  is a regular cardinal number. We obtain that  $h(R)$  is defined for any topological ring.

**Remark 3.** For a topological ring  $R$ ,  $h(R) = \aleph_0$  if and only if  $R$  is locally compact.

**Definition 4.** A topological ring  $R$  is called locally  $\sigma$ -compact provided  $h(R) = \aleph_1$ .

Being locally  $\sigma$ -compact means that there exists a base of neighborhoods of zero consisting of subsets which are  $\sigma$ -compact, i.e., countable unions of compact sets.

**Definition 5** (see, e.g., [AGM], p. 275). Let  $m$  be an infinite cardinal. We will say that a topological space  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a  $m$ -space provided any intersection of a collection of cardinality  $< m$  of open subsets is open.

We recall the following construction from general topology: Let  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  be a topological space and  $m$  an infinite regular cardinal number. Consider the topology  $\mathcal{T}_m$  on  $X$  having a base consisting of intersections of collections of cardinality  $< m$  of open sets of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$ . Then  $\mathcal{T}_m \geq \mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{T}_m$  is called the  $m$ -modification of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

If  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a topological group (ring), then  $(X, \mathcal{T}_m)$  is a topological group (ring), too.

We will outline the proof of this assertion only for topological groups (for topological rings the proof is analogous): Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $xy^{-1} \in$

$W \in \mathcal{T}_m$ . There exists a collection  $\{W_i\}_{i < m}$  of open sets of  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  such that  $W = \bigcap_{i < m} W_i$ . Choose for each  $i < m$ ,  $U_i, V_i \in \mathcal{T}$  such that  $x \in U_i$ ,  $y \in V_i$  and  $U_i \cdot V_i^{-1} \subseteq W_i$ . Set  $U = \bigcap_{i < m} U_i$  and  $V = \bigcap_{i < m} V_i$ . Then  $x \in U \in \mathcal{T}_m$ ,  $y \in V \in \mathcal{T}_m$  and  $U \cdot V^{-1} \subseteq W$ .

An important case is when  $m = \aleph_1$ . The spaces  $(X, \mathcal{T}_{\aleph_1})$  and  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  have the same collections of  $G_\delta$ -sets.

Recall that a topological space  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is called a  $P$ -space provided  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_{\aleph_1}$  ([GJ], p. 62-63). A topological module or ring whose underlying topological space is a  $P$ -space is called briefly a  $P$ -module, or a  $P$ -ring, respectively.

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $M \in \text{TopMod}$  and  $K$  be a compact subset of  $R$ . Then for every neighborhood  $W$  of zero there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of zero such that  $K \cdot U \subseteq W$ .*

*Proof.* For every  $k \in K$  there exist a neighborhood  $W_k$  of  $k$  and a neighborhood  $U^{(k)}$  of zero such that  $W_k \cdot U^{(k)} \subseteq W$ . By compactness of  $K$  there exist  $k_0, \dots, k_n \in K$  such that  $K \subseteq W_{k_0} \cup \dots \cup W_{k_n}$ . Then, evidently,  $K \cdot U \subseteq W$ , where  $U = U^{(k_0)} \cap \dots \cap U^{(k_n)}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $R$  be a topological ring and  $h(R) \leq m$ , where  $m$  is an infinite cardinal number. Let  $(M, \mathcal{T}) \in \text{TopMod}$  and  $V$  be a  $0_R$ -neighborhood,  $V = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Omega} K_\alpha$ ,  $|\Omega| < m$ , where each  $K_\alpha$  is a compact subset. Then for every  $0$ -neighborhood  $W$  of  $(M, \mathcal{T}_m)$  there exists a  $0$ -neighborhood  $U$  of  $(M, \mathcal{T}_m)$  such that  $V \cdot U \subseteq W$ .*

*Proof.* We can assume without loss of generality that  $W = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Omega} W_\alpha$ , where each  $W_\alpha$  is a  $0$ -neighborhood of  $(M, \mathcal{T})$ . Fix  $\alpha \in \Omega$ ; then by Lemma 6 for every  $\beta \in \Omega$  there exists a  $0$ -neighborhood  $H_\beta$  of  $(M, \mathcal{T})$  such that  $K_\beta \cdot H_\beta \subseteq W_\alpha$ . Put  $H^{(\alpha)} = \bigcap_{\beta \in \Omega} H_\beta$ ; then  $V \cdot H^{(\alpha)} \subseteq W_\alpha$ . It follows that  $V \cdot (\bigcap_{\alpha \in \Omega} H^{(\alpha)}) \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Omega} W_\alpha$ . Then  $U = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Omega} H^{(\alpha)}$  is an intersection of a collection of cardinality  $< m$  of  $0$ -neighborhoods for  $(M, \mathcal{T})$ , hence it is  $0$ -neighborhood of  $(M, \mathcal{T}_m)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $R$  be a topological ring,  $h(R) \leq m$ , where  $m$  is an infinite regular cardinal number  $\geq \aleph_1$  and  $M \in \text{TopMod}$  is such that the underlying topological space of  $M$  is a  $m$ -space. Then for each  $m \in M$  there exists a  $0_R$ -neighborhood  $V$  such that  $Vm = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $m \in M$  and  $V_0$  be a  $0_R$ -neighborhood such that  $V_0 = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Omega} K_\alpha$ ,  $|\Omega| < m$ , where  $K_\alpha$  are compact subspaces. Then for each  $\alpha \in \Omega$ ,  $K_\alpha m \subseteq$

$M$  is a compact subspace of  $M$ . Since  $\mathfrak{m} \geq \aleph_1$ , the topological space  $M$  is a  $P$ -space. Therefore each  $K_\alpha m$  is finite ([GJ], Exercise 4K, 1, p. 63).

It follows that  $|V_0 m| < \mathfrak{m}$ . Fix an enumeration  $\{x_\alpha | \alpha \in \Omega\}$  of  $V_0 m \setminus \{0\}$  (it is not assumed that  $\alpha \neq \beta$  implies  $x_\alpha \neq x_\beta$ ). For each  $x_\alpha$  there exists a  $0_M$ -neighborhood  $U_\alpha$  such that  $x_\alpha \notin U_\alpha$ . Then  $U = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Omega} U_\alpha$  is a  $0_M$ -neighborhood and  $V_0 m \cap U = 0$ . There exists a  $0_R$ -neighborhood  $V$  such that  $V \subseteq V_0$ ,  $Vm \subseteq U$ . It follows that  $Vm \subseteq V_0 m \cap U = 0$ , hence  $Vm = 0$ .  $\square$

**Remark 9.** The element  $x$  of a topological  $R$ -module  $M$  for which there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of  $0$  in  $R$  such that  $Vx = 0$  are precisely those having open annihilator (or left annihilator if the module  $M$  is the ring  $R$  itself).

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $R$  be a topological ring and  $h(R) \leq \mathfrak{m}$ , where  $\mathfrak{m}$  is a regular cardinal number  $\geq \aleph_1$ . Then the subcategory of  $TopMod$  consisting of all topological  $R$ -modules whose topology is a  $\mathfrak{m}$ -topology is coreflective.*

*Proof.* Let  $(M, \mathcal{T}) \in TopMod$ . Consider the submodule  $M'$  of  $M$  consisting of elements with open annihilator.

We affirm that  $(M', \mathcal{T}_m | M')$  is a topological  $R$ -module.

Obviously,  $\mathcal{T}_m$  is a group topology on  $M$ . By Lemma 7 the mapping  $R \times M' \rightarrow M'$ ,  $(r, m') \mapsto rm'$  is continuous at  $(0, 0)$  with respect to the topology  $\mathcal{T}_m | M'$ . By definition of  $M'$ , for each  $m' \in M'$  the mapping  $R \rightarrow M'$ ,  $r \mapsto rm'$  is continuous with respect to the topology  $\mathcal{T}_m | M'$ . It is obviously that for each  $r \in R$  the mapping  $M' \rightarrow M'$ ,  $m' \mapsto rm'$  is continuous with respect to the topology  $\mathcal{T}_m | M'$ . Therefore  $(M', \mathcal{T}_m | M')$  is a topological  $R$ -module.

Denote by  $i : M' \rightarrow M$ ,  $i(m') = m'$ ,  $m' \in M'$ . Let  $(M'', \mathcal{T}'')$  be a  $R$ -module whose topology is a  $\mathfrak{m}$ -topology and  $\alpha : M'' \rightarrow M$  a continuous homomorphism. We affirm that  $\alpha(M'') \subseteq M'$ .

By Lemma 8 for each  $m'' \in M''$  there exists a  $0_R$ -neighborhood  $V'$  such that  $V'm'' = 0$ . Then  $V'\alpha(m'') = \alpha(V'm'') = 0$ , i.e.,  $\alpha(m'') \in M'$ .

Put  $\hat{\alpha}(m'') = \alpha(m'')$  for any  $m'' \in M''$ . Then  $\hat{\alpha}$  is a continuous homomorphism of  $M''$  in  $M$  and  $\alpha = i \circ \hat{\alpha}$ .

The uniqueness of  $\hat{\alpha}$  is evident.  $\square$

**Corollary 11.** *Let  $R$  be a fixed locally  $\sigma$ -compact ring. Then the subcategory of all  $P$ -modules is coreflective in the category of all topological  $R$ -modules.*

**Remark 12.** If  $R$  is a  $P$ -ring, then the subcategory of  $TopMod$  consisting of all  $P$ -modules over  $R$  is coreflective.

Indeed, if  $(M, \mathcal{T}) \in TopMod$ , consider the abelian topological group  $(M', \mathcal{T}^\delta)$ , where  $M' = M$  and  $\mathcal{T}^\delta$  is the  $\aleph_1$ -modification of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Since  $R$  is a  $P$ -ring,  $\mathcal{T}^\delta$  is a  $R$ -module topology. Consider the mapping  $i : M' \rightarrow M$ ,  $m' \mapsto m'$ . We affirm that  $(M', \mathcal{T}^\delta)$  is the coreflection of  $(M, \mathcal{T})$  in the category of all  $P$ -modules. Indeed, let  $(M'', \mathcal{T}'')$  be a  $P$ -module and  $\alpha : M'' \rightarrow M$  a continuous homomorphism. Put  $\hat{\alpha} : M'' \rightarrow M'$ ,  $m'' \mapsto \alpha(m'')$ . Then  $\hat{\alpha}$  is a continuous homomorphism of  $M''$  in  $M$  and  $\alpha = i \circ \hat{\alpha}$ . The uniqueness of  $\hat{\alpha}$  is evidently.

**Remark 13** ([GJ], Exercise 4K, 8, p. 63). Every  $P$ -space  $X$  is zero-dimensional, i.e., has a base consisting closed and open subsets.

We note that if  $R$  is a connected topological ring and  ${}_R M = M$  is a  $P$ -module, then  $M = 0$ . Indeed, by Remark 13,  $M$  is zero-dimensional. If  $x \in M$ , then  $Rx \subseteq M$  and  $Rx$  is connected. Therefore  $Rx = 0$  and so  $M = 0$ .

We obtained that if  $R$  is a connected topological ring then the subcategory of  $TopMod$  consisting of all  $P$ -modules is coreflective.

We noted that the  $\aleph_1$ -modification of a topology of a topological group (ring) is a group (ring) topology. We give here examples of topological modules  $(M, \mathcal{T})$  for which the  $\aleph_1$ -modification of  $\mathcal{T}$  is not a module topology:

**Example 14.** Let  $R$  be any nonzero connected topological ring. Consider  $R$  as a left topological  $R$ -module with the multiplication as a module operation. Then the  $\aleph_1$ -modification is not a  $R$ -module topology.

Another example of this kind is the following.

**Example 15.** Let  $p$  be any prime number and  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  be the ring of  $p$ -adic integers with the natural compact topology  $\mathcal{T}$ ,  $M = \mathbb{Z}_p$ . Then the pair  $((\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathcal{T}), (M, \mathcal{T}))$  is a compact left  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module. The  $\aleph_1$ -modification of  $\mathcal{T}$  is the discrete topology  $\mathcal{T}_d$  on  $M$ . Obviously, the pair  $((\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathcal{T}), (M, \mathcal{T}_d))$  is not a topological  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -module.

We give here an example of a non-discrete  $P$ -module over a compact ring.

We will identify the set of all natural numbers with all ordinals  $< \omega$ , where  $\omega$  is the first infinite ordinal. As usual,  $\omega_1$  denotes the first uncountable ordinal.

**Example 16.** Let  $\mathbb{F}_2$  be the field consisting of two elements and  $R = \mathbb{F}_2^\omega$  be the topological product of  $\omega$  copies of  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Put  $S$  the subset of  $R$  consisting of elements with open annihilator.

**Claim.**  $S$  is a dense ideal of  $R$ .

Indeed, let  $r_1, r_2 \in S$ , then there exist neighborhoods  $V_1, V_2$  of zero such that  $V_1 r_1 = 0, V_2 r_2 = 0$ . Therefore  $(V_1 \cap V_2)(r_1 - r_2) = 0 \rightarrow r_1 - r_2 \in S$ . Let  $r \in S$  and  $m \in R$ , then there exists  $V$  a neighborhood of zero such that  $Vr = 0$ . We have  $Vrm = 0 \rightarrow rm \in S$ . Evidently,  $S \supseteq \bigoplus_{i \in \omega} (\mathbb{F}_2)_i$ , hence  $S$  is dense.

Now, we consider the group  $M = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \omega_1} S_\alpha$ , where  $S_\alpha = S$  (a direct sum of  $\omega_1$  copies of  $R$ -module  $S$ ).

For any  $\beta \in \omega_1$  put  $M_\beta = \{x : x \in M, pr_\alpha(x) = 0 \text{ for every } \alpha \leq \beta\}$ . Then  $M = M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \dots \supseteq M_\alpha \supseteq M_{\alpha+1} \supseteq \dots$ , and  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \omega_1} M_\alpha = 0$ .

Evidently, the family  $\{M_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \omega_1}$  gives a group topology  $\mathcal{T}$  on  $M$  and that  $(M, \mathcal{T})$  is a  $P$ -space.

We note that  $(M, \mathcal{T})$  is a topological  $R$ -module.

Indeed,  $RM_\alpha \subseteq M_\alpha$  for each  $\alpha \in \omega_1$ . Let  $m \in M$ ; then there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of zero of  $R$  such that  $Vm = 0$ . We have proved that  $(M, \mathcal{T})$  is a topological  $R$ -module.

## Acknowledgment

The author is grateful to professors Mitrofan Choban and Mihail Ursul for their constant interest and valuable indications. I am also grateful to the referee for her/his very careful reading and substantial helpful suggestions.

## References

- AGM. V. I. Arnautov, S. T. Glavatsky, A. V. Mikhalev, Introduction to the theory of topological rings and modules, Marcel Dekker Inc., 1996.
- C. M. M. Choban, On the theory of topological algebraic systems, Trans. Moscow. Math. Soc., 1986, 115–159.
- GJ. L. Gillman, M. Jerison, Rings of Continuous Functions, Van Nostrand, 1960.
- GT. M. L. Gramellini, A. Tozzi, Final topological groups and coreflections, Rend. Mat. et Appl., 1(4) (1981), 139–145.
- HH. H. Herrlich, M. Husek, Productivity of coreflective classes of topological groups, Comment. Math. Univ. Carolinae, 40 (1999), 551–560.