

# SUBCATEGORIES OF EXTENSION MODULES RELATED TO SERRE SUBCATEGORIES

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ABSTRACT. We consider subcategories consisting of the extensions of modules in two given Serre subcategories to find a method of constructing Serre subcategories of the module category. We shall give a criterion for this subcategory to be a Serre subcategory.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring. We denote by  $R\text{-Mod}$  the category of  $R$ -modules and by  $R\text{-mod}$  the full subcategory consisting of finitely generated  $R$ -modules.

In [2], P. Gabriel showed that one has lattice isomorphisms between the set of Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-mod}$ , the set of Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which are closed under arbitrary direct sums and the set of specialization closed subsets of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ . By this result, Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-mod}$  are classified. However, it has not yet classified Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . In this paper, we shall give a way of constructing Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$  by considering subcategories of extension modules related to Serre subcategories.

## 2. THE DEFINITION OF A SUBCATEGORY OF EXTENSION MODULES BY SERRE SUBCATEGORIES

We assume that all full subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$  are closed under isomorphisms. We recall that a subcategory  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is said to be Serre subcategory if the following condition is satisfied: For any short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow M \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules, it holds that  $M$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$  if and only if  $L$  and  $N$  are in  $\mathcal{S}$ . In other words,  $\mathcal{S}$  is called a Serre subcategory if it is closed under submodules, quotient modules and extensions.

We give the definition of a subcategory of extension modules by Serre subcategories.

**Definition 1.** Let  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  be Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . We denote by  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  a subcategory consisting of  $R$ -modules  $M$  with a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow M \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ , that is

$$(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) = \left\{ M \in R\text{-Mod} \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{there are } X \in \mathcal{S}_1 \text{ and } Y \in \mathcal{S}_2 \text{ such that} \\ 0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow M \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{is a short exact sequence.} \end{array} \right. \right\}.$$

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*Remark 2.* Let  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  be Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

- (1) Since the zero module belongs to any Serre subcategory, one has  $\mathcal{S}_1 \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2 \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .
- (2) It holds  $\mathcal{S}_1 \supseteq \mathcal{S}_2$  if and only if  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) = \mathcal{S}_1$ .
- (3) It holds  $\mathcal{S}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_2$  if and only if  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2) = \mathcal{S}_2$ .
- (4) A subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  is closed under finite direct sums.

**Example 3.** We denote by  $\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}$  the subcategory consisting of finitely generated  $R$ -modules and by  $\mathcal{S}_{Artin}$  the subcategory consisting of Artinian  $R$ -modules. If  $R$  is a complete local ring, then a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Artin})$  is known as the subcategory consisting of Matlis reflexive  $R$ -modules. Therefore,  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Artin})$  is a Serre subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

The following example shows that a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  needs not be a Serre subcategory for Serre subcategories  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$ .

**Example 4.** We shall see that the subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_{Artin}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$  needs not be closed under extensions.

Let  $R$  be a one dimensional Gorenstein local ring with a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ . Then one has a minimal injective resolution

$$0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\substack{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \\ \text{ht } \mathfrak{p} = 0}} E_R(R/\mathfrak{p}) \rightarrow E_R(R/\mathfrak{m}) \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ . ( $E_R(M)$  denotes the injective hull of an  $R$ -module  $M$ .) We note that  $R$  and  $E_R(R/\mathfrak{m})$  are in  $(\mathcal{S}_{Artin}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$ .

Now, we assume that a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_{Artin}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$  is closed under extensions. Then  $E_R(R) = \bigoplus_{\text{ht } \mathfrak{p} = 0} E_R(R/\mathfrak{p})$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{Artin}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$ . It follows from the definition of  $(\mathcal{S}_{Artin}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$  that there exists an Artinian  $R$ -submodule  $X$  of  $E_R(R)$  such that  $E_R(R)/X$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module.

If  $X = 0$ , then  $E_R(R)$  is a finitely generated injective  $R$ -module. It follows from the Bass formula that one has  $\dim R = \text{depth } R = \text{inj dim } E_R(R) = 0$ . However, this equality contradicts  $\dim R = 1$ . On the other hand, if  $X \neq 0$ , then  $X$  is a non-zero Artinian  $R$ -module. Therefore, one has  $\text{Ass}_R(X) = \{\mathfrak{m}\}$ . Since  $X$  is an  $R$ -submodule of  $E_R(R)$ , one has

$$\text{Ass}_R(X) \subseteq \text{Ass}_R(E_R(R)) = \{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R) \mid \text{ht } \mathfrak{p} = 0\}.$$

This is contradiction as well.

### 3. THE MAIN RESULT

In this section, we shall give a criterion for a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  to be a Serre subcategory for Serre subcategories  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$ .

First of all, it is easy to see that the following assertion holds.

**Proposition 5.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  be Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Then a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  is closed under submodules and quotient modules.*

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  be Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . We suppose that a sequence  $0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow M \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$  of  $R$ -modules is exact. Then the following assertions hold.*

- (1) *If  $L \in \mathcal{S}_1$  and  $N \in (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ , then  $M \in (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .*
- (2) *If  $L \in (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  and  $N \in \mathcal{S}_2$ , then  $M \in (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) We assume that  $L$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $N$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Since  $N$  belongs to  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ , there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow N \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . Then we consider the following pull back diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & 0 & & 0 & \\
 & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow & X' & \longrightarrow & X \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & N \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & & & & Y & \xlongequal{\quad} & Y & \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & & & & 0 & & 0 & 
 \end{array}$$

of  $R$ -modules with exact rows and columns. Since  $\mathcal{S}_1$  is a Serre subcategory, it follows from the first row in the diagram that  $X'$  belongs to  $\mathcal{S}_1$ . Consequently, we see that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  by the middle column in the diagram.

(2) We can show that the assertion holds by the similar argument in the proof of (1).  $\square$

Now, we can show the main purpose of this paper.

**Theorem 7.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$  be Serre subcategories of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *A subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  is a Serre subcategory;*
- (2) *One has  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{S}_1) \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .*

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) We assume that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{S}_1)$ . By the definition of a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{S}_1)$ , there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow M \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . We note that  $X$  and  $Y$  are also in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Since a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  is closed under extensions by the assumption (1), we see that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) We only have to prove that a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  is closed under extensions by Proposition 5. Let  $0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow M \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$  be a short exact sequence of  $R$ -modules such that  $L$  and  $N$  are in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . We shall show that  $M$  is also in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .

Since  $L$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ , there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow S \rightarrow L \rightarrow L/S \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $S$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  such that  $L/S$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . We consider the following push out diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & S & \xlongequal{\quad} & S & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & N \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & L/S & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & N \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 
 \end{array}$$

of  $R$ -modules with exact rows and columns. Next, since  $N$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ , we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow T \rightarrow N \rightarrow N/T \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $T$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  such that  $N/T$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . We consider the following pull back diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & 0 & & 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & L/S & \longrightarrow & P' & \longrightarrow & T \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & L/S & \longrightarrow & P & \longrightarrow & N \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & N/T & \xlongequal{\quad} & N/T \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & 0 & & 0
 \end{array}$$

of  $R$ -modules with exact rows and columns.

In the first row of the second diagram, since  $L/S$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$  and  $T$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$ ,  $P'$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{S}_1)$ . Now here, it follows from the assumption (2) that  $P'$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Next, in the middle column of the second diagram, we have the short exact sequence such that  $P'$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  and  $N/T$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . Therefore, it follows from Lemma 6 that  $P$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Finally, in the middle column of the first diagram, there exists the short exact sequence such that  $S$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $P$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Consequently, we see that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  by Lemma 6.

The proof is completed.  $\square$

**Corollary 8.** *A subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S})$  is a Serre subcategory for a Serre subcategory  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a Serre subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . To prove our assertion, it is enough to show that one has  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.}) \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S})$  by Theorem 7. Let  $M$  be in  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$ . Then there exists a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/Y \rightarrow 0$  of  $R$ -modules where  $Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$  such that  $M/Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}$ . It is easy to see that there exists a finitely generated  $R$ -submodule  $X$  of  $M$  such that  $M = X + Y$ . Since  $X \oplus Y$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S})$  and  $M$  is a homomorphic image of  $X \oplus Y$ ,  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S})$  by Proposition 5.  $\square$

We note that a subcategory  $\mathcal{S}_{Artin}$  consisting of Artinian  $R$ -modules is a Serre subcategory which is closed under injective hulls. (Also see [1, Example 2.4].) Therefore we can see that a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{S}_{Artin})$  is also Serre subcategory for a Serre subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  by the following assertion.

**Corollary 9.** *Let  $\mathcal{S}_2$  be a Serre subcategory of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which is closed under injective hulls. Then a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  is a Serre subcategory for a Serre subcategory  $\mathcal{S}_1$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 7, it is enough to show that one has  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{S}_1) \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ .

We assume that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{S}_1)$  and shall show that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Then there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y \rightarrow M \rightarrow X \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_1$  and  $Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . Since  $\mathcal{S}_2$  is closed under injective hulls, we note that the injective hull  $E_R(Y)$  of  $Y$  is also in  $\mathcal{S}_2$ . We consider a push out diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & Y & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & E_R(Y) & \longrightarrow & T & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

of  $R$ -modules with exact rows and injective vertical maps. The second exact sequence splits, and we have an injective homomorphism  $M \rightarrow X \oplus E_R(Y)$ . Since there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow X \oplus E_R(Y) \rightarrow E_R(Y) \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules, the  $R$ -module  $X \oplus E_R(Y)$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$ . Consequently, we see that  $M$  is also in  $(\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2)$  by Proposition 5.

The proof is completed.  $\square$

**Example 10.** Let  $R$  be a domain but not a field and let  $Q$  be a field of fractions of  $R$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{S}_{Tor}$  a subcategory consisting of torsion  $R$ -modules, that is

$$\mathcal{S}_{Tor} = \{M \in R\text{-Mod} \mid M \otimes_R Q = 0\}.$$

Then we shall see that one has

$$(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.}) \subsetneq (\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor}) = \{M \in R\text{-Mod} \mid \dim_Q M \otimes_R Q < \infty\}.$$

Therefore, a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$  is a Serre subcategory by Corollary 8, but a subcategory  $(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$  is not closed under extensions by Theorem 7.

First of all, we shall show that the above equality holds. We suppose that  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$ . Then there exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow M \rightarrow Y \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules where  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}$  and  $Y$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_{Tor}$ . We apply an exact functor  $-\otimes_R Q$  to this sequence. Then we see that one has  $M \otimes_R Q \cong X \otimes_R Q$  and this module is a finite dimensional  $Q$ -vector space.

Conversely, let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module with  $\dim_Q M \otimes_R Q < \infty$ . Then we can denote  $M \otimes_R Q = \sum_{i=1}^n Q(m_i \otimes 1_Q)$  with  $m_i \in M$  and the unit element  $1_Q$  of  $Q$ . We consider a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n Rm_i \rightarrow M \rightarrow M / \sum_{i=1}^n Rm_i \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -modules. It is clear that  $\sum_{i=1}^n Rm_i$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}$  and  $M / \sum_{i=1}^n Rm_i$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_{Tor}$ . So  $M$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$ . Consequently, the above equality holds.

Next, it is clear that  $M \otimes_R Q$  has finite dimension as  $Q$ -vector space for an  $R$ -module  $M$  of  $(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$ . Thus, one has  $(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.}) \subseteq (\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$ .

Finally, we shall see that a field of fractions  $Q$  of  $R$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$  but not in  $(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$ , so one has  $(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.}) \subsetneq (\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$ . Indeed, it follows from  $\dim_Q Q \otimes_R Q = 1$  that  $Q$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{f.g.}, \mathcal{S}_{Tor})$ . On the other hand, we assume that  $Q$  is in  $(\mathcal{S}_{Tor}, \mathcal{S}_{f.g.})$ . Since  $R$  is a domain, a torsion  $R$ -submodule of  $Q$  is only the zero module. It means that  $Q$  must be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. But, this is a contradiction.

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