

## Completely irreducible meet decompositions in lattices, with applications to Grothendieck categories and torsion theories (II)

by  
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*Dedicated to the memory of Laurențiu Panaitopol (1940-2008)  
on the occasion of his 70th anniversary*

### Abstract

This is the second part of the paper with the same title published in *Bull. Math. Soc. Sci. Math. Roumanie* **52** (100), no.4, (2009), 393-419.

**Key Words:** Grothendieck category, irreducible subobject, completely irreducible subobject, coirreducible (uniform) object, irreducible decomposition, injective hull, Gabriel dimension, hereditary torsion theory,  $\tau$ -irreducible submodule,  $\tau$ -completely irreducible submodule,  $\tau$ -coirreducible module, module rich in  $\tau$ -coirreducibles.

**2000 Mathematics Subject Classification:** Primary 16S90, 18E15; Secondary 18E40.

## 2 Applications to Grothendieck categories and torsion theories

In this section we apply the lattice-theoretical results established in the previous sections to Grothendieck categories and module categories equipped with a hereditary torsion theory.

Throughout this section  $\mathcal{G}$  will denote a fixed *Grothendieck category*, that is, an Abelian category with exact direct limits and with a generator. For any object  $X \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  will denote the lattice of all subobjects of  $X$ . It is well-known that  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is an upper continuous modular lattice (see e.g., Stenström [19, Chapter 4, Proposition 5.3, and Chapter 5, Section 1]). For all undefined notation and

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\*The author gratefully acknowledges partial financial support from the grant PN II - IDEI 443, code 1190/2008, awarded by the CNCSIS - UEFISCSU, Romania.

terminology on Abelian categories the reader is referred to Albu and Năstăsescu [3] and/or Stenström [19].

We say that an object  $X \in \mathcal{G}$  is *subdirectly irreducible*, abbreviated SI, if the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is subdirectly irreducible. More generally, if  $\mathbb{P}$  is any property on lattices, we say that an object  $X \in \mathcal{G}$  is/has  $\mathbb{P}$  if the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is/has  $\mathbb{P}$ . Thus, we obtain the concepts of *coirreducible* (*uniform*) object, *completely coirreducible* object, *irreducible subobject* of an object, *completely irreducible* (CI) *subobject* of an object, object *rich in completely irreducibles* (RCI), object *rich in coirreducibles* (RC), etc. Similarly, a subobject  $Y$  of an object  $X \in \mathcal{G}$  is/has  $\mathbb{P}$  if the element  $Y$  of the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is/has  $\mathbb{P}$ .

If we specialize Corollary 0.6, Theorems 1.16, and Proposition 1.23 (of the first part of this paper) for  $L = \mathcal{L}(X)$ , we obtain at once.

**Proposition 2.1.** *If  $X$  is a semi-Artinian object of a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$ , then any irreducible subobject of  $X$  is CI.*  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** *The following assertions are equivalent for a nonzero object  $X$  of a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

- (1)  $X$  is RC.
- (2)  $X$  is an essential extension of a direct sum of coirreducible subobjects of  $X$ .
- (3) The injective hull  $E(X)$  of  $X$  is an essential extension of a direct sum of indecomposable injective objects.
- (4)  $0$  has an irredundant irreducible decomposition in every nonzero subobjects of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.3.** *The following statements are equivalent for a nonzero object  $X$  of a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

- (1)  $X$  is RCC.
- (2) Every subobject of  $X$  contains a simple subobject.
- (3) The socle  $\text{Soc}(X)$  of  $X$  is essential in  $X$ .
- (4) For every nonzero subobject  $Y$  of  $X$  there exists a nonempty set  $I_Y$  such that  $0$  can be written as an irredundant intersection

$$0 = \bigcap_{i \in I_Y} X_i$$

of maximal subobjects  $X_i$  of  $Y$ ,  $i \in I_Y$ , in other words, the Jacobson radical  $J(Y)$  of  $Y$  is zero and an irredundant intersection of maximal subobjects.  $\square$

As in Năstăsescu and Popescu [17], a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$  is said to be an *L.C.-category* if each nonzero object  $X$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  contains a coirreducible subobject, in other words, if the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is RC for each  $0 \neq X \in \mathcal{G}$ . The next result is a very particular case of Theorem 2.2.

**Corollary 2.4.** *The following statements are equivalent for a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

- (1)  $\mathcal{G}$  is an L.C.-category.
- (2) Every nonzero object  $X$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  is an essential extension of a direct sum of coirreducible subobjects of  $X$ .
- (3) For every nonzero object  $X$  of  $\mathcal{G}$ , the injective hull  $E(X)$  of  $X$  is an essential extension of a direct sum of indecomposable injective objects.
- (4) For every nonzero object  $X$  of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $0$  has an irredundant irreducible decomposition in every nonzero subobjects of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Remarks 2.5.** The equivalencies (1)  $\iff$  (2)  $\iff$  (3) in Corollary 2.4 are precisely the contents of Năstăsescu and Popescu [17, Proposition 1].  $\square$

**Proposition 2.6.** *An object  $X$  of a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$  is semi-Artinian if and only if every subobject  $X$  has an irredundant completely irreducible decomposition in  $X$ .  $\square$*

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a Grothendieck category, and let  $X \in \mathcal{G}$ . If  $X$  has Gabriel dimension, then  $X$  is RC.*

**Proof:** Apply Examples 1.3 (3) to the lattice  $L = \mathcal{L}(X)$ .  $\square$

Recall that the concept of Gabriel dimension of an Abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$ , due to Gabriel [11], has been originally defined using a transfinite sequence of localizing subcategories of  $\mathcal{A}$ . For a Grothendieck category  $\mathcal{G}$ , the fact that  $\mathcal{G}$  has Gabriel dimension can be equivalently expressed by saying that  $\mathcal{G}$  possess a generator  $G$  having Gabriel dimension, that is, the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(G)$  of all subobjects of  $G$  has Gabriel dimension.

**Corollary 2.8.** (Năstăsescu and Popescu [17, Remarques 1]). *Any Grothendieck category having Gabriel dimension is an L.C.-category.*

We end this paper by presenting some applications of our lattice theoretical results to module categories equipped with a hereditary torsion theory.

Throughout the remainder of the paper  $\tau = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  will be a fixed hereditary torsion theory on  $\text{Mod-}R$ , and  $\tau(M)$  will denote the  $\tau$ -torsion submodule of a right  $R$ -module  $M$ . The set  $F_\tau := \{I \leq R_R \mid R/I \in \mathcal{T}\}$  is called the *Gabriel topology* associated with  $\tau$ .

For any  $M_R$  we denote  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M) = \{N \mid N \leq M, M/N \in \mathcal{F}\}$ , and for any  $N \leq M$  we denote by  $\overline{N} = \bigcap \{C \mid N \leq C \leq M, M/C \in \mathcal{F}\}$  the  $\tau$ -closure (or  $\tau$ -saturation, or  $\tau$ -purification) of  $N$  in  $M$ ;  $N$  is called  $\tau$ -closed (or  $\tau$ -saturated, or  $\tau$ -pure) if  $N = \overline{N}$ . Note that  $\overline{N}/N = \tau(M/N)$  and

$$\text{Sat}_\tau(M) = \{N \mid N \leq M, N = \overline{N}\}.$$

It is known that  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is an upper continuous modular lattice for any  $M_R$  (see Stenström [19, Chapter 9, Proposition 4.1]).

Recall that a module  $M_R$  is said to be  $\tau$ -simple if the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  has exactly two elements; i.e.,  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M) = \{\tau(M), M\}$  and  $M \notin \mathcal{T}$ . A  $\tau$ -simple  $\tau$ -torsionfree module is called  $\tau$ -cocritical. Note that the atoms of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  are exactly the  $\tau$ -closed  $\tau$ -simple submodules of  $M$ . A right ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is called  $\tau$ -critical if the right  $R$ -module  $R/I$  is  $\tau$ -cocritical. The  $\tau$ -socle of  $M$  is defined by  $\text{Soc}_\tau(M) = \overline{\sum \{C \mid C \leq M, C \text{ is } \tau\text{-cocritical}\}}$ . Note that, by Albu [1, Proposition 1.15],  $\text{Soc}_\tau(M)$  is exactly the socle of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ . A submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is said to be  $\tau$ -maximal if the module  $M/N$  is  $\tau$ -cocritical. The meet of all  $\tau$ -maximal submodules is called the  $\tau$ -Jacobson radical of  $M$  and denoted by  $J_\tau(M)$ ; if  $M$  fails to have any  $\tau$ -maximal submodules then we set  $J_\tau(M) = M$ .

For all undefined notation and terminology on torsion theories the reader is referred to Albu and Năstăsescu [3], Golan [12], and/or Stenström [19].

As in Albu, Iosif, and Teply [2], a module  $M_R$  is said to be  $\tau$ -subdirectly irreducible, abbreviated  $\tau$ -SI, if the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is subdirectly irreducible. More generally, if  $\mathbb{P}$  is any property on lattices, we say that a module  $M_R$  is/has  $\tau$ - $\mathbb{P}$  if the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is/has  $\mathbb{P}$ . Since the lattices  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  and  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M/\tau(M))$  are canonically isomorphic, we deduce that  $M_R$  is  $\tau$ - $\mathbb{P}$  if and only if  $M/\tau(M)$  is  $\tau$ - $\mathbb{P}$ . Thus, we obtain the concepts of a  $\tau$ -Artinian module,  $\tau$ -Noetherian module,  $\tau$ -semi-Artinian module,  $\tau$ -coirreducible (uniform) module,  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible module, module rich in  $\tau$ -coirreducibles, abbreviated  $\tau$ -RC, module rich in  $\tau$ -completely coirreducibles, abbreviated  $\tau$ -RCC, module rich in  $\tau$ -completely irreducibles, abbreviated  $\tau$ -RCI, etc. We say that a submodule  $N$  of  $M_R$  is/has  $\tau$ - $\mathbb{P}$  if its closure  $\overline{N}$ , which is an element of  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , is/has  $\mathbb{P}$ . Thus, we obtain the concepts of a  $\tau$ -irreducible submodule of a module,  $\tau$ -completely irreducible submodule of a module, abbreviated  $\tau$ -CI, etc. Since  $\overline{\overline{N}} = \overline{N}$ , it follows that  $N$  is/has  $\tau$ - $\mathbb{P}$  if and only if  $\overline{N}$  is/has  $\tau$ - $\mathbb{P}$ .

Before giving specializations of the latticial results from the previous section to the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  we will present some intrinsic characterizations, that is, without explicitly referring to the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , of  $\tau$ -irreducible and  $\tau$ -completely irreducible submodules of a module.

**Proposition 2.9.** *The following assertions are equivalent for a submodule  $N$  of a module  $M_R$ .*

- (1)  $N$  is  $\tau$ -irreducible.

- (2)  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$  and for any submodules  $P$  and  $Q$  of  $M$  with  $N \subseteq P \cap Q$  and  $(P \cap Q)/N \in \mathcal{T}$  one has  $P/N \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $Q/N \in \mathcal{T}$ .
- (3)  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$  and for any submodules  $P$  and  $Q$  of  $M$  with  $\overline{N} = P \cap Q$  one has  $P/N \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $Q/N \in \mathcal{T}$ .

**Proof:** (1)  $\implies$  (2): First, note that since  $N$  is  $\tau$ -irreducible,  $\overline{N} \neq M$ , i.e.,  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$ . If  $N \subseteq P \cap Q$  and  $(P \cap Q)/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , then  $\overline{N} = \overline{P \cap Q} = \overline{P} \cap \overline{Q}$ , hence  $\overline{N} = \overline{P}$  or  $\overline{N} = \overline{Q}$  because  $N$  is  $\tau$ -irreducible, i.e.,  $\overline{N}$  is an irreducible element of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ . Thus  $P/N \subseteq \overline{P}/N = \overline{N}/N \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $Q/N \subseteq \overline{Q}/N = \overline{N}/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , and so,  $P/N \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $Q/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , as desired.

(2)  $\implies$  (3): Let  $P, Q \leq M$  with  $\overline{N} = P \cap Q$ . Then  $\overline{N}/N = (P \cap Q)/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , so  $P/N \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $Q/N \in \mathcal{T}$ .

(3)  $\implies$  (1): If  $\overline{N} = X \cap Y$  with  $X, Y \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , then  $X/N \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $Y/N \in \mathcal{T}$  by hypothesis, and so  $\overline{N} = \overline{X} = X$  or  $\overline{N} = \overline{Y} = Y$ . Now observe that  $\overline{N} \neq M$  since  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$ . Consequently  $\overline{N}$  is an irreducible element of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , in other words,  $N$  is  $\tau$ -irreducible.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.10.** *The following assertions are equivalent for a module  $M_R$ .*

- (1)  $M$  is  $\tau$ -coirreducible.
- (2)  $M \notin \mathcal{T}$  and for every  $A, B \leq M$  with  $A \cap B \in \mathcal{T}$  one has  $A \in \mathcal{T}$  or  $B \in \mathcal{T}$ .

*In particular, if  $M \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $M$  is  $\tau$ -coirreducible  $\iff M$  is coirreducible.*

**Proof:**  $M$  is  $\tau$ -coirreducible if and only if  $0$  is a  $\tau$ -irreducible submodule of  $M$ , so apply Proposition 2.9 for  $N = 0$ .  $\square$

**Remarks 2.11.** A module  $M \in \mathcal{F}$  which is  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible is not necessarily completely coirreducible. Indeed, consider the torsion theory  $\tau_0 = (\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{F}_0)$  on the ring  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  associated with the Gabriel topology  $F_0$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  consisted of all nonzero ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Note that this is the “localization at 0” Gabriel topology  $F_0$  defined by the prime ideal  $0$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}_0$  is the class of all usual torsion Abelian groups, and  $\mathcal{F}_0$  is the class of all usual torsionfree Abelian groups. Observe that the lattice  $\text{Sat}_{\tau_0}(\mathbb{Z}) = \{0, \mathbb{Z}\}$  has a unique atom  $\mathbb{Z}$ , so  $\mathbb{Z}$  is  $\tau_0$ -SI, i.e.,  $\tau_0$ -completely coirreducible, but it is not completely coirreducible because  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}^*} n\mathbb{Z} = 0$  and  $n\mathbb{Z} \neq 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .  $\square$

In order to extend the characterization of  $\tau$ -irreducible submodules in Proposition 2.9 to  $\tau$ -completely irreducible submodules, we introduce below the following definition.

**Definition 2.12.** *Let  $M_R$  be a module. We say that a hereditary torsion theory  $\tau$  on  $\text{Mod-}R$  satisfies the condition  $(\dagger_M)$  if the closure operator on the lattice of all submodules  $\mathcal{L}(M)$  of  $M$  commutes with arbitrary intersections, i.e.,*

( $\dagger_M$ )  $\overline{\bigcap_{i \in I} X_i} = \bigcap_{i \in I} \overline{X_i}$  for any family  $(X_i)_{i \in I}$  of submodules of  $M$ .  $\square$

Note that in condition ( $\dagger_M$ ) only the inclusion “ $\supseteq$ ” is necessary since “ $\subseteq$ ” always holds.

For a module  $M_R$  we set

$$F(M) := \{ N \leq M \mid M/N \in \mathcal{T} \}.$$

Observe that for  $N \leq M$ , one has  $N \in F(M) \iff \overline{N} = M$ . Clearly,  $F(R_R)$  is exactly the Gabriel topology  $F_\tau$  associated with  $\tau$ .

**Lemma 2.13.** *If the condition ( $\dagger_M$ ) is satisfied for a module  $M_R$ , then  $\bigcap_{N \in F(M)} N \in F(M)$ .*

**Proof:** If we consider the family  $(N)_{N \in F(M)}$  of all elements of  $F(M)$ , by condition ( $\dagger_M$ ) we have

$$M = \bigcap_{N \in F(M)} \overline{N} \subseteq \overline{\bigcap_{N \in F(M)} N},$$

so  $\overline{\bigcap_{N \in F(M)} N} = M$ , i.e.,  $\bigcap_{N \in F(M)} N \in F(M)$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Remarks 2.14.** We do not know whether  $\bigcap_{N \in F(M)} N \in F(M)$  implies the condition ( $\dagger_M$ ), but we suspect *no*.  $\square$

Recall that the torsion theory  $\tau = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  is called *Jansian* (see Golan [12]) if the Gabriel topology  $F_\tau$  associated with  $\tau$  has a basis consisting of an idempotent two-sided ideal, or equivalently, if  $\bigcap_{D \in F_\tau} D \in F_\tau$ .

**Proposition 2.15.** (Golan [12, Proposition 6.6]). *A hereditary torsion theory  $\tau = (\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$  on  $\text{Mod-}R$  is Jansian if and only if  $\tau$  satisfies the condition ( $\dagger_M$ ) for any module  $M_R$ .*

**Proof:** For the reader’s convenience we include the proof. Assume that  $\tau$  is Jansian. Let  $M_R$  be a module, let  $(X_i)_{i \in I}$  be a family of submodules of  $M$ , and let  $x \in \bigcap_{i \in I} \overline{X_i}$ . For each  $i \in I$  there exists  $D_i \in F_\tau$  such that  $x D_i \subseteq X_i$ . If we set  $D := \bigcap_{i \in I} D_i$ , then  $D \in F_\tau$  since  $\tau$  is Jansian, so  $x D \subseteq X_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . This shows that  $x D \in \bigcap_{i \in I} X_i$ , and so,  $x \in \overline{\bigcap_{i \in I} X_i}$ . Therefore,  $\bigcap_{i \in I} \overline{X_i} \subseteq \overline{\bigcap_{i \in I} X_i}$ , in other words,  $\tau$  satisfies the condition ( $\dagger_M$ ).

Conversely, if  $\tau$  satisfies the condition ( $\dagger_M$ ) for any module  $M_R$ , then, in particular ( $\dagger_R$ ) is satisfied, so  $\bigcap_{D \in F(R_R)} D \in F(R_R)$  by Lemma 2.13, i.e.,  $\bigcap_{D \in F_\tau} D \in F_\tau$ , which means exactly that  $\tau$  is Jansian.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.16.** *Let  $N$  be a submodule of a module  $M_R$ , and consider the following assertions:*

- (1)  $N$  is  $\tau$ -CI.
- (2)  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$  and for any family  $(P_i)_{i \in I}$  of submodules of  $M$  such that  $N \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in I} P_i$  and  $(\bigcap_{i \in I} P_i)/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , one has  $P_i/N \in \mathcal{T}$  for some  $i \in I$ .
- (3)  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$  and for any family  $(P_i)_{i \in I}$  of submodules of  $M$  such that  $\overline{N} = \bigcap_{i \in I} P_i$ , one has  $P_i/N \in \mathcal{T}$  for some  $i \in I$ .

Then (2)  $\implies$  (3)  $\implies$  (1), and (1)  $\implies$  (2) if the torsion theory  $\tau$  satisfies the condition  $(\dagger_M)$ .

**Proof:** (2)  $\implies$  (3)  $\implies$  (1): Proceed as in the proof of Proposition 2.9.

(1)  $\implies$  (2): Assume that  $\tau$  satisfies the condition  $(\dagger_M)$ , and let  $N$  be as in (2). Then

$$\overline{N} = \overline{\bigcap_{i \in I} P_i} = \bigcap_{i \in I} \overline{P_i},$$

so  $\overline{N} = \overline{P_i}$  for some  $i \in I$  because  $\overline{N}$  is a CI element of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ . Thus  $P_i/N \subseteq \overline{P_i}/N = \overline{N}/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , and then  $P_i/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Definition 2.17.** *A submodule  $N$  of a module  $M$  is called strongly  $\tau$ -completely irreducible, abbreviated strongly  $\tau$ -CI, if  $M/N \notin \mathcal{T}$  and for any family  $(P_i)_{i \in I}$  of submodules of  $M$  such that  $N \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in I} P_i$  and  $(\bigcap_{i \in I} P_i)/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , one has  $P_i/N \in \mathcal{T}$  for some  $i \in I$ .*  $\square$

**Remarks 2.18.** (1) Let  $\tau_0 = (\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{F}_0)$  be the torsion theory on the ring  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  associated with the Gabriel topology  $F_0$  considered in Remark 2.11. Then it is easy to see that  $0$  is a  $\tau_0$ -CI submodule of  $M = \mathbb{Z}$  which is not strongly  $\tau_0$ -CI.

(2) Any strongly  $\tau$ -CI submodule  $N$  of  $M$ , with  $N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is a CI submodule of  $M$ . Indeed, if  $(X_i)_{i \in I}$  is a family of submodules of  $M$  with  $N = \bigcap_{i \in I} X_i$ , then  $(\bigcap_{i \in I} X_i)/N = 0 \in \mathcal{T}$ , so  $X_i/N \in \mathcal{T}$  for some  $i \in I$ . On the other hand  $X_i/N \leq M/N \in \mathcal{F}$ , so  $X_i/N = 0$ , i.e.,  $N = X_i$ , which shows that  $N$  is a CI submodule of  $M$ .

(3) By Proposition 2.6, any  $\tau$ -CI-submodule of  $M_R$  is strongly  $\tau$ -CI in the presence of condition  $(\dagger_M)$ .  $\square$

We are now going to specialize the latticial results obtained for an arbitrary upper continuous modular lattice to the particular case of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ . We will present only two such specializations. To do that, we need some preparatory results.

**Lemma 2.19.** *The following assertions hold for a module  $M_R \in \mathcal{F}$  and a submodule  $N \leq M$ .*

- (1) *If  $M/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , then  $N$  is an essential submodule of  $M$ .*
- (2)  *$N$  is an essential submodule of  $\overline{N}$ .*
- (3) *If  $N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , then  $N$  is an essential submodule of  $M$  if and only if  $N$  is an essential element of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .*

**Proof:** (1) Let  $0 \neq x \in M$ . Since  $M/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , there exists  $I \in \mathcal{F}_\tau$  such that  $xI \subseteq N$ . But  $xI \neq 0$  because  $M \in \mathcal{F}$ , so there exists  $r \in R$  with  $0 \neq xr \in N$ , which shows that  $N$  is essential in  $M$ .

(2) Since  $\overline{N}/N \in \mathcal{T}$ , we can apply (1) by taking  $\overline{N}$  as  $M$ .

(3) See the proof of Albu [1, Corollary 1.3]. □

As we already have indicated, a module  $M_R$  is said to be *rich in  $\tau$ -coirreducibles*, abbreviated  $\tau$ -RC (resp. *rich in  $\tau$ -completely coirreducibles*, abbreviated  $\tau$ -RCC) if the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is RC (resp. RCC). Also, a module  $M_R$  is said to be  $\tau$ -atomic if the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is atomic. Note that, by Examples 1.3 (1),  $M_R$  is  $\tau$ -RCC if and only if it is  $\tau$ -atomic.

**Proposition 2.20.** *A module  $M_R \in \mathcal{F}$  is  $\tau$ -RC (resp.  $\tau$ -RCC) if and only if  $M \neq 0$  and for every  $0 \neq X \leq M$  there exists  $C \leq X$  which is  $\tau$ -coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -cocritical).*

**Proof:** One implication is clear. For the other one, assume that  $M$  is  $\tau$ -RC (resp.  $\tau$ -RCC), and let  $0 \neq X \leq M$ . Then  $0 \neq \overline{X} \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , so, by definition, there exists  $D \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  such that  $D \leq \overline{X}$  and  $D$  is a coirreducible element (resp. atom) of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , that is,  $D$  is  $\tau$ -coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -cocritical). Now, observe that  $D \cap X$  is also  $\tau$ -coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -cocritical) because  $X$  is an essential submodule of  $\overline{X}$  by Lemma 2.19 (2). □

**Corollary 2.21.** *Let  $M_R \in \mathcal{F}$ . Then  $M$  is  $\tau$ -RC  $\iff M$  is RC.*

**Proof:** Apply Proposition 2.20 and Corollary 2.10. □

**Lemma 2.22.** *Let  $M_R \in \mathcal{F}$  be a module, and let  $(N_i)_{i \in I}$  be a family of submodules of  $M$ . Then  $(N_i)_{i \in I}$  is an independent family of submodules of  $M$  if and only if  $(\overline{N_i})_{i \in I}$  is an independent family of elements of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .*



**Proof:** The implication  $\Leftarrow$  is clear. Conversely, let  $(N_i)_{i \in I}$  be an independent family of submodules of  $M$ . In order to prove that  $(\overline{N_i})_{i \in I}$  is an independent family of elements of the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , it is sufficient to assume that  $I$  is the finite set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , because the independence is a property of finitary character in any upper continuous lattice, as  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  is. Denote by  $\bigvee$  and  $\bigwedge$  the join and meet, respectively, in the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ . Then, for each  $1 \leq k < n$ , we have:

$$\left( \bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq k} \overline{N_i} \right) \bigwedge \overline{N_{k+1}} = \overline{\left( \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} N_i \right) \cap N_{k+1}} = \overline{\left( \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} N_i \right) \cap N_{k+1}} = \overline{0} = 0.$$

This proves that  $(\overline{N_i})_{1 \leq i \leq n}$  is an independent family of  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Remarks 2.23.** The results of Lemma 2.19, Corollary 2.21, and Lemma 2.22 may fail in the absence of the condition “ $M \in \mathcal{F}$ ”. To see that, let  $R$  be any ring, let  $\chi = (\text{Mod-}R, \{0\})$  be the improper torsion theory on  $\text{Mod-}R$ , let  $M$  be any nonzero module, and let  $N$  be any submodule of  $M$  which is not essential in  $M$ . Then Lemma 2.19 fails in this case. An example of a proper torsion theory enjoying the same property is provided by Albu [1, Examples 1.16].

For the failure of Corollary 2.21, consider the same torsion theory  $\chi$  and a module  $M$  which is not RC. Since  $\text{Sat}_\chi(M) = \{M\}$ ,  $M$  is vacuously  $\chi$ -RC, but it is not RC.

Finally, for the failure of Lemma 2.22, let  $M$  be a (direct sum) decomposable module:  $M = N_1 + N_2$ ,  $N_1 \neq 0$ ,  $N_2 \neq 0$ ,  $N_1 \cap N_2 = 0$ . Then  $(N_i)_{i=1,2}$  is an independent family of submodules of  $M$ , but  $\overline{N_1} = \overline{N_2} = M$  in  $\text{Sat}_\chi(M) = \{M\}$ , where  $\chi$  is the torsion theory considered above.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.24.** *The following statements are equivalent for a module  $M_R \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

- (1)  $M$  is  $\tau$ -coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible).
- (2)  $E_R(M)$  is an indecomposable module (resp.  $E_R(M) \simeq E_R(C)$  for some  $\tau$ -cocritical module  $C$ ).
- (3)  $E_R(M) \simeq E_R(R/I)$  where  $I$  is an irreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -critical) right ideal of  $R$ .

**Proof:** For  $\tau$ -coirreducibles use Corollary 2.10 and a well known characterization of coirreducible modules via injective hulls, and for  $\tau$ -completely coirreducibles use Albu, Iosif, and Teply [2, Proposition 2.2].  $\square$

If we specialize Theorem 1.16 characterizing RC and RCC lattices  $L$  for  $L = \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ , we obtain at once the following characterizations of  $\tau$ -RC and  $\tau$ -RCC modules  $M$ .

**Theorem 2.25.** *The following statements are equivalent for a module  $M_R \notin \mathcal{T}$ .*

- (1)  $M$  is  $\tau$ -RC (resp.  $\tau$ -RCC).
- (2) *There exists in the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  an independent family  $(N_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $\tau$ -coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible) submodules  $N_i$  of  $M$ ,  $i \in I$ , such that  $\sum_{i \in I} N_i$  is an essential element in the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .*
- (3) *For every  $\tau(M) \neq N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  there exists a nonempty set  $I_N$  such that  $\tau(M)$  can be written as an irredundant intersection*

$$\tau(M) = \bigcap_{i \in I_N} N_i$$

*of  $\tau$ -irreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely irreducible) submodules  $N_i$  in  $N$ ,  $N_i \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ ,  $i \in I_N$ .*

Moreover, the equivalent conditions (1) – (3) for a  $\tau$ -RCC module can be reformulated as follows:

- (1)' *Any submodule  $N$  of  $M$ ,  $\tau(M) \neq N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  contains a  $\tau$ -simple submodule in  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .*
- (2)' *The  $\tau$ -socle  $\text{Soc}_\tau(M)$  of  $M$  is an essential element in the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .*
- (3)' *For every  $\tau(M) \neq N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  there exists a nonempty set  $I_N$  such that  $\tau(M)$  can be written as an irredundant intersection*

$$\tau(M) = \bigcap_{i \in I_N} N_i$$

*of  $\tau$ -maximal submodules  $N_i$  of  $N$ ,  $i \in I_N$ , in other words, the  $\tau$ -Jacobson radical  $J_\tau(N)$  of  $N$  is  $\tau(M)$  and an irredundant intersection of  $\tau$ -maximal submodules of  $N$ .  $\square$*

In case the given module  $M_R$  is  $\tau$ -torsionfree, then characterizations in Theorem 2.25 have the following more simple form, that involve essentiality and independence in the very familiar lattice  $\mathcal{L}(M)$  of all submodules of  $M$  instead of the ones in the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  of all  $\tau$ -closed submodules of  $M$ . In this way, one can add, as in the original Fort [8, Théorème 3], a new characterization in terms of injective hulls.

**Theorem 2.26.** *The following statements are equivalent for a nonzero module  $M_R \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

- (1)  $M$  is  $\tau$ -RC (resp.  $\tau$ -RCC).
- (2) *There exists a sum of an independent family of coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible) submodules of  $M$  that is essential in  $M$ .*

- (3) The injective hull  $E_R(M)$  of  $M$  is an essential extension of a direct sum of (indecomposable) injective modules of type  $E_R(C)$  where  $C$  are coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible) modules.
- (4) For every  $0 \neq N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  there exists a nonempty set  $I_N$  such that  $0$  can be written as an irredundant intersection

$$0 = \bigcap_{i \in I_N} N_i$$

of  $\tau$ -irreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely irreducible) submodules  $N_i$  in  $N$ ,  $N_i \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ ,  $i \in I_N$ .

Moreover, the equivalent conditions (1) – (4) for a  $\tau$ -RCC module can be reformulated as follows:

- (1)' Any nonzero submodule of  $M$  contains a  $\tau$ -cocritical submodule.
- (2)' The  $\tau$ -socle  $\text{Soc}_\tau(M)$  of  $M$  is essential in  $M$ .
- (3)' The injective hull  $E_R(M)$  of  $M$  is an essential extension of a direct sum of indecomposable injective modules of type  $E_R(C)$  where  $C$  are  $\tau$ -cocritical modules.
- (4)' For every  $0 \neq N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  there exists a nonempty set  $I_N$  such that  $0$  can be written as an irredundant intersection

$$0 = \bigcap_{i \in I_N} N_i$$

of  $\tau$ -maximal submodules  $N_i$  of  $N$ ,  $i \in I_N$ , in other words, the  $\tau$ -Jacobson radical  $J_\tau(N)$  of  $N$  is zero and an irredundant intersection of  $\tau$ -maximal submodules of  $N$ .

**Proof:** Apply Lemma 2.19 (3), Corollary 2.21, Lemma 2.22, Lemma 2.24, and Theorem 2.25.  $\square$

Since  $M$  is  $\tau$ -RC (resp.  $\tau$ -RCC) if and only if  $M/\tau(M)$  is so, we can of course formulate Theorem 2.25 in terms of essentiality and independence in the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(M/\tau(M))$  instead of the ones in the lattice  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ . For instance, the condition (2) can be expressed as: (2)" *There exists an independent family  $(X_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $\tau$ -coirreducible (resp.  $\tau$ -completely coirreducible) submodules  $X_i$  of  $M/\tau(M)$ ,  $i \in I$ , such that  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} X_i$  is an essential submodule of  $M/\tau(M)$ .*

**Proposition 2.27.** *A module  $M_R$  is  $\tau$ -semi-Artinian if and only if every  $N \in \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$  has an ICID in  $\text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .*

**Proof:** Apply Proposition 1.23 to the lattice  $L = \text{Sat}_\tau(M)$ .  $\square$

**Acknowledgements.** The author would like to thank Patrick F. Smith for very helpful discussions on this paper. He would also like to thank the referee for his/her careful reading of the manuscript and helpful suggestions.

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Received: 3.12.2008.

Revised: 6.01.2009.

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