

Decompositions of Modules and Comodules

Robert Wisbauer
University of Düsseldorf, Germany

Abstract

It is well-known that any semiperfect A ring has a decomposition as a direct sum (product) of indecomposable subrings $A = A_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n$ such that the A_i -Mod are indecomposable module categories. Similarly any coalgebra C over a field can be written as a direct sum of indecomposable subcoalgebras $C = \bigoplus_I C_i$ such that the categories of C_i -comodules are indecomposable. In this paper a decomposition theorem for closed subcategories of a module category is proved which implies both results mentioned above as special cases. Moreover it extends the decomposition of coalgebras over fields to coalgebras over noetherian (QF) rings.

1 Introduction

The close connection between module categories and comodule categories was investigated in [12] and it turned out that there are parts of module theory over algebras which provide a perfect setting for the theory of comodules. In a similar spirit the present paper is devoted to decomposition theorems for closed subcategories of a module category which subsume decomposition properties of algebras as well as of coalgebras.

Let A be an associative algebra over a commutative ring R . For an A -module M we denote by $\sigma[M]$ the category of those A -modules which are submodules of M -generated modules. This is the smallest

Grothendieck subcategory of $A\text{-Mod}$ containing M . The inner properties of $\sigma[M]$ are dependent on the module properties of M and there is a well established theory dealing with this relationship.

We define a σ -decomposition

$$\sigma[M] = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \sigma[N_{\lambda}],$$

for a family $\{N_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ of modules, meaning that for every module $L \in \sigma[M]$, $L = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} L_{\lambda}$, where $L_{\lambda} \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$. We call $\sigma[M]$ σ -*indecomposable* if no such non-trivial decomposition exists.

The $\sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ are closely related to fully invariant submodules of a projective generator (if there exists one) and - under certain finiteness conditions - to the fully invariant submodules of an injective cogenerator. Consequently an indecomposable decomposition of $\sigma[M]$ can be obtained provided there is a semiperfect projective generator or an injective cogenerator of locally finite length in $\sigma[M]$.

Such decompositions of $\sigma[M]$ were investigated in Vanaja [10] and related constructions are considered in Garcıa-Jara-Merino [4], Nastasescu-Torrecillas [8] and Green [5].

Let C be a coalgebra over a commutative ring R . Then the dual C^* is an R -algebra and C is a left and right module over C^* . The link to the module theory mentioned above is the basic observation that the category of right C -comodules is subgenerated by C . Moreover, if ${}_R C$ is projective, this category is the same as $\sigma[{}_{C^*} C]$. This is the key to apply module theory to comodules and our decomposition theorem for $\sigma[M]$ yields decompositions of coalgebras and their comodule categories over noetherian (QF) rings. For coalgebras over fields such results were obtained in Kaplansky [6], Montgomery [7], Shudo-Miyamoto [9].

2 Decompositions of module categories

Throughout R will denote an associative commutative ring with unit, A an associative R -algebra with unit, and $A\text{-Mod}$ the category of unital left A -modules.

We write $\sigma[M]$ for the full subcategory of $A\text{-Mod}$ whose objects are submodules of M -generated modules. $N \in \sigma[M]$ is called a *subgenerator* if $\sigma[M] = \sigma[N]$.

2.1 The trace functor. For any $N, M \in A\text{-Mod}$ the *trace of M in N* is defined as

$$\text{Tr}(M, N) := \sum \{\text{Im } f \mid f \in \text{Hom}_A(M, N)\},$$

and we denote the *trace of $\sigma[M]$ in N* by

$$\mathcal{T}^M(N) := \text{Tr}(\sigma[M], N) = \sum \{\text{Im } f \mid f \in \text{Hom}_A(K, N), K \in \sigma[M]\}.$$

If N is M -injective, or if M is a generator in $\sigma[M]$, then $\mathcal{T}^M(N) = \text{Tr}(M, N)$.

A full subcategory \mathcal{C} of $A\text{-Mod}$ is called *closed* if it is closed under direct sums, factor modules and submodules (hence it is a Grothendieck category). It is straightforward to see that any closed subcategory is of type $\sigma[N]$, for some N in $A\text{-Mod}$.

The next result shows the correspondence between the closed subcategories of $\sigma[M]$ and fully invariant submodules of an injective cogenerator of $\sigma[M]$, provided M has locally finite length.

2.2 Correspondence relations. *Let M be an A -module which is locally of finite length and Q an injective cogenerator in $\sigma[M]$.*

- (1) *For every $N \in \sigma[M]$, $\sigma[N] = \sigma[\text{Tr}(N, Q)]$.*
- (2) *The map $\sigma[N] \mapsto \text{Tr}(N, Q)$ yields a bijective correspondence between the closed subcategories of $\sigma[M]$ and the fully invariant submodules of Q .*
- (3) *$\sigma[N]$ is closed under essential extensions (injective hulls) in $\sigma[M]$ if and only if $\text{Tr}(N, Q)$ is an A -direct summand of Q .*
- (4) *$N \in \sigma[M]$ is semisimple if and only if $\text{Tr}(N, Q) \subset \text{Soc}(A Q)$.*

Proof. Notice that by our finiteness condition every cogenerator in $\sigma[M]$ is a subgenerator in $\sigma[M]$. Moreover by the injectivity of Q , $\text{Tr}(\sigma[N], Q) = \text{Tr}(N, Q)$.

(1) $\text{Tr}(N, Q)$ is a fully invariant submodule which by definition belongs to $\sigma[N]$. Consider the N -injective hull \widehat{N} of N (in $\sigma[N]$). This is a direct sum of N -injective hulls \widehat{E} of simple modules $E \in \sigma[N]$. Since Q is a cogenerator we have (up to isomorphism) $\widehat{E} \subset Q$ and so $\widehat{E} \subset \text{Tr}(N, Q)$. This implies $\widehat{N} \in \sigma[\text{Tr}(N, Q)]$ and so $\sigma[N] = \sigma[\text{Tr}(N, Q)]$.

(2) and (4) are immediate consequences of (1).

(3) If $\sigma[N]$ is closed under essential extensions in $\sigma[M]$ then clearly $\text{Tr}(N, Q)$ is an A -direct summand in Q (and hence is injective in $\sigma[M]$).

Now assume $\text{Tr}(N, Q)$ to be an A -direct summand in Q and let L be any injective object in $\sigma[N]$. Then L is a direct sum of N -injective hulls \hat{E} of simple modules $E \in \sigma[N]$. Clearly the \hat{E} 's are (isomorphic to) direct summands of $\text{Tr}(N, Q)$ and hence of Q , i.e., they are M -injective and so L is M -injective, too. \square

2.3 Sum and decomposition of closed subcategories. For any $K, L \in \sigma[M]$ we write $\sigma[K] \cap \sigma[L] = 0$, provided $\sigma[K]$ and $\sigma[L]$ have no non-zero object in common. Given a family $\{N_\lambda\}_\Lambda$ of modules in $\sigma[M]$, we define

$$\sum_\Lambda \sigma[N_\lambda] := \sigma[\bigoplus_\Lambda N_\lambda].$$

This is the smallest closed subcategory of $\sigma[M]$ containing all the N_λ 's. Moreover we write

$$\sigma[M] = \bigoplus_\Lambda \sigma[N_\lambda],$$

provided for every module $L \in \sigma[M]$, $L = \bigoplus_\Lambda \mathcal{T}^{N_\lambda}(L)$ (internal direct sum). We call this a σ -decomposition of $\sigma[M]$, and we say $\sigma[M]$ is σ -indecomposable if no such non-trivial decomposition exists.

In view of the fact that every closed subcategory of $A\text{-Mod}$ is of type $\sigma[N]$, for some A -module N , the above definition describes the decomposition of any closed subcategory into closed subcategories.

2.4 σ -decomposition of modules. For a decomposition $M = \bigoplus_\Lambda M_\lambda$, the following are equivalent:

- (a) for any distinct $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$, M_λ and M_μ have no non-zero isomorphic subfactors;
- (b) for any distinct $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$, $\text{Hom}_A(K_\lambda, K_\mu) = 0$, where K_λ, K_μ are subfactors of M_λ, M_μ , respectively;
- (c) for any distinct $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$, $\sigma[M_\lambda] \cap \sigma[M_\mu] = 0$;
- (d) for any $\mu \in \Lambda$, $\sigma[M_\mu] \cap \sigma[\bigoplus_{\lambda \neq \mu} M_\lambda] = 0$;
- (e) for any $L \in \sigma[M]$, $L = \bigoplus_\Lambda \mathcal{T}^{M_\lambda}(L)$.

If these conditions hold we call $M = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} M_{\lambda}$ a σ -decomposition of M and in this case

$$\sigma[M] = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \sigma[M_{\lambda}].$$

Proof. (a) \Rightarrow (b) and (e) \Rightarrow (a) are obvious.

(b) \Rightarrow (c) This follows from the plain fact that for any A -module N , each non-zero module in $\sigma[N]$ contains a non-zero subfactor of N .

(c) \Rightarrow (d) Any non-zero module in $\sigma[\bigoplus_{\lambda \neq \mu} M_{\lambda}]$ contains a non-zero subfactor of M_{ν} , for some $\nu \in \Lambda \setminus \{\mu\}$. This implies (d).

(d) \Rightarrow (e) It is easy (see [10]) to verify that $L = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \mathcal{T}^{M_{\lambda}}(L)$. \square

2.5 Corollary. Let $\sigma[M] = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ be a σ -decomposition of $\sigma[M]$. Then

- (1) each $\sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ is closed under essential extensions in $\sigma[M]$;
- (2) any $L \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ is M -injective if and only if it is N_{λ} -injective;
- (3) $M = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \mathcal{T}^{N_{\lambda}}(M)$ is a σ -decomposition of M .

Proof. (1) For any $L \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$, consider an essential extension $L \trianglelefteq K$ in $\sigma[M]$. Then $\mathcal{T}^{N_{\lambda}}(K) \trianglelefteq K$ and is a direct summand. So $K = \mathcal{T}^{N_{\lambda}}(K) \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$.

(2) Any $L \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ is M -injective if it has no non-trivial essential extensions in $\sigma[M]$. Assume L to be N_{λ} -injective. Then L has no non-trivial essential extensions in $\sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ and by (1), it has no non-trivial essential extensions in $\sigma[M]$.

(3) Put $M_{\lambda} := \mathcal{T}^{N_{\lambda}}(M)$. By definition, $M_{\lambda} \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$ and it remains to show that $N_{\lambda} \in \sigma[M_{\lambda}]$. Let \widehat{N}_{λ} denote the M -injective hull of N_{λ} . \widehat{N}_{λ} is M -generated, and by (1), $\widehat{N}_{\lambda} \in \sigma[N_{\lambda}]$. This implies that \widehat{N}_{λ} is M_{λ} -generated and so $N_{\lambda} \in \sigma[M_{\lambda}]$. \square

It is obvious that any σ -decomposition of M is also a fully invariant decomposition. The reverse implication holds in special cases:

2.6 Corollary. Assume M to be a projective generator or an injective cogenerator in $\sigma[M]$. Then any fully invariant decomposition of M is a σ -decomposition.

Proof. Let $M = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} M_{\lambda}$ be a fully invariant decomposition, i.e., $\text{Hom}_A(M_{\lambda}, M_{\mu}) = 0$, for $\lambda \neq \mu$.

Assume M to be a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$. Then clearly every submodule of M_{λ} is generated by M_{λ} . Since the M_{λ} 's are projective in $\sigma[M]$, any non-zero (iso)morphism between (sub)factors of M_{λ} and M_{μ} yields a non-zero morphism between M_{λ} and M_{μ} . So our assertion follows from 2.4.

Now suppose that M is an injective cogenerator in $\sigma[M]$. Then every subfactor of M_{λ} must be cogenerated by M_{λ} . From this it follows that for $\lambda \neq \mu$, there are no non-zero maps between subfactors of M_{λ} and M_{μ} and so 2.4 applies. \square

Remark. 2.4 and 2.6 are shown in Vanaja [10, Proposition 2.2] and related constructions are considered in García-Jara-Merino [4, Section 3] and [3, Theorem 5.2], Năstăsescu-Torrecillas [8, Lemma 5.4] and Green [5, 1.6c].

Following García-Jara-Merino [3], we call a module M *σ -indecomposable* if M has no non-trivial σ -decomposition.

2.7 Corollary. *The following are equivalent:*

- (a) $\sigma[M]$ is σ -indecomposable;
- (b) M is σ -indecomposable;
- (c) any subgenerator in $\sigma[M]$ is σ -indecomposable;
- (d) an injective cogenerator which is a subgenerator in $\sigma[M]$, has no fully invariant decomposition.

If there exists a projective generator in $\sigma[M]$ then (a)-(d) are equivalent to:

- (e) *projective generators in $\sigma[M]$ have no fully invariant decompositions.*

It is straightforward to see that a σ -decomposition of the ring A is of the form

$$A = Ae_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Ae_k, \text{ for central idempotents } e_i \in A,$$

and so $A\text{-Mod}$ is σ -indecomposable if and only if A has no non-trivial central idempotent.

By the structure theorem for cogenerators with commutative endomorphism rings (see [11, 48.16]) we have:

2.8 σ -decomposition when $\text{End}_A(M)$ commutative. *Let M be a cogenerator in $\sigma[M]$ with $\text{End}_A(M)$ commutative. Then $M \simeq \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \widehat{E}_{\lambda}$, where $\{E_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ is a minimal representing set of simple modules in $\sigma[M]$. This is a σ -decomposition of M and*

$$\sigma[M] = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \sigma[\widehat{E}_{\lambda}],$$

where each $\sigma[\widehat{E}_{\lambda}]$ is indecomposable and contains only one simple module.

A special case of the situation described above is the \mathbb{Z} -module $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} = \bigoplus_{p \text{ prime}} \mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ and the decomposition of the category of torsion abelian groups as a direct sum of the categories of p -groups,

$$\sigma[\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}] = \bigoplus_{p \text{ prime}} \sigma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}].$$

Notice that although \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is an injective cogenerator in $\mathbb{Z}\text{-Mod}$ with a non-trivial σ -decomposition, $\mathbb{Z}\text{-Mod}$ is σ -indecomposable. This is possible since \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is not a subgenerator in $\mathbb{Z}\text{-Mod}$.

In general it is not so easy to get σ -decompositions of modules. We need some technical observations to deal with modules whose endomorphism rings are not commutative.

2.9 Relations on families of modules. Consider any family of A -modules $\{M_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ in $\sigma[M]$. Define a relation \sim on $\{M_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ by putting

$$M_{\lambda} \sim M_{\mu} \quad \text{if there exist non-zero morphisms } M_{\lambda} \rightarrow M_{\mu} \text{ or } M_{\mu} \rightarrow M_{\lambda}.$$

Clearly \sim is symmetric and reflexive and we denote by \approx the smallest equivalence relation on $\{M_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ determined by \sim , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\lambda} \approx M_{\mu} & \quad \text{if there exist } \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k \in \Lambda, \text{ such that} \\ & M_{\lambda} = M_{\lambda_1} \sim \dots \sim M_{\lambda_k} = M_{\mu}. \end{aligned}$$

Then $\{M_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ is the disjoint union of the equivalence classes $\{[M_{\omega}]\}_{\Omega}$, $\Lambda_{\omega} \subset \Lambda$.

Assume each $M_{\lambda} \simeq \widehat{E}_{\lambda}$, the M -injective hull of some simple module $E_{\lambda} \in \sigma[M]$. Then

$\widehat{E}_\lambda \sim \widehat{E}_\mu$ if and only if $\text{Ext}_M(E_\lambda, E_\mu) \neq 0$ or $\text{Ext}_M(E_\mu, E_\lambda) \neq 0$,

where Ext_M denotes the extensions in $\sigma[M]$.

Proof. For any non-zero morphism $\widehat{E}_\lambda \rightarrow \widehat{E}_\mu$, there exists a submodule $E_\lambda \subset L \subset \widehat{E}_\lambda$ with a non-splitting exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E_\lambda \rightarrow L \rightarrow E_\mu \rightarrow 0.$$

Assume such a sequence is given. From this it is easy to construct a non-zero morphism $f : \widehat{E}_\lambda \rightarrow \widehat{E}_\mu$. \square

A decomposition $M = \bigoplus_\Lambda M_\lambda$ is said to *complement direct summands* if, for every direct summand K of M , there exists a subset $\Lambda' \subset \Lambda$ such that $M = K \oplus (\bigoplus_{\Lambda'} M_\lambda)$ (cf. [1, § 12]). We observe that such decompositions yield fully invariant indecomposable decompositions.

2.10 Lemma. *Let $M = \bigoplus_\Lambda M_\lambda$ be a decomposition which complements direct summands, where all M_λ are indecomposable. Then M has a decomposition $M = \bigoplus_A N_\alpha$, where each $N_\alpha \subset M$ is a fully invariant submodule and does not decompose non-trivially into fully invariant submodules.*

Proof. Consider the equivalence relation \approx on $\{M_\lambda\}_\Lambda$ (see 2.9) with the equivalence classes $\{[M_\omega]\}_\Omega$ and $\Lambda = \bigcup_\Omega \Lambda_\omega$. Then $N_\omega := \bigoplus_{\Lambda_\omega} M_\lambda$ is a fully invariant submodule of M , for each $\omega \in \Omega$, and

$$M = \bigoplus_\Omega \left(\bigoplus_{\Lambda_\omega} M_\lambda \right) = \bigoplus_\Omega N_\omega.$$

Assume $N_\omega = K \oplus L$ for fully invariant $K, L \subset N_\omega$. Since the defining decomposition of N_ω complements direct summands we may assume that Λ_ω is the disjoint union of subsets X, Y such that

$$N_\omega = \left(\bigoplus_X M_\lambda \right) \oplus \left(\bigoplus_Y M_\lambda \right).$$

By construction, for any $x \in X, y \in Y$, we have $M_x \approx M_y$ and it is easy to see that this implies the existence of non-zero morphisms $K \rightarrow L$ or $L \rightarrow K$, contradicting our assumption. So N_ω does not decompose into fully invariant submodules. \square

The following are standard examples of module decompositions which complement direct summands.

2.11 Proposition. *Let $M = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} M_{\lambda}$, where each $\text{End}_A(M_{\lambda})$ is local.*

- (1) *If M is M -injective the decomposition complements direct summands.*
- (2) *If M is projective in $\sigma[M]$ and $\text{Rad}(M) \ll M$, then the decomposition complements direct summands.*

Proof. For the first assertion we refer to [2, 8.13].

The second condition characterizes M as semiperfect in $\sigma[M]$ (see [11, 42.5]) and the assertion follows from [2, 8.12]. \square

2.12 σ -decomposition for locally noetherian modules. *Let M be a locally noetherian A -module. Then M has a σ -decomposition $M = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} M_{\lambda}$ and*

$$\sigma[M] = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \sigma[M_{\lambda}],$$

where each $\sigma[M_{\lambda}]$ is σ -indecomposable.

- (1) *$\sigma[M]$ is σ -indecomposable if and only if for any indecomposable injectives $K, L \in \sigma[M]$, $K \approx L$ (as defined in 2.9).*
- (2) *If M has locally finite length, then $\sigma[M]$ is σ -indecomposable if and only if for any simple modules $S_1, S_2 \in \sigma[M]$, $\widehat{S}_1 \approx \widehat{S}_2$ (M -injective hulls).*

Proof. Let Q be an injective cogenerator which is also a subgenerator in $\sigma[M]$. Then Q is a direct sum of indecomposable M -injective modules and this is a decomposition which complements direct summands (by 2.11). By Lemma 2.10, Q has a fully invariant decomposition $Q = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} Q_{\lambda}$ such that Q_{λ} has no non-trivial fully invariant decomposition. Now the assertions follow from Corollaries 2.6, 2.7, and 2.5.

(1) This is clear by the above proof.

(2) By our assumption every indecomposable M -injective module is an M -injective hull of some simple module in $\sigma[M]$. \square

2.13 σ -decomposition for semiperfect generators. *If M is a projective generator which is semiperfect in $\sigma[M]$, then M has a σ -decomposition $M = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} M_{\lambda}$, where each M_{λ} is σ -indecomposable.*

In particular, every semiperfect ring A has a σ -decomposition $A = Ae_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Ae_k$, where the e_i are central idempotents of A which are not a sum of non-zero orthogonal central idempotents.

Proof. By [11, 42.5] and 2.11, M has a decomposition which complements direct summands. By Lemma 2.10, M has a fully invariant decomposition and the assertions follow from the Corollaries 2.6, 2.7, and 2.5. \square

3 Coalgebras and comodules

We recall some basic definitions for coalgebras and comodules.

An R -module C is an R -coalgebra if there is an R -linear map (*comultiplication*)

$$\Delta : C \rightarrow C \otimes_R C, \text{ with } (id \otimes \Delta) \circ \Delta = (\Delta \otimes id) \circ \Delta.$$

An R -linear map $\varepsilon : C \rightarrow R$ is a *counit* if $(id \otimes \varepsilon) \circ \Delta$ and $(\varepsilon \otimes id) \circ \Delta$ yield the canonical isomorphism $C \simeq C \otimes_R R$.

Henceforth C will denote a coalgebra with counit (C, Δ, ε) and we assume that C is flat as an R -module.

The R -dual of C , $C^* = \text{Hom}_R(C, R)$, is an associative R -algebra with unit ε where the multiplication of $f, g \in C^*$ is defined by

$$(f * g)(c) = (f \otimes g)(\Delta(c)), \text{ for } c \in C.$$

An R -submodule $D \subset C$ is a *left coideal* if $\Delta(D) \subset C \otimes_R D$, a *right coideal* if $\Delta(D) \subset D \otimes_R C$, and a *sub-coalgebra* if $\Delta(D) \subset D \otimes_R D$ and D is pure in C .

An R -module M is called a *right C -comodule* if there exists an R -linear map $\varrho : M \rightarrow M \otimes_R C$ such that $(id \otimes \Delta) \circ \varrho = (\varrho \otimes id) \circ \varrho$, and $(id \otimes \varepsilon) \circ \varrho$ yields the canonical isomorphism $M \simeq M \otimes_R R$. An R -submodule $N \subset M$ is called *C -sub-comodule* if $\varrho(N) \subset N \otimes_R C$.

Left C -comodules are defined similarly. Clearly C is a right and left C -comodule, and right (left) sub-comodules of C are right (left) coideals.

An R -linear map $f : M \rightarrow M'$ between right comodules is a *comodule morphism* provided $\varrho' \circ f = (f \otimes id) \circ \varrho$.

The right (left) C -comodules and the comodule morphisms form a category which we denote by $\text{Comod-}C$ (C -Comod). These are Grothendieck categories (remember that we assume ${}_R C$ to be flat). The close connection between comodules and modules is based on the following facts which are proved in [12, Section 3,4].

3.1 C -comodules and C^* -modules. Assume ${}_R C$ to be projective and let $\varrho : M \rightarrow M \otimes_R C$ be any right C -comodule. Then M is a left C^* -module by

$$\psi : C^* \otimes_R M \rightarrow M, \quad f \otimes m \mapsto ((\text{id} \otimes f) \circ \varrho)(m).$$

- (1) An R -submodule $U \subset M$ is a sub-comodule if and only if it is a C^* -submodule.
- (2) Any R -linear map between right comodules is a comodule morphism if and only if it is C^* -linear.
- (3) The category of right C -comodules can be identified with $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$, the full subcategory of $C^*\text{-Mod}$, subgenerated by ${}_{C^*}C$.
- (4) C is a balanced (C^*, C^*) -bimodule and the subcoalgebras of C correspond to the (C^*, C^*) -sub-bimodules.

The properties of the comodule C are strongly influenced by the properties of the ring R (see [12, 4.9]).

3.2 Coalgebras over special rings. Let ${}_R C$ be projective.

- (1) If R is noetherian, then C is a locally noetherian C^* -module and direct sums of injectives are injective in $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$.
- (2) If R is artinian, then every finitely generated module in $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$ has finite length.
- (3) If R is injective, then C is injective in $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$.

Applying our results on decompositions of closed subcategories we obtain

3.3 σ -decomposition of coalgebras. Let C be a coalgebra over a noetherian ring R with C_R projective.

- (1) There exist a σ -decomposition $C = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} C_{\lambda}$, and a family of orthogonal central idempotents $\{e_{\lambda}\}_{\Lambda}$ in C^* , with $C_{\lambda} = C \cdot e_{\lambda}$, for each $\lambda \in \Lambda$.
- (2) $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C] = \bigoplus_{\Lambda} \sigma[{}_{C^*}C_{\lambda}]$.
- (3) Each C_{λ} is a sub-coalgebra of C , $C_{\lambda}^* \simeq C^* * e_{\lambda}$, and $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C_{\lambda}] = \sigma[{}_{C_{\lambda}^*}C_{\lambda}]$.

- (4) $\sigma_{[C^*C]}$ is indecomposable if and only if, for any two injective uniform $L, N \in \sigma_{[C^*C]}$, we have $L \approx N$.
- (5) Assume R to be artinian. Then $\sigma_{[C^*C]}$ is indecomposable if and only if for any two simple $E_1, E_2 \in \sigma_{[C^*C]}$, we have $\widehat{E}_1 \approx \widehat{E}_2$.

Proof. (1),(2) By 3.2, C is a locally noetherian C^* -module. Now the decomposition of $\sigma_{C^*}[C]$ follows from 2.12. Clearly the resulting σ -decomposition of C is a fully invariant decomposition and hence it can be described by central idempotents in the endomorphism ring ($= C^*$, see 3.1).

(3) The fully invariant submodules $C_\lambda \subset C$ are in particular R -direct summands in C and hence are sub-coalgebras (by [12, 4.4]). It is straightforward to verify that $\text{Hom}_R(C_\lambda, R) = C_\lambda^* \simeq C^* * e_\lambda$ is an algebra isomorphism.

(4) is a special case of 2.12(2).

(5) follows from 2.12(3). Notice that $\widehat{E}_1 \approx \widehat{E}_2$ can be described by extensions of simple modules (see 2.9). The assertion means that the Ext-quiver of the simple modules in $\sigma_{C^*}[C]$ is connected. \square

3.4 Corollary. *Let R be a QF ring and C an R -coalgebra with C_R projective. Then:*

- (1) C has fully invariant decompositions with σ -indecomposable summands.
- (2) Each fully invariant decomposition is a σ -decomposition.
- (3) C is σ -indecomposable if and only if C has no non-trivial fully invariant decomposition.
- (4) If C is cocommutative then $C = \bigoplus_\Lambda \widehat{E}_\lambda$ is a fully invariant decomposition, where $\{E_\lambda\}_\Lambda$ is a minimal representing set of simple modules.

Proof. By [12, 6.1], C is an injective cogenerator in $\sigma_{C^*}[C]$ and so the assertions (1)-(3) follow from 2.6 and 3.3.

(4) Our assumption implies that C^* is a commutative algebra and so the assertion follows by 2.8. \square

For coalgebras C over QF rings we have a bijective correspondence between closed subcategories of $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$ and (C^*, C^*) -submodules in C . However the latter need not be pure R -submodules of C and hence they may not be sub-coalgebras.

3.5 Correspondence relations. *Let R be a QF ring and C an R -coalgebra with C_R projective. Then*

- (1) *for every $N \in \sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$, $\sigma[N] = \sigma[\text{Tr}(N, C)]$;*
- (2) *the map $\sigma[N] \rightarrow \text{Tr}(N, C)$ yields a bijective correspondence between the closed subcategories of $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$ and the (C^*, C^*) -submodules of C ;*
- (3) *$\sigma[N]$ is closed under essential extensions (injective hulls) in $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$ if and only if $\text{Tr}(N, C)$ is a C^* -direct summand of ${}_{C^*}C$. In this case $\text{Tr}(N, C)$ is a sub-coalgebra of C .*
- (4) *$N \in \sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$ is semisimple if and only if $\text{Tr}(N, C) \subset \text{Soc}_{C^*}(Q)$;*
- (5) *If R is semisimple, then all $\text{Tr}(N, C)$ are sub-coalgebras of C .*

Proof. Since R is a QF ring, ${}_{C^*}C$ has locally finite length and is an injective cogenerator of $\sigma[{}_{C^*}C]$. Hence (1)-(4) follow from 2.2.

(5) For R semisimple all (C^*, C^*) -submodules $\text{Tr}(\sigma[N], C)$ are direct summands as R -modules in C and so they are sub-coalgebras by [12, 4.4]. \square

Remarks. 3.3 and 3.4 extend decomposition results for coalgebras over fields to coalgebras over noetherian (QF) rings. It was shown in Kaplansky [6] that any coalgebra C over a field K is a direct sum of indecomposable coalgebras, and that for C cocommutative, these components are even irreducible. In Montgomery [7, Theorem 2.1], a direct proof was given to show that C is a direct sum of link-indecomposable components. It is easy to see that the link-indecomposable components are just the σ -indecomposable components of C (see remark in proof of 3.3(5)). As outlined in [7, Theorem 1.7] this relationship can also be described by using the "wedge". In this context another proof of the decomposition theorem is given in Shudo-Miyamoto [9, Theorem]. These techniques are also used in Zhang [13]. We refer to García-Jara-Merino [3, 4] for a detailed description of the corresponding constructions.

In Green [5], for every C -comodule M , the coefficient space $C(M)$ was defined as the smallest sub-coalgebra $C(M) \subset C$ such that M is a $C(M)$ -comodule. The definition heavily relies on the existence of a K -basis for comodules. In the more general correspondence theorem 3.5, the $C(M)$ are replaced by $\text{Tr}(M, C)$. For coalgebras over fields, $C(M)$ and $\text{Tr}(M, C)$ coincide and 3.5 yields [5, 1.3d], [4, Proposition 7], and [7, Lemma 1.8]. Notice that in [5] closed subcategories in $\sigma[C^*C]$ are called *pseudovarieties*.

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Address:

Department of Mathematics
Heinrich-Heine-University
40225 Düsseldorf, Germany
e-mail: wisbauer@math.uni-duesseldorf.de