

# Closure operators in the categories of modules

## Part I (Weakly hereditary and idempotent operators)

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ABSTRACT. In this work the closure operators of a category of modules  $R\text{-Mod}$  are studied. Every closure operator  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  defines two functions  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$ , which in every module  $M$  distinguish the set of  $C$ -dense submodules  $\mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$  and the set of  $C$ -closed submodules  $\mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ . By means of these functions three types of closure operators are described: 1) weakly hereditary; 2) idempotent; 3) weakly hereditary and idempotent.

### 1. Introduction and preliminary facts

The subjects of this paper are deeply rooted in the theory of radicals and torsions in modules ([1, 2, 3, 4, 5]). Every idempotent radical (torsion)  $r$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  defines a closure operator in the lattice of submodules  $\mathbb{L}({}_R M)$  of every module  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$ : if  $N \subseteq M$ , then the closure  $\tilde{N}$  of  $N$  in  $M$  is defined by  $\tilde{N}/N = r(M/N)$ . This aspect was studied by the author in the works [5, 6, 7], where the notion of *radical closure* of  $R\text{-Mod}$  was introduced as a function which in every lattice  $\mathbb{L}({}_R M)$  determines a closure operator and it is compatible with the  $R$ -morphisms.

The more general notion of closure operator of a category was investigated, in particular, in the works [8, 9, 10], where the relations of closure operators with some notions and constructions in categories and in topology were shown.

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The purpose of this work is the systematic investigation of the closure operators in module categories: properties, main types, their characterization by various methods, relations with preradicals, operations, etc.

In Part I three important types of closure operators in  $R\text{-Mod}$  are analyzed: weakly hereditary, idempotent and weakly hereditary idempotent. Such closure operators  $C$  are described by the associated functions  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$ , which are defined by  $C$ -dense and  $C$ -closed submodules. In the theory of radicals these facts correspond to the characterization of idempotent preradicals and radicals by means of classes of torsion or torsion-free modules ([1], [5]).

Let  $R$  be an arbitrary ring with unit. We denote by  $R\text{-Mod}$  the category of unitary left  $R$ -modules. For every module  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  the lattice of submodules of  $M$  is denoted by  $\mathbb{L}(M)$ . A preradical of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is a subfunctor  $r$  of identity functor of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , i.e. for every  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  a submodule  $r(M) \subseteq M$  is defined such that  $f(r(M)) \subseteq r(M')$  for any  $R$ -morphism  $f : M \rightarrow M'$ . The preradical  $r$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  defines two classes of modules:

- 1)  $\mathcal{R}(r) = \{M \in R\text{-Mod} \mid r(M) = M\}$  – the class of  $r$ -torsion modules;
- 2)  $\mathcal{P}(r) = \{M \in R\text{-Mod} \mid r(M) = 0\}$  – the class of  $r$ -torsion-free modules.

The preradical  $r$  is called *idempotent* if  $r(r(M)) = r(M)$  for every  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$ ;  $r$  is called *radical* if  $r(M/r(M)) = 0$  for every  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$ . Any idempotent preradical  $r$  can be re-established by the class  $\mathcal{R}(r) : r(M) = \sum\{N_\alpha \subseteq M \mid N_\alpha \in \mathcal{R}(r)\}$ ; similarly, any radical  $r$  can be restored by the class  $\mathcal{P}(r) : r(M) = \cap \{N_\alpha \subseteq M \mid M/N_\alpha \in \mathcal{P}(r)\}$  ([1], [5]).

We remind also that the class of all preradicals of  $R\text{-Mod}$  can be transformed in a “big lattice”  $\mathbb{P}\mathbb{R}(\wedge, \vee)$  by the rules:

$$\left(\bigwedge_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} r_\alpha\right)(M) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} r_\alpha(M), \quad \left(\bigvee_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} r_\alpha\right)(M) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} r_\alpha(M).$$

The principal notion of this work is the following (see [8, 9, 10]):

**Definition 1.1.** A closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is a function  $C$  which associates to every pair  $N \subseteq M$ , where  $N \in \mathbb{L}(M)$ , a submodule of  $M$  denoted by  $C_M(N)$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (c<sub>1</sub>)  $N \subseteq C_M(N)$ ;
- (c<sub>2</sub>) if  $N \subseteq P$ , where  $N, P \in \mathbb{L}(M)$ , then  $C_M(N) \subseteq C_M(P)$ ;
- (c<sub>3</sub>) if  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is an  $R$ -morphism and  $N \subseteq M$ , then  $f(C_M(N)) \subseteq C_{M'}(f(N))$ .

The submodule  $C_M(N)$  of  $M$  will be called the  $C$ -closure of  $N$  in  $M$ . For  $C_M(N)$  the module  $M$  is the *superior term*, and  $N$  is the *inferior term*. The condition  $(c_2)$  is the monotony in the inferior term, while the monotony in the superior term follows from  $(c_3)$ :

$$(c'_2) \quad \text{if } N \subseteq P \subseteq M, \text{ then } C_P(N) \subseteq C_M(N).$$

Indeed, if  $f : P \rightarrow M$  is the inclusion, then from  $(c_3)$  we have  $f(C_P(N)) \subseteq C_M(f(N))$ , i.e.  $C_P(N) \subseteq C_M(N)$ .

We denote by  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  the class of all closure operators of  $R$ -Mod. The partial order in  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  is defined by:

$$C \leq D \Leftrightarrow C_M(N) \subseteq D_M(N) \text{ for every } N \subseteq M.$$

Moreover, as in the case of preradicals the class  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  can be considered as a “big lattice” by the rules:

$$\left( \bigwedge_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} C_\alpha \right)_M(N) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} (C_\alpha)_M(N), \quad \left( \bigvee_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} C_\alpha \right)_M(N) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} (C_\alpha)_M(N),$$

for every family  $\{C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \mathfrak{A}\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  and every pair  $N \subseteq M$ .

Further, in the class  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  of closure operators of  $R$ -Mod two operations are introduced ([8, 9, 10]):

- 1) the *product*  $C \cdot D$ , where  $C, D \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ , is defined by

$$(C \cdot D)_M(N) = C_M(D_M(N)) \text{ for every } N \subseteq M;$$

- 2) the *coproduct*  $C \# D$  is defined by

$$(C \# D)_M(N) = C_{D_M(N)}(N) \text{ for every } N \subseteq M.$$

The most important types of closure operators are the following.

**Definition 1.2.** The closure operator  $C$  of  $R$ -Mod is called:

- a) **weakly hereditary** if  $C_M(N) = C_{C_M(N)}(N)$  for every  $N \subseteq M$ ;
- b) **idempotent** if  $C_M(N) = C_M(C_M(N))$  for every  $N \subseteq M$ .

**Remark.** If  $C$  is an idempotent closure operator of  $R$ -Mod, then for any  $M \in R$ -Mod the function  $C_M(-)$  is a closure operator of the lattice  $\mathbb{L}({}_R M)$ .

The construction is well known by which to every closure operator  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  “the nearest” weakly hereditary or idempotent closure operator is associated. It is realized by the product and coproduct of closure operators and consists in the following ([8]).

Let  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ . We define the ascending chain of closure operators  $C^\alpha$  by:

$$C^1 = C, \quad C^{\alpha+1} = C \cdot C^\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad C^\beta = \vee \{C^\alpha \mid \alpha < \beta\}$$

for every ordinal  $\alpha$  and every limit ordinal  $\beta$ . Then  $C^* = \vee \{C^\alpha\}$  is an idempotent closure operator such that for every idempotent closure operator  $D \geq C$  we have  $D \geq C^*$ . The closure operator  $C^*$  is called the *idempotent hull* of  $C$ .

Dually, for  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  we can consider the descending chain  $C_\alpha$  of closure operators defined by:

$$C_1 = C, \quad C_{\alpha+1} = C \# C^\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad C_\beta = \wedge \{C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \beta\}.$$

Then  $C_* = \wedge \{C_\alpha\}$  is a weakly hereditary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$  such that for every weakly hereditary closure operator  $D \leq C$  we have  $D \leq C_*$ . The closure operator  $C_*$  is called the *weakly hereditary core* of  $C$ .

The main role in the further investigations is played by the following two types of submodules defined by a closure operator  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ . The submodule  $N \in \mathbb{L}({}_R M)$  is called:

- a)  **$C$ -dense** in  $M$  if  $C_M(N) = M$ ;
- b)  **$C$ -closed** in  $M$  if  $C_M(N) = N$ .

For  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  and  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  we denote:

$\mathcal{F}_1^C(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid C_M(N) = M\}$  – the set of  $C$ -dense submodules of  $M$ ;

$\mathcal{F}_2^C(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid C_M(N) = N\}$  – the set of  $C$ -closed submodules of  $M$ .

It is obvious that  $\mathcal{F}_1^C(M) \cap \mathcal{F}_2^C(M) = \{M\}$ .

In that way any closure operator  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  defines two functions  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$ , which associate to every module  $M$  the sets of submodules  $\mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ . In continuation we will prove that if  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  is weakly hereditary, then it can be re-established by the function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$ ; similarly, if  $C$  is idempotent, then it is completely determined by the function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$ . These facts permit to describe the named types of closure operators by the functions of indicated form.

## 2. Weakly hereditary closure operators

Let  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ . For every module  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  we consider the set of  $C$ -dense submodules:

$$\mathcal{F}_1^C(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid C_M(N) = M\},$$

and the function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  which in every module  $M$  separates the set of submodules  $\mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$ . It is obvious that the mapping  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_1^C$  is monotone: if  $C \leq D$ , then  $\mathcal{F}_1^C \leq \mathcal{F}_1^D$ .

Now for convenience we consider an abstracts function  $\mathcal{F}$  which determine for every  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  a non-empty set of submodules  $\mathcal{F}(M)$  of  $M$  such that it is compatible with isomorphisms and  $M \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ . We will use the following conditions (properties) of  $\mathcal{F}$ :

- 1) If  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M_\alpha)$ ,  $M_\alpha \subseteq M$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ), then  $N \in \mathcal{F}(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha)$ ;
- 2) If  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(P)$ , then for every  $K \subseteq M$  we have  $N + K \in \mathcal{F}(P + K)$ ;
- 3) If  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is an  $R$ -morphism and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then  $f(N) \in \mathcal{F}(f(M))$ ;
- 4) If  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then  $P \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ .

**Remark.** The implication 2)  $\Rightarrow$  4) is obvious, since if  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then by 2)  $N + P \in \mathcal{F}(M + P)$ , i.e.  $P \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $C$  be an arbitrary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Then the associated function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  satisfies the conditions 1), 2) and 3).*

*Proof.* 1) Let  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M_\alpha)$ ,  $M_\alpha \subseteq M$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Then  $C_{M_\alpha}(N) = M_\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$  and by the monotony ( $c'_2$ ) we have  $C_{M_\alpha}(N) \subseteq C_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha}(N)$ .

Therefore  $M_\alpha \subseteq C_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha}(N)$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$  and  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha \subseteq C_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha}(N)$ ,

i.e.  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha = C_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha}(N)$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha)$ .

2) Let  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(P)$ . Then  $C_P(N) = P$  and for every  $K \subseteq M$  we have  $C_P(N) + K = P + K$ . From the monotony of  $C$  in both terms it follows that  $C_P(N) + K \subseteq C_{P+K}(N + K)$ , therefore  $P + K \subseteq C_{P+K}(N + K)$ , i.e.  $P + K = C_{P+K}(N + K)$  and  $N + K \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(P + K)$ .

3) Let  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  be an arbitrary  $R$ -morphism and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$ , i.e.  $C_M(N) = M$ . From (c<sub>3</sub>) it follows that  $f(C_M(N)) \subseteq C_{f(M)}(f(N))$  and so  $f(M) \subseteq C_{f(M)}(f(N))$ , i.e.  $f(M) = C_{f(M)}(f(N))$  and  $f(N) \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(f(M))$ .  $\square$

Further we will study the inverse transition: from the abstract function  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  to a closure operator of  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ . For that we introduce the following notation: if  $\mathcal{F}$  is an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , let  $C^\mathcal{F}$  be the operator defined by the rule

$$(C^\mathcal{F})_M(N) = \sum \{M_\alpha \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq M_\alpha, N \in \mathcal{F}(M_\alpha)\} \quad (2.1)$$

for every  $N \subseteq M$ . Since  $N \in \mathcal{F}(N)$ , the definition is correct.

It is easy to see that the mapping  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C^\mathcal{F}$  is monotone: if  $\mathcal{F}' \leq \mathcal{F}''$ , then  $C^{\mathcal{F}'} \leq C^{\mathcal{F}''}$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , which satisfies the conditions 1), 2) and 3). Then the operator  $C^\mathcal{F}$  defined by the rule (2.1) is a closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .*

*Proof.* (c<sub>1</sub>) By definition  $N \subseteq (C^\mathcal{F})_M(N)$ , since  $N \subseteq M_\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ .

(c<sub>2</sub>) Let  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$ . Then  $(C^\mathcal{F})_M(N)$  is defined by (2.1) and

$$(C^\mathcal{F})_M(P) = \sum \{L_\alpha \subseteq M \mid P \subseteq L_\alpha, P \in \mathcal{F}(L_\alpha)\}.$$

Since  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M_\alpha)$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) by condition 2) of  $\mathcal{F}$  we obtain  $N + P \in \mathcal{F}(M_\alpha + P)$ , i.e.  $P \in \mathcal{F}(M_\alpha + P)$ . Denoting  $L_\alpha = M_\alpha + P$  we have  $M_\alpha \subseteq L_\alpha$  and  $P \in \mathcal{F}(L_\alpha)$ . Therefore  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_\alpha$ , i.e.

$$(C^\mathcal{F})_M(N) \subseteq (C^\mathcal{F})_M(P).$$

(c<sub>3</sub>) If  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is an  $R$ -morphism and  $N \subseteq M$ , then from the condition 3) of  $\mathcal{F}$  we have:

$$f((C^\mathcal{F})_M(N)) = f\left(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha\right) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} f(M_\alpha).$$

Since  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M_\alpha)$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ), by condition 3) of  $\mathcal{F}$  we obtain  $f(N) \in \mathcal{F}(f(M_\alpha))$ . By definition

$$(C^\mathcal{F})_{M'}(f(N)) = \sum \{L_\alpha \subseteq M' \mid f(N) \subseteq L_\alpha, f(N) \in \mathcal{F}(L_\alpha)\},$$

therefore  $f(M_\alpha)$  coincides with some  $L_\alpha$ , so  $f(M_\alpha) \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_\alpha$  for every

$\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ . This means that  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} f(M_\alpha) \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_\alpha$ , i.e.  $f((C^\mathcal{F})_M(N)) \subseteq (C^\mathcal{F})_{M'}(f(N))$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which satisfies the conditions 1), 2) and 3). Then the associated closure operator  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  (Proposition 2.2) is weakly hereditary and the corresponding function  $\mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}$  coincides with  $\mathcal{F}$  (i.e.  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}$ ).*

*Proof.* The submodule  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$  is defined by (2.1) and

$$(C^{\mathcal{F}})_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha}}(N) = \sum \{L_{\alpha} \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha} \mid N \subseteq L_{\alpha}, N \in \mathcal{F}(L_{\alpha})\}.$$

From the condition 1) of  $\mathcal{F}$  and from the relations  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M_{\alpha})$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) it follows that  $N \in \mathcal{F}(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha})$ . Therefore  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha}$  coincides with some  $L_{\alpha}$  from the definition of  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha}}(N)$ , so  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha} \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha}$ . This means that  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \subseteq (C^{\mathcal{F}})_{(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)}(N)$  and by monotony  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = (C^{\mathcal{F}})_{(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)}(N)$ , i.e.  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  is weakly hereditary.

Now we will prove that  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}$ . The relation  $\mathcal{F} \leq \mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}$  is true always and follows from the definitions: if  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then from (2.1) it is clear that  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = M$ , i.e.  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}(M)$ .

The inverse relation  $\mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}} \leq \mathcal{F}$  follows from the property 1) of  $\mathcal{F}$ : if  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}(M)$ , then  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = M$ , i.e.  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha} = M$ , and from 1) we have  $N \in \mathcal{F}(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha})$ , i.e.  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ . □

In continuation the consecutive use of the mappings  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_1^C$  and  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C^{\mathcal{F}}$  we will consider. If  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ , then by Proposition 2.1  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  is a function with the properties 1), 2) and 3). Therefore by Proposition 2.2 the function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  determines the closure operator  $C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$ . We denote  $C_* = C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** *For every closure operator  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  we have:*

- a)  $C_* \leq C$ ;
- b)  $C_*$  is weakly hereditary;
- c)  $C_*$  is the greatest weakly hereditary closure operator which is contained in  $C$ .

*Proof.* a) By definition

$$(C_*)_M(N) = \sum \{M_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq M_{\alpha}, N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M_{\alpha})\}.$$

Since  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  satisfies the property 1) (Proposition 2.1), from the relations  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M_\alpha)$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) it follows that  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha)$ . Therefore

$C_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha}(N) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha$  and by monotony  $C_{\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha}(N) \subseteq C_M(N)$ , i.e.  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha \subseteq C_M(N)$ . So  $(C_*)_M(N) \subseteq C_M(N)$  for every  $N \subseteq M$ , i.e.  $C_* \leq C$ .

b) Since  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  satisfies the conditions 1), 2) and 3) (Proposition 2.1), the closure operator  $C_* = C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$  is weakly hereditary by Proposition 2.3.

c) Let  $D$  be a weakly hereditary closure operator and  $D \leq C$ . We must verify that  $D \leq C_*$ , where  $C_* = C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$ . By definition  $(C_*)_M(N) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha$ , where  $N \subseteq M_\alpha$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M_\alpha)$ . Since  $D$  is weakly hereditary and  $D \leq C$ , we obtain:

$$D_M(N) = D_{D_M(N)}(N) \subseteq C_{D_M(N)}(N) \subseteq D_M(N),$$

therefore  $C_{D_M(N)}(N) = D_M(N)$ , i.e.  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(D_M(N))$ . So  $D_M(N)$  is one of  $M_\alpha$  from the definition of  $(C_*)_M(N)$ , therefore  $D_M(N) \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha = (C_*)_M(N)$  for every  $N \subseteq M$ . This means that  $D \leq C_*$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.5.** *The closure operator  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$  is weakly hereditary if and only if  $C = C_*$ , where  $C_* = C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$ .*  $\square$

In Section 1 we indicated the method of construction of a *weakly hereditary core*  $C_*$  of an arbitrary closure operator  $C \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{O}$ . From the previous results it follows that there is another way of construction of this closure operator: it can be obtained by the rule  $C_* = C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$ .

The main result of this section is the following

**Theorem 2.6.** *The mappings  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_1^C$  and  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C^\mathcal{F}$  define a monotone bijection between the weakly hereditary closure operators  $C$  of a category  $R\text{-Mod}$  and the abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of this category which satisfy the conditions 1), 2) and 3).*

*Proof.* If  $C$  is a weakly hereditary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then  $C = C^{\mathcal{F}_1^C}$  (Corollary 2.5). On the other hand, if  $\mathcal{F}$  is an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$  with the properties 1), 2) and 3), then  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_1^{C^\mathcal{F}}$  (Proposition 2.3).  $\square$

Further we will call the abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  with the properties 1), 2) and 3) *the functions of type  $\mathcal{F}_1$* .



### 3. Idempotent closure operators

The results of this section in some sense are dual to the statements of Section 2. We will show the characterization of *idempotent* closure operators  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  by the function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  associated to  $C$ , which in every module  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  separates the set of  $C$ -closed submodules:

$$\mathcal{F}_2^C(M) = \{N \in \mathbb{L}({}_R M) \mid C_M(N) = N\}.$$

It is easy to observe that the mapping  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_2^C$  is antimonotone: if  $C \leq D$ , then  $\mathcal{F}_2^C \geq \mathcal{F}_2^D$ .

As in the previous case, for convenience we firstly formulate some conditions (properties) of an abstract function  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  (they are dual to the conditions 1) – 4) of Section 2):

- 1\*) If  $N_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ ,  $N_\alpha \subseteq M$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ), then  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ ;
- 2\*) If  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(P)$ , then for every submodule  $K \subseteq M$  the relation  $N \cap K \in \mathcal{F}(P \cap K)$  is true;
- 3\*) If  $g : M \rightarrow M'$  is an  $R$ -morphism and  $N' \in \mathcal{F}(g(M))$ , then  $g^{-1}(N') \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ ;
- 4\*) If  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then  $N \in \mathcal{F}(P)$ .

The implication 2\*)  $\Rightarrow$  4\*) is obvious: if  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then by 2\*) we have  $N \cap P \in \mathcal{F}(M \cap P)$ , i.e.  $N \in \mathcal{F}(P)$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $C$  be an arbitrary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Then the associated function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  satisfies the conditions 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*).*

*Proof.* 1\*) Let  $N_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ ,  $N_\alpha \subseteq M$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Then  $C_M(N_\alpha) = N_\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$  and by monotony the inclusion  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha \subseteq N_\alpha$  implies  $C_M(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha) \subseteq C_M(N_\alpha) = N_\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Therefore  $C_M(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha) \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha$ , i.e.  $C_M(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha$  and  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ .

2\*) Let  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(P)$ , i.e.  $C_P(N) = N$ . Then for every submodule  $K \subseteq M$  from the monotony it follows that  $C_{P \cap K}(N \cap K) \subseteq C_P(N) = N$ . On the other hand, the monotony implies  $C_{P \cap K}(N \cap K) \subseteq C_K(N \cap K) \subseteq K$ . Therefore  $C_{P \cap K}(N \cap K) \subseteq N \cap K$ , i.e.  $C_{P \cap K}(N \cap K) = N \cap K$  and  $N \cap K \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(P \cap K)$ .

3\*) Let  $g : M \rightarrow M'$  be an  $R$ -morphism and  $N' \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(g(M))$ , i.e.  $C_{g(M)}(N') = N'$ . Using the condition (c<sub>3</sub>) and the relation  $N' =$

$g(g^{-1}(N))$ , we obtain:

$$g(C_M(g^{-1}(N'))) \subseteq C_{g(M)}(g(g^{-1}(N'))) = C_{g(M)}(N') = N'.$$

Therefore  $C_M(g^{-1}(N')) \subseteq g^{-1}(N')$ , i.e.  $C_M(g^{-1}(N')) = g^{-1}(N')$  and  $g^{-1}(N') \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ .  $\square$

Following the scheme of the previous case, now we will show the inverse transition from an abstract function  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  to a closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . For that we define the operator  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$  by the rule:

$$(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = \bigcap \{N_{\alpha} \in \mathbb{L}(M) \mid N \subseteq N_{\alpha}, N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)\} \tag{3.1}$$

for every  $N \subseteq M$ . Since  $M \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , the definition is correct.

We remark that the mapping  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C_{\mathcal{F}}$  is antimonotone: if  $\mathcal{F}' \leq \mathcal{F}''$ , then  $C_{\mathcal{F}'} \geq C_{\mathcal{F}''}$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which satisfies the conditions 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*). Then the associated operator  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$  defined by the rule (3.1) is a closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ .*

*Proof.* (c<sub>1</sub>) Since  $N \subseteq N_{\alpha}$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ , we have  $N \subseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ .

(c<sub>2</sub>) Let  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$ . The submodule  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$  is defined by (3.1) and  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(P) = \bigcap \{P_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid P \subseteq P_{\alpha}, P_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)\}$ . So we have  $N \subseteq P \subseteq P_{\alpha}$  and  $P_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , therefore  $P_{\alpha}$  is some  $N_{\alpha}$  from the definition of  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ . This means that  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \subseteq P_{\alpha}$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$  and so

$$\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} P_{\alpha}, \text{ i.e. } (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \subseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(P).$$

(c<sub>3</sub>) Let  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  be an  $R$ -morphism and  $N \subseteq M$ . Then  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$  is defined by (3.1) and

$$(C_{\mathcal{F}})_{M'}(f(N)) = \bigcap \{N'_{\alpha} \subseteq M' \mid f(N) \subseteq N'_{\alpha}, N'_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M')\}.$$

By the property 3\*) of  $\mathcal{F}$ , from  $N'_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M')$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) it follows that  $f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha}) \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , where  $N'_{\alpha} \supseteq f(N)$ , therefore  $f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha}) \supseteq f^{-1}(f(N)) \supseteq N$ . This means that  $f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha})$  is some  $N_{\alpha}$  from the definition of  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ , so  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \subseteq f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha})$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ .

Therefore  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \subseteq \bigcap \{f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha}) \mid f(N) \subseteq N'_{\alpha}, N'_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M')\}$ . Using this relation we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} f((C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)) &= f\left(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha}\right) \subseteq f\left(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha})\right) \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} f(f^{-1}(N'_{\alpha})) = \\ &= \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} (N'_{\alpha} \cap \text{Im } f) \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N'_{\alpha} = (C_{\mathcal{F}})_{M'}(f(N)). \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which satisfies the conditions 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*). Then the associated closure operator  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$  (Proposition 3.2) is idempotent and the corresponding function  $\mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}$ , defined by*

$$\mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = N\}$$

*coincides with  $\mathcal{F}$  (i.e.  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}$ ).*

*Proof.* For a function  $\mathcal{F}$  with 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*) the submodule  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$  is defined by (3.1) and

$$(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M[(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)] = \cap \{L_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \subseteq L_{\alpha}, L_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)\}.$$

From the property 1\*) of  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) it follows that  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ . Therefore  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha}$  is some  $L_{\alpha}$ , so  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha} \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha}$ . This means that  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M[(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)] \subseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ , the inverse inclusion being trivial, therefore  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$  is idempotent.

Further we prove that  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}$ . The relation  $\mathcal{F} \leq \mathcal{F}^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}$  follows from the construction: if  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then  $N$  is some  $N_{\alpha}$  from the definition of  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ , therefore  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} = N$ , i.e.  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = N$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}(M)$ .

The inverse relation  $\mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}} \leq \mathcal{F}$  follows from the property 1\*) of  $\mathcal{F}$ : if  $N \in \mathcal{F}_2^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}(M)$ , then  $\bigcap \{N_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq N_{\alpha}, N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)\} = N$  and by 1\*) from  $N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) we have  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , so  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ .  $\square$

Now we will consider the combination of the mappings  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_2^C$  and  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C_{\mathcal{F}}$  which were defined by the rules:  $\mathcal{F}_2^C(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid C_M(N) = N\}$  and  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = \cap \{N_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq N_{\alpha}, N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)\}$ . If  $C$  is an arbitrary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  is a function with the properties 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*) (Proposition 3.1). In its turn the function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  defines the closure operator  $C_{\mathcal{F}_2^C}$  (Proposition 3.2). We denote  $C^* = C_{\mathcal{F}_2^C}$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** *For every closure operator  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  we have:*

- a)  $C^* \geq C$ ;
- b)  $C^*$  is an **idempotent** closure operator;
- c)  $C^*$  is the least idempotent closure operator containing  $C$ .

*Proof.* a) By definition

$$(C^*)_M(N) = \cap \{N_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq N_{\alpha}, N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)\}.$$

By property 1\*) of  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  we have  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ , i.e.  $C_M(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha$ . By monotony the inclusion  $N \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha$  implies  $C_M(N) \subseteq C_M(\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha) = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha$ . This means that  $C_M(N) \subseteq (C^*)_M(N)$  for every  $N \subseteq M$ , i.e.  $C \leq C^*$ .

b) The function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  satisfies the properties 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*) (Proposition 3.1), therefore by Proposition 3.3 the operator  $C^* = C_{\mathcal{F}_2^C}$  is idempotent.

c) Let  $D$  be an idempotent closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$  and  $D \geq C$ . We will verify that  $C^* \leq D$ . By definition:

$$(C^*)_M(N) = (C_{\mathcal{F}_2^C})_M(N) = \bigcap \{N_\alpha \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq N_\alpha, N_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)\}.$$

Since  $D$  is idempotent and  $D \geq C$  we obtain:

$$D_M(N) = D_M(D_M(N)) \geq C_M(D_M(N)) \geq D_M(N),$$

therefore  $D_M(N) = C_M(D_M(N))$ , i.e.  $D_M(N) \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ . So  $D_M(N)$  is some  $N_\alpha$  from the definition of  $(C^*)_M(N)$ , therefore  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_\alpha \subseteq D_M(N)$ . In this way  $(C^*)_M(N) \subseteq D_M(N)$  for every  $N \subseteq M$ , i.e.  $C^* \leq D$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.** *The closure operator  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  is idempotent if and only if  $C = C^*$ .  $\square$*

In Section 1 the method of construction of *idempotent hull*  $C^*$  of an arbitrary closure operator  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  was shown. From Proposition 3.4 another way to obtain the idempotent hull of  $C$  follows, namely  $C^* = C_{\mathcal{F}_2^C}$ .

Totalizing the results of this section we obtain

**Theorem 3.6.** *The mappings  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_2^C$  and  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C_{\mathcal{F}}$  define an anti-monotone bijection between the idempotent closure operators  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  and the abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , which satisfy the conditions 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*).  $\square$*

The abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  with the properties 1\*), 2\*) and 3\*) will be called in continuation *the functions of type  $\mathcal{F}_2$* .

### 4. Weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operators

Using the previous results, now we will describe the closure operators of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which simultaneously are weakly hereditary and idempotent (in radical theory this corresponds to the characterization of idempotent radicals by the classes of torsion or torsion-free modules).

Let  $C$  be a weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operation of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Then the operator  $C$  can be re-established both by the function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  (Theorem 2.6) and by the function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  (Theorem 3.6). We will show what property the abstract function  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  must satisfy so that the associated closure operators  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  and  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$  should be weakly hereditary and idempotent. For that we consider the following condition of an abstract function  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$ :

5) = 5\*) If  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$ ,  $N \in \mathcal{F}(P)$  and  $P \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , then  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ .

This condition will be named *the property of transitivity* of  $\mathcal{F}$  (it is autodual).

**Proposition 4.1.** *If  $C$  is an **idempotent** closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then the associated function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  (where  $\mathcal{F}_1^C(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid C_M(N) = M\}$ ) satisfies the property of transitivity 5).*

*Proof.* Let  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$ ,  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(P)$  and  $P \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$ . Then  $C_P(N) = P$  and  $C_M(P) = M$ . By monotony from  $P \subseteq M$  it follows that  $C_P(N) \subseteq C_M(N)$ , therefore  $P \subseteq C_M(N)$ . Since  $C$  is monotone and idempotent, we obtain  $C_M(P) \subseteq C_M(C_M(N)) = C_M(N)$ , i.e.  $M \subseteq C_M(N)$ . So  $C_M(N) = M$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$ . □

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$  of the type  $\mathcal{F}_1$  (i.e. with the conditions 1), 2), 3)) which satisfies the property of transitivity 5). Then the associated closure operator  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  defined by the rule*

$$(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = \sum\{M_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq M_{\alpha}, N \in \mathcal{F}(M_{\alpha})\}$$

*is idempotent.*

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a function of the type  $\mathcal{F}_1$ , then  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  is a closure operator (Proposition 2.2). By definition

$$(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M[(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)] = \sum\{L_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid (C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \subseteq L_{\alpha}, (C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \in \mathcal{F}(L_{\alpha})\}.$$

From the definition of  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$  we have  $N \in \mathcal{F}(M_{\alpha})$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) and by the property 1) of  $\mathcal{F}$  we obtain  $N \in \mathcal{F}(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_{\alpha})$ . Since we have

also the relation  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha \in \mathcal{F}(L_\alpha)$ , by the transitivity of  $\mathcal{F}$  we obtain  $N \in \mathcal{F}(L_\alpha)$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ . Using once again the condition 1) of  $\mathcal{F}$ , we have  $N \in \mathcal{F}(\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_\alpha)$ . Therefore  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_\alpha$  is some submodule  $M_\alpha$  from the definition of  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ , so  $\sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_\alpha \subseteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} M_\alpha$ . This means that  $(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M[(C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)] \subseteq (C^{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ , the inverse inclusion being trivial, so  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  is idempotent.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.3.** *The mappings  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_1^C$  and  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C^{\mathcal{F}}$  define a monotone bijection between the weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operators of  $R\text{-Mod}$  and the abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of type  $\mathcal{F}_1$  (with the conditions 1), 2), 3)) of  $R\text{-Mod}$  with satisfy the property of transitivity 5).*

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.6 the indicated mappings define a monotone bijection between the weakly hereditary closure operators  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  and abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of type  $\mathcal{F}_1$ . In this bijection if  $C$  is idempotent, then the function  $\mathcal{F}_1^C$  is transitive (Proposition 4.1). On the other hand, if the function  $\mathcal{F}$  of type  $\mathcal{F}_1$  is transitive, then the weakly hereditary closure operator  $C^{\mathcal{F}}$  is idempotent (Proposition 4.2).  $\square$

Thus the weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operators  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  are completely described by the abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which satisfy the conditions 1), 2), 3), 5).

Dually the characterization of weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operation  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  by abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of type  $\mathcal{F}_2$  can be obtained.

**Proposition 4.4.** *If  $C$  is a weakly hereditary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ , then the associated function  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$ , where  $\mathcal{F}_2^C(M) = \{N \subseteq M \mid C_M(N) = N\}$ , satisfies the condition of transitivity 5) = 5\*).*

*Proof.* Let  $N \subseteq P \subseteq M$ ,  $N \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(P)$  and  $P \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ , where  $C$  is a weakly hereditary closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . Then  $C_P(N) = N$  and  $C_M(P) = P$ . From  $N \subseteq M$  by monotony it follows that  $C_M(N) \subseteq C_M(P) = P$ , i.e.  $C_M(N) \subseteq P$ . Using the monotony once again, we obtain  $C_{C_M(N)}(N) \subseteq C_P(N) = N$ . Since  $C$  is weakly hereditary, we have  $C_{C_M(N)}(N) = C_M(N)$ , therefore  $C_M(N) \subseteq N$ , i.e.  $C_M(N) = N$  and  $N \in \mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$ . This proves that  $\mathcal{F}_2^C$  is transitive.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.5.** *If  $\mathcal{F}$  is an abstract function of  $R\text{-Mod}$  of the type  $\mathcal{F}_2$  (i.e. with the conditions  $1^*$ ,  $2^*$ ,  $3^*$ ) which satisfies the transitivity property  $5^*$ , then the corresponding closure operator  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$ , defined by the rule*

$$(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) = \bigcap \{N_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq N_{\alpha}, N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)\},$$

*is weakly hereditary.*

*Proof.* By definition

$$(C_{\mathcal{F}})_{(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)}(N) = \bigcap \{L_{\alpha} \subseteq M \mid N \subseteq L_{\alpha} \subseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N), \\ L_{\alpha} \subseteq \mathcal{F}((C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N))\}.$$

From the definition of  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$  we have  $N_{\alpha} \subseteq \mathcal{F}(M)$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) and by condition  $1^*$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  it follows that  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ , i.e.  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ .

On the other hand, from the relations  $L_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}((C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N))$  ( $\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}$ ) by condition  $1^*$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  we have  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}((C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N))$ . Using the transitivity in the situation  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha} \subseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \subseteq M$ , we obtain  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{F}(M)$ . Therefore the submodule  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha}$  is some  $N_{\alpha}$  from the definition of  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ , so  $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} N_{\alpha} \subseteq \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{A}} L_{\alpha}$ . This means that  $(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N) \subseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_{(C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)}(N)$ . The inverse inclusion follows from  $M \supseteq (C_{\mathcal{F}})_M(N)$ . This proves that  $C_{\mathcal{F}}$  is weakly hereditary. □

From Propositions 4.4 and 4.5, using Theorem 3.6, we obtain

**Corollary 4.6.** *The mappings  $C \mapsto \mathcal{F}_2^C$  and  $\mathcal{F} \mapsto C_{\mathcal{F}}$  define an antimonotone bijection between the weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operators  $C$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  and the abstract functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $R\text{-Mod}$  which satisfy the conditions  $1^*$ ,  $2^*$ ,  $3^*$ ,  $5^*$  (i.e. the transitive functions  $\mathcal{F}$  of type  $\mathcal{F}_2$ ). □*

Combining Corollaries 4.3 and 4.6, is obvious the

**Corollary 4.7.** *The mappings*

$$\mathcal{F} \mapsto C^{\mathcal{F}} \mapsto \mathcal{F}_2^{C^{\mathcal{F}}}, \quad \mathcal{F} \mapsto C_{\mathcal{F}} \mapsto \mathcal{F}_1^{C_{\mathcal{F}}}$$

*define an antimonotone bijection between the transitive abstract functions of type  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and the transitive abstract functions of type  $\mathcal{F}_2$ . □*

Let  $C$  be a weakly hereditary and idempotent closure operator of  $R\text{-Mod}$ . For any module  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$  we can indicate a direct way to obtain the sets of submodules  $\mathcal{F}_1^C(M)$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2^C(M)$  one by another ([6], Proposition 2.3):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_1^C(M) &= \{N \subseteq M \mid P \notin \mathcal{F}_2^C(M) \text{ for every } P \text{ such that } N \subseteq P \subsetneq M\}, \\ \mathcal{F}_2^C(M) &= \{N \subseteq M \mid N \notin \mathcal{F}_1^C(P) \text{ for every } P \text{ such that } N \subsetneq P \subseteq M\}.\end{aligned}$$

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