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ATTI ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI  
CLASSE SCIENZE FISICHE MATEMATICHE NATURALI  
**RENDICONTI**

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**Locally compact modules over compact rings**

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# RENDICONTI

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## SEZIONE I

**(Matematica, meccanica, astronomia, geodesia e geofisica)**

**Matematica.** — *Locally compact modules over compact rings.* Nota (\*) di NICOLA RODINÒ, presentata dal Socio G. ZAPPA.

RIASSUNTO. — Sia  $A$  un anello compatto e sia  $M$  un  $A$ -modulo localmente compatto. Le dimostrazioni note che  $M$  è linearmente topologizzato sembrano alquanto involute ed usano risultati profondi della teoria dei gruppi Abeliani localmente compatti nonché il Teorema di Kaplansky che asserisce che  $A$  è linearmente topologizzato. In questa Nota, poggiando sul Teorema di Peter-Weyl, viene esposta una dimostrazione semplice e diretta, della quale il Teorema di Kaplansky è corollario.

## INTRODUCTION

Let  $A$  be a compact ring and let  $M$  be a locally compact module. The result that  $M$  is linearly topologized appears in [A] and in [S]. In [A] the proof is based on a result of [GS] and on Kaplansky Theorem ([K]), which states that  $A$  is linearly topologized. In [S] the short proof is based on the Structure Theorem for locally compact Abelian groups ([HR], Theorem 9.14). In this note we produce an easy and general proof of the considered result. In our proof the role played by Peter-Weyl Theorem is evident and Kaplansky Theorem is obtained as corollary.

In the sequel all rings have a non-zero identity, all modules are unitary and all topologies are Hausdorff. A topological module is *linearly topologized* if the open submodules form an open basis at zero. Let  $A$  and  $B$  topological rings and let  ${}_A M_B$  be a topological bimodule. Then  $M$  is said *linearly topologized* if the open  $A$ - $B$ -sub-bimodules form an open basis at zero. A topological ring  $A$

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is said *left (right) linearly topologized* if respectively the regular modules  ${}_A A$  ( $A_A$ ) are linearly topologized.  $A$  is *linearly topologized* if the regular bimodule  ${}_A A_A$  is linearly topologized. Let  $G$  be an Abelian topological group.  $G^*$  is the *character group* of  $G$ . Recall that a character of  $G$  is a continuous morphism from  $G$  to  $T = \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ . A topological Abelian group is called a *Peter-Weyl group*, by short a *P-W-group*, if the characters separate points in  $G$ . A topological module is a *P-W-module* if its additive group is a *P-W-group*. Let  $M$  be a left module over a ring  $A$  and let  $W$  be a subset of  $M$ . We put  $A \cdot W = \{ax : a \in A, x \in W\}$  and denote by  $AW$  the set consisting of all finite sums of the type  $\sum_i a_i x_i$ ,  $a_i \in A, x_i \in W$ . Clearly  $AW$  is the submodule of  $M$  generated by  $A \cdot W$ .

1. LEMMA 1. *Let  $A$  be a compact ring and let  $M$  be a topological left  $A$ -module. Then for every neighbourhood  $V$  of zero in  $M$ , there is a neighbourhood  $W$  of 0 in  $M$  such that  $A \cdot W \subseteq V$ .*

*Proof.* Since the multiplication is continuous, for each  $a \in A$  there are a neighbourhood  $U_a$  of  $a$  in  $A$  and a neighbourhood  $W_a$  of 0 in  $M$  such that  $U_a \cdot W_a \subseteq V$ . Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in A$  such that  $A \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{a_i}$  and put  $W = \bigcap_{i=1}^n W_{a_i}$ . Clearly  $A \cdot W$  is contained in  $V$ .

LEMMA 2. *Let  $M$  be a P-W-module. Then  $M$  is totally disconnected.*

*Proof.* Fix a small neighbourhood  $U$  of zero in  $T$ . Let  $\xi \in M^*$ . For Lemma 1, there is a neighbourhood  $W$  of 0 in  $M$  such that  $\xi(A \cdot W) \subseteq U$ . If  $x \in W$ ,  $\xi(Ax)$  is a subgroup of  $T$  and is contained in  $U$ . Since  $U$  is small,  $\xi(Ax) = 0$  for each  $x \in W$ , so that:

$$W \subseteq AW \subseteq \text{Ker}(\xi)$$

and  $\text{Ker}(\xi)$  is a clopen subgroup of  $M$ . By assumption  $M$  is a P-W-module. So  $\bigcap_{\xi \in M^*} \text{Ker}(\xi) = 0$ . Since the connected component of 0 is contained in the intersection of all clopen subsets of  $M$ , this proves that  $M$  is totally disconnected.

THEOREM 3. *Let  $A$  be a precompact ring and  $M$  a locally compact left or right module. Then  $M$  is linearly topologized and moreover open compact submodules constitute an open basis at zero.*

*Proof.* We give the proof for a left  $A$ -module, the right case being analogous. Suppose first that  $A$  is compact. According to Peter-Weyl Theorem ([P]),  $M$  is a P-W-module, so that for Lemma 2,  $M$  is totally disconnected.

It is known that a totally disconnected locally compact group is linearly topologized ([P]). Let  $V$  be any open subgroup of  $M$ . For Lemma 1 there is an open neighbourhood  $W$  of  $0$  such that  $A \cdot W \subseteq V$ . Since  $V$  is a subgroup of  $M$ , the subgroup  $AW$  generated by  $A \cdot W$  is contained in  $V$ . Now  $AW$  is a submodule of  $M$  and it is open because  $W$  is contained in  $AW$  ( $A$  has an identity). Suppose now that  $A$  is only precompact. Let  $\tilde{A}$  be the completion of  $A$ . Since  $M$  is complete, the multiplication extends to  $\tilde{A} \times M$ , so  $M$  is also a locally compact  $\tilde{A}$ -module. The  $\tilde{A}$ -module  $M$  is linearly topologized and, since every  $A$ -submodule of  $M$  is also an  $\tilde{A}$ -submodule, consequently  $M$  is linearly topologized. Finally, let  $V$  be an arbitrary compact neighbourhood of zero in  $M$ . There exists an open submodule  $W$  of  $M$  contained in  $V$ . Since an open subgroup of  $M$  is also closed,  $W$  is closed in  $V$  and therefore it is compact.

**COROLLARY 4.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be precompact rings and let  ${}_A M_B$  be a locally compact  $A$ - $B$ -bimodule. Then  $M$  is linearly topologized.*

*Proof.* Applying Theorem 3, let  ${}_A V$  be an open  $A$ -submodule of  ${}_A M$ . Again for Theorem 3, there is an open  $B$ -submodule  $W_B$  of  $M_B$  such that  $W \subseteq V$ . The  $A$ -submodule generated by  $W$  is contained in  $V$  and clearly is an open  $A$ - $B$ -submodule of  ${}_A M_B$ .

**COROLLARY 5** (Kaplansky Theorem [K]). *Let  $A$  be a precompact ring. Then the open ideals are an open basis at zero.*

*Proof.* Let  $\tilde{A}$  be the completion of  $A$ . Apply Corollary 4 to the compact bimodule  ${}_A \tilde{A}_A$ . Since  $\tilde{A}$  is linearly topologized, also  ${}_A \tilde{A}_A$  is linearly topologized.

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