

# Small subhypermultiples and their applications

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## **Abstract**

Let  $R$  be a hyperring (in the sense of [5]) and  $M$  be a hypermodule on  $R$ . In this article we introduce class of small subhypermultiples of  $M$ . First we get some properties of subhypermultiples and then the class of small subhypermultiples and small homomorphism in the category of hypermodules are investigated. For example we show that if  $M$  is a hypermodule and  $N$  is a direct summand of  $M$ , then a small subhypermodule  $K$  of  $M$  which is contained in  $N$ , is small in  $N$ . Also we get some important applications of small subhypermultiples in category of hypermodules (for example in exact sequences etc.).

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## **1 Introduction**

The categories of hypergroups, hypermodules and hyperrings have many important roles in hyperstructures. Some authors got many exiting results about these theories. Reader can see references [1], [3], [4], [5] to get some basic information about the categories of *hypergroups*, *hyperrings* and *hypermodules*. Also reference [8] can be suitable to get some information about rings and modules theory.

We recall some definitions and theorems from above references which we need them to develop our paper.

A *hyperstructure* is a nonvoid set  $H$  together with a function  $\cdot : H \times H \rightarrow P^*(H)$ , where  $\cdot$  is called a hyperoperation and  $P^*(H)$  is the set of all nonempty subsets of  $H$ .

For  $A, B \subseteq H$  and  $x \in H$  we define

$$A.B = \bigcup_{a \in A, b \in B} a.b, \quad x.B = \{x\}.B, \quad A.x = A.\{x\}.$$

**Definition 1.1** A hyperstructure  $H$  with a hyperoperation  $+$  is called a *canonical hypergroup* if the following hold for  $H$ ;

- (i)  $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in H$ ;
- (ii)  $x + y = y + x$  for all  $x, y \in H$ ;
- (iii) there is an element, say  $0$ , such that  $0 + x = \{x\}$ , for every  $x \in H$ ;
- (iv) For each  $x \in H$  there exists a unique element  $x' \in H$ , such that  $0 \in x + x'$ . (we denote  $x'$  by  $-x$  and it is called the opposite of  $x$ ). Also we write  $x - y$  instead of  $x + (-y)$ ;
- (v)  $z \in x + y \implies y \in z - x$  for all  $x, y, z$  in  $H$ .

Note that  $0$  is unique and for every  $x \in H$  we have  $x + 0 = 0 + x = \{x\}$ , we identify a singleton set  $\{x\}$  by  $x$ .

Canonical hypergroups were studied by J. Mittas in [7].

**Definition 1.2** A non-void set  $R$  with a hyperoperation  $(+)$  and with a binary operation  $(\cdot)$  is called a *hyperring* if

$(R_1)$  :  $(R, +)$  is a canonical hypergroup;

$(R_2)$  :  $(R, \cdot)$  is a multiplicative semigroup having  $0$ , such that  $x \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot x = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ ;

$(R_3)$  :  $z \cdot (x + y) = z \cdot x + z \cdot y$  and  $(x + y) \cdot z = x \cdot z + y \cdot z$  for all  $x, y, z \in R$ .

If there exists an element  $1 \in R$  such that  $1 \cdot x = x \cdot 1 = x$  for all  $x \in R$ , then we say  $R$  is a unitary hyperring.

For more details about the theory of hyperrings see [3, 4].

Throughout this paper  $R$  is a unitary hyperring and all related hypermodules are  $R$ -hypermodules.

**Definition 1.3** (See [6]) A left *hypermodule* over a unitary hyperring  $R$  is a canonical hypergroup  $(M, +)$  together with an external composition  $\cdot : R \times M \longrightarrow M$ , denoted by  $(r, m) \mapsto r \cdot m \in M$ , such that for all  $x, y \in M$  and all  $r, s \in R$ , the following hold:

$(M_1)$  :  $r \cdot (x + y) = r \cdot x + r \cdot y$ ;

$(M_2)$  :  $(r + s) \cdot x = r \cdot x + s \cdot x$ ;

$(M_3)$  :  $(rs) \cdot x = r \cdot (s \cdot x)$ ;

$(M_4)$  :  $1 \cdot m = m$  and  $0 \cdot m = 0$ , for each  $m \in M$ .

Let  $(M, +)$  be an  $R$ -hypermodule and  $N$  be a nonempty subset of  $M$ . Then  $N$  is called a *subhypermodule* of  $M$  if  $(N, +)$  is a canonical subhypergroup of  $(M, +)$  and  $N$  is a hypermodule over  $R$ , under external composition  $\cdot$  to  $R \times N$ . By  $N \leq M$ , we mean  $N$  is a subhypermodule of  $M$ .

**Lemma 1.4** *Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $N$  be a nonvoid subset of  $M$ . Then  $N$  is a subhypermodule of  $M$  if and only if for every  $x, y \in N$  and  $r \in R$  we have  $rx + y \subseteq N$ .*

Proof. Obvious. □

Reader can refer to [2] for more information about hypermodules and subhypermodules and also about some special subhypermodules.

Let  $M, N$  be two  $R$ -hypermodules. A hyperoperation  $f : M \longrightarrow N$  is called a *homomorphism* if for every pair  $x, y \in M$  and every  $r \in R$  the following hold

1.  $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$ ;
2.  $f(rx) = rf(x)$ ,

and  $f$  is called a *weak homomorphism* if

1.  $f(x + y) \subseteq f(x) + f(y)$ ;
2.  $f(rx) = rf(x)$ .

**Note.** For two hypermodules  $M, N$  and a homomorphism  $f : M \longrightarrow N$ , it is easy to see that  $f(0) = 0$ .

Let  $M$  be a hypermodule over a hyperring  $R$  and  $N \leq M$ . Consider  $M/N = \{m + N \mid m \in M\}$ , then  $M/N$  becomes a hypermodule over  $R$  under hyperoperation defined by  $+$  :  $M/N \times M/N \longrightarrow P^*(M/N)$  and external composition  $\cdot$  :  $R \times M/N \longrightarrow M/N$  such that  $m + N + m' + N = \{x + N \mid x \in m + m'\}$  and  $r \cdot (m + N) = rm + N$  for  $m, m' \in M$  and  $r \in R$ . Note that  $m + N = N$  if and only if  $m \in N$ .

For a hypermodule  $M$  and a subhypermodule  $N$  of  $M$  there exists an epimorphism say *natural epimorphism*  $\pi : M \longrightarrow M/N$  defined by  $\pi(m) = m + N$  and obviously  $\text{Ker}(\pi) = N$ .

**Note.** ([6, corollary 3.2]) Let  $M, N$  be  $R$ -hypermodules. If  $f : M \longrightarrow N$  is a homomorphism and  $K \leq M$ . Then

1. if  $K \subseteq \text{Ker}(f)$ , then there exists a unique homomorphism  $\bar{f} : M/K \longrightarrow N$  such that  $\bar{f}(m + K) = f(m)$  for every  $m \in M$ ;

2. if  $f$  is onto, then  $\bar{f}$  is onto;
3. if  $K = Ker(f)$ , then  $\bar{f}$  is one to one;
4. if  $f$  is onto and  $K = Ker(f)$ , then  $\bar{f}$  is an isomorphism.

Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $A, B$  two subhypermodules of  $M$ . Define

$$A + B = \bigcup \{a + b | a \in A, b \in B\}$$

Then it is clear that  $A + B$  is a subhypermodule of  $M$ .

Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $A \leq M, B \leq M$ ; we have the following properties:

- (i)  $A + B = B$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$ .
- (ii)  $A + \{0\} = A$ .
- (iii) If  $C, D \leq A$  and  $C, D \leq B$ , then  $C + D \subseteq A \cap B$ .
- (iv) If  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , then  $a + b \subseteq A + B$ .

Other trivial properties of sum of submodules which are satisfied in modules theory, are true also in hypermodules theory.

**Remark.** Let  $M$  be a hypermodule,  $N$  a subhypermodule of  $M$  and  $x, y \in M$ ; then by properties of hypermodules we have

$x + N = y + N$  iff  $N = (x + N) - (y + N) = (x - y + N) = \{t + N | t \in x - y\}$ . So  $x + N = y + N$  iff  $N = t + N$  for some  $t \in x - y$ .

Also we have  $(x + N) + (y + N) = N$  iff  $x + y + N = N$  iff  $x + y \subseteq N$ .

**Lemma 1.5** *Let  $M, N$  be hypermodules and  $K$  a subhypermodule of both of them. Then  $M/K = N/K$  if and only if  $M = N$ .*

Proof. If  $M = N$ , then trivially  $M/K = N/K$ .

We prove the converse. Suppose that  $M/K = N/K$  and  $m \in M$ . Then  $m + K \in M/K = N/K$  and so there exists an element  $n \in N$  such that  $m + K = n + K$ . Now by above Remark,  $K = t + K$  for some  $t \in m - n$  and so  $t \in K$ . Since  $t \in m - n$ , we have  $m \in t + n$ . Now  $t \in K \subseteq N$  and  $n \in N$ . Therefore  $m \in t + n \subseteq N$ ; i.e.  $M \subseteq N$ . By a similar way we obtain  $N \subseteq M$ . Thus  $M = N$ .  $\square$

Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $X \leq Y \leq M, L \leq M$ . It is not difficult to see that  $\frac{Y}{X} + \frac{L+X}{X} = \frac{L+Y}{X}$ . In particular if  $A, B, C$  are subhypermodules of  $M$  such that  $A + B = M$ , then  $\frac{A+C}{C} + \frac{B+C}{C} = \frac{M}{C}$ .

**Note.** Let  $M, N$  be hypermodules and  $A, B$  be subhypermodules of  $M, N$ , respectively. If  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is a homomorphism, then it is clear to see that

$f(A) = \{f(a)|a \in A\}$  is a subhypermodule of  $N$  and  $f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in M|f(x) \in B\}$  is a subhypermodule of  $M$ .

**Proposition 1.6** *Let  $M, N$  be hypermodules and  $f : M \rightarrow N$  a homomorphism. For two subhypermodules  $A, B$  of  $M$  we have the following statements*

1.  $f(a + b) \subseteq f(A + B)$  for every  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ .
2.  $f(A + B) = f(A) + f(B)$ .
3.  $\text{Ker}(f) = \{m \in M|f(m) = 0\}$  is a subhypermodule of  $M$ .
4.  $\text{Im}(f) = \{f(m)|m \in M\}$  is a subhypermodule of  $N$ .

*Proof.*

1. Since  $a + b \subseteq A + B$ , simply we can conclude  $f(a + b) \subseteq f(A + B)$ .
2. It is clear that  $f(A) \subseteq f(A+B)$  and  $f(B) \subseteq f(A+B)$ , so  $f(A)+f(B) \subseteq f(A+B)$ .

Now let  $x \in f(A + B)$ . Then there exists an element  $t \in A + B$  such that  $x = f(t)$ . So there exist  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  such that  $t \in a + b$  and hence  $x = f(t) \in f(a + b) = f(a) + f(b) \subseteq f(A) + f(B)$ . This complete the proof.

Numbers 3 and 4 follows immediately from last note. □

## 2 Small subhypermodules

In this section we introduce a class of subhypermodules and proceed to get some suitable results about this kind of hypermodules.

**Definition 2.1** Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $N \leq M$ , then  $N$  is called a *small subhypermodule* of  $M$  (denoted by  $N \ll M$ ) if  $N + K \neq M$  for all proper subhypermodule  $K$  of  $M$ ; or equivalently  $N + K = M$  implies  $K = M$  for every  $K \leq M$ .

For two hypermodules  $M, N$ , an epimorphism  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is called a *small epimorphism* if  $\text{Ker}(f) \ll M$ .

**Example 2.2** 1. Consider the hypermodule  $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{4\mathbb{Z}}$  on hyperring  $\mathbb{Z}$  with trivial hyperoperations. Then  $\frac{2\mathbb{Z}}{4\mathbb{Z}} \ll \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{4\mathbb{Z}}$ .

2. The hypermodule  $\mathbb{Z}$  with trivial hyperoperations on  $\mathbb{Z}$  has no small subhypermodules, because for every subhypermodule  $n\mathbb{Z}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , there exists a subhypermodule  $m\mathbb{Z} \neq \mathbb{Z}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n\mathbb{Z} + m\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}$ ; by getting a natural number  $m \neq 1$  such that  $(m, n) = 1$ .

3. Consider the hypermodule  $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}$  with trivial hyperoperations on hyperring  $\mathbb{Z}$ . We have  $\frac{3\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}} + \frac{4\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}} = \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}$ . So neither  $\frac{3\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}$  nor  $\frac{4\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}$  are small in  $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}$ . But it is not difficult to see that  $\frac{6\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}} \ll \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}$ .

**Proposition 2.3** *Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $K$  a subhypermodule of  $M$ . Then the following statements are equivalent*

1.  $K \ll M$ ;
2. The natural epimorphism  $\pi : M \rightarrow M/K$  is a small epimorphism;
3. For every hypermodule  $N$  and every homomorphism  $f : N \rightarrow M$ ,

$$\text{Im}(f) + K = M \text{ implies } \text{Im}(f) = M.$$

Proof. Straightforward. □

**Proposition 2.4** *Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $X \leq Y$ ,  $N$  be subhypermodules of  $M$ . Then*

1.  $Y \ll M$  if and only if  $X \ll M$  and  $Y/X \ll M/X$ .
2.  $N + Y \ll M$  if and only if  $N \ll M$  and  $Y \ll M$ .

Proof. 1. Suppose that  $Y \ll M$  and  $X + L = M$  for some  $L \leq M$ . Since  $X \leq Y$ , we have  $M = X + L \leq Y + L \leq M$ . Hence  $M = Y + L$  and so  $L = M$  as  $Y \ll M$ . Now suppose that  $Y/X + L/X = M/X$  for some  $L \leq M$ . Then  $M = L + Y$  by Lemma 1.5. Thus  $M = L$  and so  $M/X = L/X$ ; i.e.  $Y/X \ll M/X$ .

For converse suppose that  $X \ll M$  and  $Y/X \ll M/X$ . Let  $M = Y + K$  for some  $K \leq M$ . Then

$$\frac{M}{X} = \frac{Y + K}{X} = \frac{Y}{X} + \frac{K + X}{X}.$$

Since  $Y/X \ll M/X$ , then  $\frac{M}{X} = \frac{K+X}{X}$  and hence  $M = K + X$  by Lemma 1.5. Now since  $X \ll M$ , we have  $K = M$ . This complete the proof.

2. Suppose that  $N + Y \ll M$ . Since  $N \leq N + Y$  and  $Y \leq N + Y$ , simply we can conclude that  $N \ll M$  and  $Y \ll M$ .

For converse suppose that  $N \ll M$  and  $Y \ll M$  and  $M = L + N + Y$  for some  $L \leq M$ . By hypothesis we have  $M = L + N$  and then  $M = L$ ; i.e.  $N + Y \ll M$ . □

The following corollary is an immediate result from Proposition 2.4.

**Corollary 2.5** *Let  $M$  be any hypermodule. Any finite sum of small subhypermodules of  $M$  is again small in  $M$ .*

**Proposition 2.6** *Let  $M, N$  be hypermodules and  $K$  a subhypermodule of  $M$ . Moreover let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be a homomorphism. If  $K \ll M$ , then  $f(K) \ll N$ .*

Proof. Suppose that  $f(K) + L = N$  for some subhypermodule  $L$  of  $N$ . We first show that  $K + f^{-1}(L) = M$ . To see this, let  $m \in M$ . Then  $f(m) \in N = f(K) + L$  and so there exist elements  $k \in K$  and  $l \in L$  such that  $f(m) = f(k) + l$ . Hence  $l \in f(m) - f(k) = f(m - k)$ . This causes the existence an element  $t \in m - k$  such that  $l = f(t)$ . Since  $t \in m - k$ , so  $m \in t + k = f^{-1}(l) + k \subseteq f^{-1}(L) + K$ . Therefore  $M \subseteq f^{-1}(L) + K$  and finally  $M = f^{-1}(L) + K$ . Now since  $K \ll M$ , we have  $f^{-1}(L) = M$ .

This implies  $K \leq f^{-1}(L)$  and then  $f(K) \leq L$ . Now  $N = f(K) + L = L$ ; i.e.  $f(K) \ll N$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.7** *Let  $M$  be hypermodule and  $K \leq N \leq M$  such that  $K \ll N$ . Then  $K \ll M$ .*

Proof. Consider the inclusion map  $\iota : N \rightarrow M$  and apply Proposition 2.6.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.8** *Let  $M, N$  be hypermodules. Then an epimorphism  $g : M \rightarrow N$  is small if and only if for every homomorphism  $f$ , if  $gf$  is epimorphism, then  $f$  is epimorphism.*

Proof. Suppose that  $g$  is a small epimorphism; i.e.  $Ker(g) \ll M$ . Let  $L$  be a hypermodule and  $f : L \rightarrow M$  be a homomorphism such that  $gf$  is epic. First we show that  $Im(f) + Ker(g) = M$ . To see this let  $m \in M$ , then  $g(m) \in N$ . Since  $gf$  is epic, there exists an element  $l \in L$  such that  $g(m) = gf(l) = g(f(l))$ . So  $0 \in g(m) - g(f(l)) = g(m - f(l))$  and hence there exists an element  $x \in m - f(l)$  such that  $g(x) = 0$ ; i.e.  $x \in Ker(g)$ . Now we have  $m \in x + f(l) \subseteq Ker(g) + Im(f)$  and consequently  $M = Im(f) + Ker(g)$ .

Now since  $Ker(g) \ll M$ , we have  $Im(f) = M$ ; i.e.  $f$  is epic.

For converse let  $Ker(g) + K = M$  for some subhypermodule  $K$  of  $M$ . Let  $\iota : K \rightarrow M$  be the inclusion map, then  $g\iota : K \rightarrow N$  is epic. Indeed let  $n \in N$ . Since  $g$  is epic, there exists  $m \in M$  such that  $n = g(m)$ . Since  $M = Ker(g) + K$ , so there exist  $x \in Ker(g)$  and  $k \in K$  such that  $m \in k + x$ . Thus  $g(m) \in g(k + x) = g(k) + g(x) = g(k) + 0 = \{g(k)\}$ ; i.e.  $g(m) = g(k) = g(\iota(k)) = g\iota(k)$ . This implies that  $g\iota$  is epic. Now by hypothesis  $\iota$  must be epic and so  $K = Im(\iota) = M$ ; i.e.  $Ker(g) \ll M$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.9** Let  $M$  be a hypermodule and  $N, K$  subhypermodules of  $M$ .

We say  $K$  and  $N$  are *independent*, if  $K \cap N = 0$ . If  $N, K$  are independent then  $N + K$  is denoted by  $N \oplus K$ .

Also a subhypermodule  $N$  of  $M$  is called a *direct summand* of  $M$  if  $M = N \oplus N'$  for some  $N' \leq M$ .

A hypermodule  $M$  is called *indecomposable* if whenever  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ , then  $M_1 = 0$  or  $M_2 = 0$ .

Let  $M$  be any hypermodule and  $A, B$  and  $C$  be subhypermodules of  $M$ . Then it need not be that  $A \cap (B + C) = (A \cap B) + (A \cap C)$ . (see the following example)

**Example 2.10** Let  $M = \{(x, y) | x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  with trivial hyperoperations on hyper-ring  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Also let

$$A = \{(x, x) | x \in \mathbb{Z}\}, B = \{(x, 0) | x \in \mathbb{Z}\} \text{ and } C = \{(0, x) | x \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Then  $A, B$  and  $C$  are subhypermodules of  $M$  and we have

$$A \cap (B + C) = A \neq 0 = (A \cap B) + (A \cap C).$$

In next proposition we add a condition that the above equality will be satisfied.

**Lemma 2.11** (*modularity law*) Suppose that  $M$  is a hypermodule and  $A, B, C$  are subhypermodules of  $M$  such that  $B \leq A$ . Then  $A \cap (B + C) = B + (A \cap C)$ .

Proof. Clearly  $B + (A \cap C) \subseteq A \cap (B + C)$ .

Conversely let  $x \in A \cap (B + C)$ . Then  $x = a \in b + c$  for some  $a \in A, b \in B$  and  $c \in C$ . So we have  $c \in a - b \subseteq A$ , and hence  $c \in A \cap C$ . But  $x \in b + c \subseteq B + A \cap C$ . Thus  $A \cap (B + C) \subseteq B + (A \cap C)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.12** Suppose that  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$  is a hypermodule where  $M_1, M_2$  are subhypermodules of  $M$ . Then for each  $m \in M$  there exist a unique element  $m_1 \in M_1$  and a unique element  $m_2 \in M_2$  such that  $m \in m_1 + m_2$ .

Proof. Obviously, for each  $m \in M$  there exist  $m_1 \in M_1$  and  $m_2 \in M_2$ , such that  $m \in m_1 + m_2$ . Now suppose that  $m \in m_1 + m_2$  and  $m \in n_1 + n_2$  for some  $m_1, n_1 \in M_1$  and  $m_2, n_2 \in M_2$ . Thus we have  $0 \in m - m \subseteq (m_1 + m_2) - (n_1 + n_2) = (m_1 - n_1) + (m_2 - n_2)$  and so there exist  $x \in m_1 - n_1 \subseteq M_1$  and  $y \in m_2 - n_2 \subseteq M_2$  such that  $0 \in x + y$ . Hence  $x = -y \in M_1 \cap M_2 = \langle 0 \rangle$ ; i.e.,  $0 \in m_1 - n_1$  and  $0 \in m_2 - n_2$  that shows  $m_1 = n_1$  and  $m_2 = n_2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.13** Let  $M$  be a hypermodule,  $N$  a direct summand of  $M$  and  $K$  a small subhypermodule of  $M$  contained in  $N$ . Then  $K$  is small in  $N$ .

Proof. Suppose that  $M = N \oplus N'$  for some  $N' \leq M$ . Also let  $N = K + L$  for some  $L \leq N$ . Therefore  $M = (K + L) \oplus N' = K + (L \oplus N')$ . Since  $K \ll M$ , we conclude  $M = L \oplus N'$ . Now by modularity law we have  $N = L + (N \cap N') = L + 0 = L$ ; i.e.,  $K \ll N$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.14** *Let  $K_1 \leq M_1 \leq M$  and  $K_2 \leq M_2 \leq M$  be hypermodules such that  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ . Then*

$$K_1 \oplus K_2 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad K_1 \ll M_1 \quad \text{and} \quad K_2 \ll M_2.$$

Proof. Suppose that  $K_1 \ll M_1$  and  $K_2 \ll M_2$ , then by Corollary 2.7 we have  $K_1 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2$  and also  $K_2 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2$ . Now by Proposition 2.4(ii), we deduce that  $K_1 \oplus K_2 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2$ .

For converse, suppose that  $K_1 \oplus K_2 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2$ . By Proposition 2.4 (i), we have  $K_1 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2$  and  $K_2 \ll M_1 \oplus M_2$ . Now since  $K_1 \leq M_1$  and  $K_2 \leq M_2$ , applying Proposition 2.13 the proof will be completed.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.15** *Let  $M$  be a non-zero hypermodule and  $K$  be a small subhypermodule of  $M$ . If  $\frac{M}{K}$  is indecomposable then so is  $M$ .*

Proof. Suppose that  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ . Then

$$\frac{M}{K} = \frac{M_1 + K}{K} \oplus \frac{M_2 + K}{K}.$$

Since  $M/K$  is indecomposable, either  $\frac{M_1+K}{K} = \frac{M}{K}$  or  $\frac{M_2+K}{K} = \frac{M}{K}$  and hence either  $M_1 + K = M$  or  $M_2 + K = M$ . Now since  $K \ll M$ , we conclude that either  $M_1 = M$  or  $M_2 = M$ , as required.  $\square$

**Definition 2.16** Let  $M, N$  and  $K$  be hypermodules.

We say the sequence  $0 \rightarrow K \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} N \rightarrow 0$  is an *exact sequence* if,  $f$  is a monomorphism,  $g$  is an epimorphism and  $Im(f) = Ker(g)$ .

**Proposition 2.17** *Assume that the following diagram of hypermodules is commutative such that both rows are exact sequences and  $\alpha$  is epic;*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & C & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & B' & \xrightarrow{g'} & C' & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

*If  $g$  is small, then so is  $g'$ .*

Proof. Suppose that  $Ker(g') + L' = B'$  for some  $L' \leq B'$ . Since  $\alpha$  is epic, we have  $(f' \circ \alpha)(A) = f'(\alpha(A)) = f'(A') = Im(f') = Ker(g')$ . Now

$$Ker(g') = (f' \circ \alpha)(A) = (\beta \circ f)(A) = \beta(f(A)) = \beta(Im(f)) = \beta(Ker(g)),$$

by the commutativity of diagram. So  $\beta(Ker(g)) + L' = B'$ . From the last statement we can show that  $Ker(g) + \beta^{-1}(L') = \beta^{-1}(B') = B$ . To see this let  $x \in B$ , then

$\beta(x) \in B' = \beta(Ker(g)) + L'$  and so there exist  $y \in Ker(g)$  and  $l' \in L'$  such that  $\beta(x) \in \beta(y) + l'$ . Therefore  $l' \in \beta(x) - \beta(y) = \beta(x - y)$ , and hence there exists an element  $t \in x - y$  such that  $l' = \beta(t)$ . So  $t = \beta^{-1}(l') \in \beta^{-1}(L')$ . Now  $x \in t + y \subseteq \beta^{-1}(L') + Ker(g)$ . Hence  $B \subseteq \beta^{-1}(L') + Ker(g)$ . Also it is clear that  $\beta^{-1}(L') + Ker(g) \subseteq B$ . Since  $Ker(g) \ll B$ , we conclude that  $B = \beta^{-1}(L')$  and hence  $L' = B'$ ; that is  $Ker(g') \ll B'$ .  $\square$

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