

# Lecture 4. Modules

$R$  a ring.  $R$ -module: abelian group  $M$ , written additively, with scalar mult.  $R \times M \rightarrow M$  s.t.

$$\alpha(m_1 + m_2) = \alpha m_1 + \alpha m_2$$

$$\alpha(\beta m) = (\alpha\beta)m$$

$$1 \cdot m = m.$$

E.g. if  $R$  is a field, a module is a vector space. A  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module is an ab. group.

Submodule.  $N \subset M$  ~~the~~ subgroup closed under scalar mult.

Ex.  $R$  is an  $R$ -module, submodules = ideals or  $\alpha \subset R$  ideal,  $M$   $R$ -module  $\Rightarrow \alpha M \subset M$  submodule

Annihilator of  $m \in M$   $\text{Ann}(m) = \{x \in R \mid xm = 0\}$ .

$\text{Ann}(M) = \{x \in R \mid \forall m \in M \quad xm = 0\}$ . These are ideals.

Homomorphisms:  $M, N$   $R$ -modules.  $\varphi: M \rightarrow N$  homom. of groups.

Def.  $\varphi$  is a module homom. if it commutes with scalar mult, i.e.  $\varphi(\alpha m) = \alpha \varphi(m)$ .

$\text{Ker } \varphi \subset M$ ,  $\text{Im } \varphi \subset N$  submodules.

Isom = bijective homom. In this case  $\varphi^{-1}$  is also a homom.

Set of homomorphisms  $\text{Hom}_R(\alpha, \beta) = \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ . This is also an  $R$ -module.

Endomorphisms. Homom.  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$ .

$\text{Hom}(M, M)$  also denoted  $\text{End}_R(M)$  or  $\text{End}(M)$

E.g.  $\forall x \in R \quad \mu_x: M \rightarrow M \quad \mu_x(m) = xm. \quad \mu_x \in \text{End}(M)$ .

So have  $\mu_R: R \rightarrow \text{End}_R(M)$ . (note that the latter is noncommutative). Also  $\mu: R \rightarrow \text{End}_R M$  is the same thing as a module structure.

Faithful module:  $\mu_R$  is injective, or  $\text{Ann}(M) = 0$ .

E.g.  $R$  is a faithful module ( $x \cdot 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$ ).

Algebras:  $\varphi: R^* \rightarrow R'$ , so  $R'$  is an  $R^*$ -algebra.

Then any  $R'$ -module is also an  $R$ -module via restriction of scalars. In partic,  $R'$  is an  $R$ -module.

Suppose  $R' = R/\alpha$ . Then an  $R$ -module  $M$  comes from an  $R'$ -module (descends to  $R'$ ) if  $\alpha M = 0$ .

Subalgebra:  $R'' \subset R'$  subring closed under scalar mult. by  $R$ .  $R''$  generated by  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in R'$  is the smallest subal. containing them.

We denoted it by  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . If  $R'' = R'$ , say  $R'$  is gen. by  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Note we can have relations between  $x_i$ .

Fin. generated algebra over  $R$ :  $R = R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Residue modules. (quotients).  $R$  ring,  $M' \subset M$  modules.  $M/M'$  is an  $R$ -module.

$\varphi: M \rightarrow N$  homomorphism. Then  $\varphi$  descends to

$\bar{\varphi}: M/M' \rightarrow N \iff \varphi/M' = 0$ .

First Noether isom

$\bar{\varphi}: M/\ker \varphi \xrightarrow{\cong} N$  injective  $\bar{\varphi}: M/\ker \varphi \rightarrow \text{Im } \varphi$  isom.

So  $M/M'$  has a UMP:  $\text{Hom}(M/M', N) = \{\varphi: M \rightarrow N \mid \varphi/M' = 0\}$ .

Cyclic modules:  $M$  cyclic if  $\exists m \in M$   
 $M = Rm$ . Then  $R/\text{Ann}(M) \cong M$ . So cyclic modules  
with fixed  $m$  are exactly  $R/I$ ,  $0 \in R$  ideal.

Noether isomorphisms:  $L \subset M \subset N$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} N & \longrightarrow & N/M \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \beta \\ N/L & \longrightarrow & N/L / M/L \end{array}$$

second Noether isom.

$L, M \subset N$ .  $L+M = \{l+m, l \in L, m \in M\}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L & \longrightarrow & L/(L \cap M) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \gamma \\ L+M & \longrightarrow & (L+M)/M \end{array}$$

- third Noether isom.

Cokernels, coimages.  $R$  a ring  $\alpha: M \rightarrow N$  linear  
map (homom).

$$\text{Coker } \alpha = N/\text{Im } \alpha \quad \text{Coim } (\alpha) = M/\text{Ker } \alpha.$$

$\text{Coim } (\alpha) \cong \text{Im } (\alpha)$ . by first Noether isom.

UMP of cokernel:  $\text{Hom}(\text{Coker } \alpha, P) =$   
 $= \{ \varphi \in \text{Hom}(N, P) \mid \varphi \circ \alpha = 0 \}$ .

Free modules. A set  $M$  an  $R$ -module,

$m_\lambda \in M, \lambda \in \Lambda$ . Say  $m_\lambda$  generate  $M$  if  $M = \left\{ \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} a_\lambda m_\lambda \mid a_\lambda \in R \right\}$   
almost all summands are 0. Similarly define

submodule generated by  $m_\lambda$  (if it is not  
the whole  $m_\lambda$ ).

$\{m_\lambda\}$  linearly independent if  $\sum a_\lambda m_\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow a_\lambda = 0$ .

$M$  free if it has a lin. indep. set of generators (a free basis). E.g. a vector space is always free.

$M$  is fin gen. if it has a finite set of gen. We'll see below that any two bases have the same number of elements.

So  $M$  free of rank  $l$  if  $M$  has a basis of  $l$  elements. Write  $\text{rank}(M) = l$ .

Ex.  $R^{\oplus \Lambda} = R\Lambda$  - restricted vectors

$(x_\lambda) \rightarrow x_\lambda \in R, x_\lambda = 0$  for almost all  $\lambda$ .  
Has standard basis  $e_\lambda = (0 \dots 1 \dots 0)$ .

$\text{Hom}(R\Lambda, M) = \text{Maps}(\Lambda, M)$ . (UMP of  $R\Lambda$ ).

$\Psi: R\Lambda \rightarrow M$        $\Psi(\lambda) = m_\lambda$

- $\Psi$  surjective  $\Leftrightarrow m_\lambda$  gen.  $M$
- injective  $\Leftrightarrow m_\lambda$  lin. indep.
- bijective  $\Leftrightarrow m_\lambda$  is a free basis.

$M$  free of rk  $l \Leftrightarrow M \cong R^l$ .

Ex.  $\mathbb{Q}$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not free, not f-gen. as a module or even as an algebra

Thm.  $R$  a PID,  $E$  a free  $R$ -module,  $e_\lambda$  free basis,  $F \subseteq E$  submodule, then  $F$  is free which has a basis indexed by a subset of  $\Lambda$ .

exists by Zermelo theorem

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Proof. Well orders  $\Lambda$ . For all  $\lambda$ , let  $\pi_\lambda: F \rightarrow R$  be the  $\lambda$ -th projection.  $\forall \mu$ , let  $E_\mu = \bigoplus_{\lambda \leq \mu} R e_\lambda$ ,  $F_\mu = F \cap E_\mu$ . Then  $\pi_\mu(F_\mu) = \langle a_\mu \rangle \subset R$ , as  $R$  is a PID. Choose  $f_\mu \in F_\mu$  with  $\pi_\mu(f_\mu) = a_\mu$ . Set  $\Lambda_0 = \{ \mu \in \Lambda \mid a_\mu \neq 0 \}$ . We will show that  $\{f_\mu \mid \mu \in \Lambda_0\}$  is a free basis of  $F$ .

First show that  $\{f_\mu \mid \mu \in \Lambda_0\}$  are linearly independent. Suppose  $\sum_{\mu \in \Lambda_0} c_\mu f_\mu = 0$  for some  $c_\mu \in R$ . Let  $\Lambda_1 = \{ \mu \in \Lambda_0 \mid c_\mu \neq 0 \}$  (finite set). Suppose  $\Lambda_1 \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $\mu_1$  be the greatest elem. of  $\Lambda_1$ . Then  $\pi_{\mu_1}(f_\mu) = 0$  for  $\mu < \mu_1$ , as  $f_\mu \in E_\mu$ .

So  $\pi_{\mu_1}(\sum c_\mu f_\mu) = c_{\mu_1} a_{\mu_1}$ . But  $c_{\mu_1} \neq 0$

and  $a_{\mu_1} \neq 0$ , a contradiction. So  $\{f_\mu\}$  are lin. ind.

Now we prove the spanning property of  $f_\mu$ . Note that  $F = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda_0} F_\lambda$ . For  $\lambda \in \Lambda_0$ , let

$\Lambda_\lambda = \{ \mu \in \Lambda_0 \mid \mu \leq \lambda \}$ . Suppose  $\bar{\lambda}$  is

least such that  $\{f_\mu\}_{\mu \in \Lambda_\lambda}$  does not generate  $F_\lambda$ . This exists because our

order is a well-order. Given  $f \in F_\lambda$ ,

let  $f = \sum_{\mu \leq \lambda} c_\mu f_\mu$ ,  $c_\mu \in R$ , so  $\pi_\lambda(f) = c_\lambda a_\lambda$ .

But  $\pi_\lambda(F_\lambda) = \langle a_\lambda \rangle$ . So  $c_\lambda = b_\lambda a_\lambda$  for some  $b_\lambda \in R$ .

Let  $g = f - b_\lambda f_\lambda$ . Then  $g \in F_\lambda$ ,  $\pi_\lambda(g) = 0$ . So

$g \in F_\nu$  for some  $\nu \in \Lambda_0$  with  $\nu < \lambda$ .

Hence  $g = \sum_{\mu \in \Lambda_0} b_\mu f_\mu$  for some  $b_\mu \in R$ .

So  $f = \sum_{\mu \in \Lambda_2} b_\mu f_\mu$ , a contradiction.

Thus,  $\{f_\mu\}$  is a basis, as desired.

Ex.  $R = \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ ,  $\langle x, y \rangle$  is not a free module.

Direct product:  $\prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} M_\lambda = (m_\lambda)$  (vectors)

Direct sum:  $\bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda} M_\lambda = (m_\lambda)$ , almost all are 0. (restricted vectors).  
 $\prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} M_\lambda$ .

but if  $\Lambda$  is finite, they are the same.

$$\text{Hom}(L, \prod_{\lambda} M_\lambda) = \prod_{\lambda} \text{Hom}(L, M_\lambda)$$

$$\text{Hom}(\bigoplus_{\lambda} M_\lambda, L) = \prod_{\lambda} \text{Hom}(M_\lambda, L)$$