

Reading: Dummit-Foote Ch 10.1.

Please review the Math 122 Course Information posted on our webpage:
<http://web.stanford.edu/~jchw/2015Math122>.

Summary of definitions and main results

Definitions we've covered: left R -module, right R -module, R -submodule, endomorphism, free R -module of rank n , annihilator of a submodule, annihilator of a (right) ideal.

Main results: Two equivalent definitions of an R -module; the submodule criterion, equivalence of vector spaces over a field \mathbb{F} and \mathbb{F} -modules; equivalence of abelian groups and \mathbb{Z} -modules; if I annihilates an R -module M then M inherits a (R/I) -module structure; structure of an $\mathbb{F}[x]$ -module for a field \mathbb{F} .

Warm-Up Questions

The “warm-up” questions do not need to be submitted (and won't be graded), however, you are responsible for understanding their solutions.

- Let R be a ring with 1 and M a left R -module. Prove the following:
 - $0m = 0$ for all m in M .
 - $(-1)m = -m$ for all m in M .
 - If $r \in R$ has a left inverse, and $m \in M$, then $rm = 0$ only if $m = 0$.
- Show that if R is a commutative ring, then each left R -module defines a right R -module and vice versa.
- (Restriction of scalars).** Let M be an R -module, and let S be any subring of R . Explain how the R -module structure on M also gives M the structure of an S -module. This operation is called *restriction of scalars* from R to the subring S .
- Verify that the axioms for a vector space over a field \mathbb{F} are equivalent to the axioms for an \mathbb{F} -module.
- Verify that the axioms for an abelian group M are equivalent to the axioms for a \mathbb{Z} -module structure on M .
- Let \mathbb{F} be a field, and x a formal variable. Prove that modules V over the polynomial ring $\mathbb{F}[x]$ are precisely \mathbb{F} -vector spaces V with a choice of linear map $T : V \rightarrow V$. Show by example that different maps T give different $\mathbb{F}[x]$ -module structures on V .
- Prove the *submodule criterion*: If M is a left R -module and N a subset of M , then N is a left R -submodule if and only if:
 - $N \neq \emptyset$.
 - $x + ry \in N$ for all $x, y \in N$ and all $r \in R$.
- Consider R as a module over itself. Prove that the R -submodules of the module R are precisely the left ideals I of R .
- Let R^n be the free module of rank n over R . Prove that the following are submodules:
 - $I_1 \times I_2 \times \cdots \times I_n$, with I_i a left ideal of R .
 - The i^{th} direct summand R of R^n .
 - $\{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in R^n \mid a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n = 0\}$.

10. Let M be a left R -module. Show that the intersection of a (nonempty) collection of submodules is a submodule.
11. (a) Let M be an R -module and N an R -submodule. Prove that the annihilator $\text{ann}(N)$ is a 2-sided ideal of R .
- (b) Let M be an R -module and I a right ideal of R . Show that $\text{ann}(I)$ is an R -submodule of M .
- (c) Compute the annihilator of the ideal $3\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ in the \mathbb{Z} -module $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/15\mathbb{Z}$.
12. For p prime, an *elementary abelian p -group* is an abelian group G where $pg = 0$ for all $g \in G$. Prove that an elementary abelian p -group is a $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -module, equivalently, an \mathbb{F}_p -vector space.

Assignment Questions

The following questions should be handed in.

- Let M be an abelian group (with addition), and R a ring.
 - Define an *endomorphism* of M , and show that the set of endomorphisms $\text{End}(M)$ of M form a ring under composition and pointwise addition.
 - Prove that a left R -module structure on M is equivalent to the data of a homomorphism of rings $R \rightarrow \text{End}(M)$. Use this result to formulate an alternative definition of a left R -module.
 - What should the analogous definition be for right R -modules?
- Let M be an R -module, and $\phi : S \rightarrow R$ a homomorphism of rings. Show how the map ϕ can be used to define an S -module structure on M . Explain why *restriction of scalars* is a special case of this construction. (Warm up Problem 3.)
- Let M be a \mathbb{Z} -module.
 - Fix an integer $n > 1$. Under what conditions on M does the action of \mathbb{Z} on M induce an action of $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ on M ?
 - Under what conditions on M can the action of \mathbb{Z} on M be extended to an action of \mathbb{Q} on M ?
- Let V be a module over the polynomial ring $\mathbb{F}[x]$. Classify all submodules of V , given that
 - $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$, $V = \mathbb{R}^2$, and x acts by rotation by $\frac{\pi}{2}$.
 - $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$, $V = \mathbb{R}^2$, and x acts by orthogonal projection onto the horizontal axis in \mathbb{R}^2 .
 - \mathbb{F} any field, $V = \mathbb{F}^2$, and x acts by the scalar matrix cI_2 for some $c \in \mathbb{F}$. (Here I_2 denotes the 2×2 identity matrix).
 - $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$, $V = \mathbb{C}^3$, and x acts by a diagonalizable matrix with three distinct eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 , and λ_3 . (Recall: A matrix is *diagonalizable* iff it has a basis of eigenvectors, equivalently, iff it is conjugate to a diagonal matrix.)
- For each of the following, prove the statement or find a counterexample. Let M be an R -module, I a (right) ideal of R , and N a R -submodule.
 - If $\text{ann}(N) = I$, then $\text{ann}(I) = N$.
 - If $\text{ann}(I) = N$, then $\text{ann}(N) = I$.