

1. Recall that a *group action* of a group G on a set S is a map $G \times S \rightarrow S$ such that

$$g \cdot (h \cdot a) = (gh) \cdot a \text{ for all } g, h \in G, a \in S \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \cdot a = a \text{ for all } a \in S.$$

Let M be an R -module. Show that this structure defines a group action of the multiplicative group R^\times on the set M .

2. Let $M_1 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq M_3 \subseteq \dots$ be an ascending chain of nested submodules of an R -module M . Show that $\bigcup_i M_i$ is a submodule of M .

3. Classify all submodules of the $\mathbb{C}[x]$ -module ...

(a) \mathbb{C}^2 with an action of x by the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

(b) $\mathbb{C}[x]/(x - \pi)^2$.

(c) \mathbb{C}^3 where x acts by a diagonalizable matrix with eigenvalues 1, 1, 2.

4. Classify the subgroups of the abelian group \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} .

5. Let R and S be commutative rings. Prove or disprove: For any ideal I in the product ring $R \times S$, I can be expressed as a product $I_R \times I_S$ where I_R is an ideal in R , and I_S an ideal in S .

6. Let M be an R -module.

(a) Prove that its annihilator $\text{ann}(M)$ is a two-sided ideal of R , and that there is a well-defined action of $R/\text{ann}(M)$ on M .

(b) Prove that this action is faithful.

7. Let M be an R -module, I a (right) ideal of R , and N a R -submodule. Prove the following statement, or find a counterexample:

$$\text{If } \text{ann}(I) = N, \text{ then } \text{ann}(N) = I.$$

If the statement is false, determine whether you can replace the second equality $=$ with either \subseteq or \supseteq to make a true statement.

8. Suppose that M, N are modules over a ring R , and that $S \subset R$ is a subring. Recall that M and N inherit S -module structures.

(a) Show that $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) \subseteq \text{Hom}_S(M, N)$.

(b) Find an example of a ring R , a proper subring $S \subset R$, and nonzero R -modules M and N so that $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) = \text{Hom}_S(M, N)$.

(c) Find an example of a rings $S \subseteq R$, and R -modules M and N so that $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) \neq \text{Hom}_S(M, N)$.

9. Let A, B, C, X be R -modules. Prove or disprove: if $A = B \oplus C$, then $(A \cap X) = (B \cap X) \oplus (C \cap X)$.

10. Let M be an R -module.

(a) Define $\text{Tor}(M)$.

(b) Show by example that if R is not commutative, then $\text{Tor}(M)$ may not be a submodule of M .

11. Let R be an integral domain, and M an R -module. Prove that $M/\text{Tor}(M)$ is torsion-free.

12. (a) Let \mathbb{F} be a field. Let V be an $\mathbb{F}[x]$ module where x acts by a linear transformation T . Under what conditions will an \mathbb{F} -linear map $S : V \rightarrow V$ be an element of $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}[x]}(V)$?

(b) Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and consider R as a module over itself. As an abelian group, $M = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}^2 under the identification $a + b\sqrt{2}$ with $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$. Show that $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M)$ is the matrix ring $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z})$, and identify the subset of matrices $\text{End}_R(M) \subseteq M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z})$ that commute with the action of R .

13. State and prove the first isomorphism theorem for R -modules.
14. Give an example of an integral domain R and two non-isomorphic finitely generated torsion R -modules with the same annihilators.
15. Let R be a commutative ring.
 - (a) Suppose R has the property that every ideal is principal. Show that every R -submodule of the module R is cyclic.
 - (b) Show additionally that if N is quotient of the R -module R , then every submodule of N is cyclic.
 - (c) Let R be PID and $R \rightarrow S$ a surjective ring map. Show that every ideal of S is principal. Show by example that S need not be an integral domain.
16. Let V be a $\mathbb{C}[x]$ -module such that V is finite dimensional as a vector space over \mathbb{C} . Prove that V is a torsion module.
17. Let $\phi : M \rightarrow N$ be a homomorphism of R -modules. Let I be a right ideal of R . Let $\text{ann}_M(I)$ denote the annihilator of I in M , and $\text{ann}_N(I)$ the annihilator of I in N . Prove or find a counterexample: $\phi(\text{ann}_M(I)) \subseteq \text{ann}_N(I)$.
18. Let M and N be R -modules, and I an ideal of R contained in $\text{ann}(M)$ and $\text{ann}(N)$. Show that any map of R -modules $\phi : M \rightarrow N$ is also a map of (R/I) -modules. Conclude that $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{R/I}(M, N)$.
19. Let R be a ring and $S \subseteq R$ a subring. An R -module M has the structure of an S -module under restriction of scalars. Show that if M is finitely generated as an S -module, then it is finitely generated as an R -module. Is the converse true?
20.
 - (a) If $a \in R$, prove that $Ra \cong R/\text{ann}(a)$, where $\text{ann}(a)$ denotes the annihilator of the left ideal generated by a .
 - (b) Let M be an R -module. For $a, b \in M$, let $A = \{a, b\}$. Prove or disprove: $RA \cong R/I$, where I is the annihilator of the submodule generated by a and b .
21. Let M be an R -module with submodules A and B . Prove that the map $A \times B \rightarrow A + B$ is an isomorphism if and only if $A \cap B = \{0\}$.
22. Give an example of a finitely generated R -module M and a submodule that is not finitely generated.
23.
 - (a) Let R be an integral domain. An R -module M is *torsion* if $M = \text{Tor}(M)$, that is, for every $m \in M$ there is some nonzero $r \in R$ so that $rm = 0$. Let A be a finitely generated R -module and B a submodule. Show that A/B is torsion if and only if there is some nonzero $r \in R$ so that $rA \subseteq B$.
 - (b) Show by example that this result can fail without the assumption that A is finitely generated. (Hint: Consider the \mathbb{Z} -module \mathbb{Q}).
24. Let S be the set of all sequences of integers (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots) that are nonzero in only finitely many components (in other words, all functions $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ with finite support). Verify that S is a ring (without identity) under componentwise addition and multiplication. Is S a finitely generated S -module?
25. Let R be a ring.
 - (a) Give the definition of a *free* R -module on a set A .
 - (b) Given a set A , explain how to construct a free R -module $F(A)$ on A .
 - (c) State the universal property for a free R -module.
 - (d) Verify that $F(A)$ satisfies this universal property.
 - (e) Prove that the universal property determines $F(A)$ uniquely up to unique isomorphism.
 - (f) Show that F defines a covariant functor from the category of sets to the category of R -modules.

26. Let M be an R -module, and $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in M$.
- (a) Define what it means for x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n to be R -linearly independent. Show that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are R -linearly independent if and only if the following map is injective:

$$\begin{aligned} R^n = Re_1 \oplus Re_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus Re_n &\longrightarrow M \\ e_i &\longmapsto x_i \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Define what it means for $B = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ to be a *basis* for RB . Show that B is a basis for RB if and only if x_1, \dots, x_n are linearly independent.
27. Let R be a commutative ring. Show that every R -module is free if and only if R is a field.
28. Suppose that R is a ring and that S is a subring.
- (a) Suppose that F is a free R -module. Prove or disprove: F is a free S -module after restriction of scalars to S .
- (b) Suppose that M is an R -module that is free as an S -module after restriction to S . Prove or disprove: M must be a free R -module.
29. Let R be a commutative ring. If M and N are free R -modules, will the R -module $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ be free? If $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ is a free R -module, must M and N be free?
30. Let R be a commutative ring, and let A, B, M be R -modules. Prove isomorphisms of R -modules:
- (a) $\text{Hom}_R(A \oplus B, M) \cong \text{Hom}_R(A, M) \oplus \text{Hom}_R(B, M)$
- (b) $\text{Hom}_R(M, A \oplus B) \cong \text{Hom}_R(M, A) \oplus \text{Hom}_R(M, B)$
31. (**Coproducts of families**). Prove that the direct sum of R -modules $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$, along with the inclusions $f_i : M_i \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$, satisfies the following universal property: whenever there is a family of maps $\{g_i : M_i \rightarrow Z \mid i \in I\}$ there is a unique map u making the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & Z \\ & \nearrow g_i & \uparrow u \\ M_i & \xrightarrow{f_i} & \bigoplus M_i \end{array}$$

Explain why this universal property can be taken as the definition of the direct sum of R -modules.

32. State the definition of a category, and the definition of a covariant functor.
33. Let \mathcal{C} be a category. Prove that if $X \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$, then the identity morphism id_X is unique.
34. Prove that if $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, Y)$ is an isomorphism, then its inverse f^{-1} is unique.
35. (a) Prove that in the category of sets, a map is monic iff it is injective, and epic iff it is surjective.
- (b) Prove that in any category the composition of monomorphisms (respectively, epimorphisms, or isomorphisms) is a monomorphisms (respectively, an epimorphism, or isomorphism).
- (c) Prove that isomorphisms are both monic and epic.
36. Prove or disprove the following statements.
- (a) If $f : A \rightarrow B$ is a monomorphism (respectively, epimorphism) in a category \mathcal{C} , then the image of f under any (covariant) functor $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ must be a monomorphism (respectively, epimorphism) in \mathcal{D} .
- (b) If $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ is a short exact sequence in the category of R -modules, then its image under any (covariant) functor $R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$ must be an exact sequence.

37. Let $\underline{\text{Grp}}$ be the category of groups and group homomorphisms. Let Z be the map $Z : \underline{\text{Grp}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Grp}}$ that maps a group G to its centre $Z(G) = \{a \in G \mid ag = ga \ \forall g \in G\}$. Show that Z **cannot** be made into a functor by defining it to take a map of groups $f : G \rightarrow H$ to the restriction $f|_{Z(G)}$ of f to $Z(G)$, since $f(Z(G))$ may not be contained in $Z(H)$.
38. Let R be a ring. Consider the map on the objects of $R\text{-Mod}$ that takes an R -module M to the submodule $\text{ann}(R)$, and takes a morphism of R -modules $f : M \rightarrow N$ to its restriction $f|_{\text{ann}(R)}$ to the submodule $\text{ann}(R) \subseteq M$. Does this give a well-defined functor $R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$?
39. Let R be an integral domain. Prove or disprove: The map of R -modules that takes an R -module M to its R -submodule $\text{Tor}(M)$ and takes a map $f : M \rightarrow N$ to its restriction $f|_{\text{Tor}(M)}$ defines a covariant functor $R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$.
40. Let R be a ring. Define a functor on the category $R\text{-Mod}$ that takes an R -module M to the R -module $M \oplus M$. Verify that your construction is functorial.
41. An object I in a category \mathcal{C} is called *initial* if for every object X in \mathcal{C} there is a unique morphism $I \rightarrow X$ in \mathcal{C} . An object T is called *terminal* if for every object X in \mathcal{C} there is a unique morphism $X \rightarrow T$.
- Show that if \mathcal{C} has an initial object I , then this object is unique up to unique isomorphism. Similarly show that terminal objects are unique up to unique isomorphism.
 - Show that the empty set is initial in $\underline{\text{Set}}$, and that the singleton set is terminal in $\underline{\text{Set}}$.
 - Find an example of a category with no initial or terminal object.
 - Show that in $R\text{-Mod}$, the zero module is both initial and terminal.
 - Identify an initial object and a terminal object in the category of rings (with unit) and (unit-preserving) ring maps.
42. Let R be a ring and M a fixed R -module. Verify that the following maps each define a functor of categories. Explain how to define the functor on morphisms, determine whether it is covariant or contravariant, and verify that the map is functorial.

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_R(M, -) : R\text{-Mod} &\longrightarrow \underline{\text{Ab}} \\ N &\longmapsto \text{Hom}_R(M, N) \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_R(-, M) : R\text{-Mod} &\longrightarrow \underline{\text{Ab}} \\ N &\longmapsto \text{Hom}_R(N, M) \end{aligned}$$

43. There is a single nonzero map of abelian groups $f : \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$, and a single nonzero map $g : \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. Compute the images of these maps under the functors

$$(a) \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, -) \quad (b) \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}, -) \quad (c) \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(-, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \quad (d) \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(-, \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$$

This means, express the image of each abelian group as a cyclic abelian group, and determine how the induced maps f_* , f^* , g_* , g^* act on the generator of these cyclic groups.

44. Find two non-isomorphic extensions of the abelian groups $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ by $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$.
45. The rows of the following diagram are exact. Prove that if m and p are surjective and q is injective, then n is surjective.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} B & \xrightarrow{g} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & D & \xrightarrow{j} & E \\ \downarrow m & & \downarrow n & & \downarrow p & & \downarrow q \\ B' & \xrightarrow{s} & C' & \xrightarrow{t} & D' & \xrightarrow{u} & E' \end{array}$$

46. An R -submodule N of an R -module M has a *direct complement* P if $M \cong N \oplus P$ for P an R -submodule.
- Show that the \mathbb{Z} -submodule $2\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ does not have a direct complement.
 - Show that the \mathbb{Z} -submodule $(3) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ does not have a direct complement.
 - Show that the \mathbb{Z} -submodule $(3) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ *does* have a direct complement.
 - Let V be the $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ -module where x acts by the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Show that $U = \text{span}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ is a submodule of V with no direct complement.
 - Show that the $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ -submodule $(x) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^3)$ does not have a direct complement.
 - Show that every linear subspace of a vector space has a direct complement.
47. Re-interpret each of the parts of Problem (46) in terms of the splitting or non-splitting of a short exact sequence.
48. Let $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ be an exact sequence of R -modules.
- Show that if B is torsion, so are A and C .
 - Prove or find a counterexample: If A and C are torsion, then so is B .
 - Show by example that if B is torsion-free, then A is torsion-free, but C need not be.
 - Prove or find a counterexample: If A and C are torsion-free, then so is B .
49. Let M be a right R -module, and N a left R -module.
- Describe an explicit construction of the tensor product $M \otimes_R N$ as a quotient of abelian groups.
 - State the universal property of the tensor product.
 - Verify that the explicit construction satisfies the universal property.
50. Compute the following tensor products of abelian groups:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z} \quad (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \quad (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \quad (\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \\
 &(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \quad (m, n \text{ coprime}) \quad (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Z}/n^2\mathbb{Z})
 \end{aligned}$$