

Lecture 20

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We have now seen a description of injective Λ -modules as precisely the divisible modules for any PID (so e.g. \mathbb{Z} or $k[x]$, k a field). Next we use this to show that the category of Λ -modules has "enough" injectives for any ring Λ . This is essential for us to continue developing homological algebra beyond Ext^1 .

The discussion will be phrased in terms of injective cogenerators which are a dual notion to projective generators (Λ is a projective generator in $\Lambda\text{-Mod}$). However, we should be careful not to think of injectives as "cofree" in a naive sense:

Ex 1 A functor $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ with a left (right) adjoint preserves limits (colimits)

Ex 2 The forgetful functor $F: \Lambda\text{-Mod} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$ for a ring Λ has a left adjoint but no right adjoint (there are no "cofree" modules).

Let \mathcal{C} be a category with all products and coproducts (i.e. there limits & colimits exist).

Defⁿ We say \mathcal{C} has enough projectives if for every object X there exists an epimorphism $P \rightarrow X$ with P projective. Dually \mathcal{C} has enough injectives if for every X there is a monomorphism $X \rightarrow I$ with I injective.

Clearly $\Lambda\text{-Mod}$ has enough projectives for any ring Λ . Our aim now is to prove:

Theorem (Baer) For any ring Λ , $\Lambda\text{-Mod}$ has enough injectives.

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Defⁿ An object $G \in \mathcal{C}$ is a generator if $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(G, -): \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Set}}$ is faithful, that is, whenever $u, v: X \rightarrow Y$ are distinct (X, Y arbitrary) there is a morphism $g: G \rightarrow X$ with $u \circ g \neq v \circ g$ which "witnesses" the distinction.

Defⁿ An object $U \in \mathcal{C}$ is a cogenerator if it is a generator in \mathcal{C}^{op} , i.e. whenever $u, v: X \rightarrow Y$ are distinct there exists $g: Y \rightarrow U$ with $g \circ u \neq g \circ v$.

Remarks (1) If $\mathcal{C} = \Lambda\text{-Mod}$ then G is a generator $\iff \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(G, -)$ sends nonzero objects to nonzero objects, and dually.

(2) Λ is a generator for $\Lambda\text{-Mod}$.

Lemma \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is an injective cogenerator for Ab .

Proof Let A be a nonzero abelian group, and $0 \neq a \in A$. Consider the map

$$\mathcal{P}_a: \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow A, \quad \mathcal{P}_a(1) = a.$$

If a has infinite order \mathcal{P}_a induces $\mathbb{Z} \cong (a)$. Define $\mathcal{Y}: (a) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ by choosing any nonzero $\mathcal{Y}(a)$. If a has order n , then \mathcal{P}_a induces $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \cong (a)$ and $\mathcal{Y}: (a) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$, $\mathcal{Y}(a) = \frac{1}{n}$ is well-defined. In either case, since \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is injective \mathcal{Y} lifts to $\mathcal{Y}: A \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ with $\mathcal{Y}(a) \neq 0$, so $\mathcal{Y} \neq 0$, and we have shown $\text{Hom}_{\text{Ab}}(A, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \neq 0$. \square

Lemma If G is a projective generator for \mathcal{C} then for any object X there is an epimorphism $\coprod_{i \in I} G \longrightarrow X$ for some set I .

Proof Take $I = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(G, X)$ and for $i \in I$ set $G_i := G$ and $f_i: G \rightarrow X$ to be i , that is, $f_i := i$. This induces $f: \coprod_{i \in I} G \rightarrow X$ with $f \circ u_i = f_i$ for all i (here $u_i: G_i \rightarrow \coprod_{i \in I} G$ are the morphisms into the coproduct). To see f is epi, suppose $af = bf$. Then precomposing with u_i we have $af_i = bf_i$ for all i . But then $a = b$ since G is a generator. \square

Lemma If \mathcal{C} has a projective generator it has enough projectives.

Dualising, we have

Lemma If \mathcal{C} has a cogenerator U then for every object X there is a monomorphism $X \rightarrow \prod_{i \in I} U$ for some index set I .

Lemma If \mathcal{C} has an injective cogenerator it has enough injectives.

Corollary \mathbf{Ab} has enough injectives.

To prove Baer's theorem recall:

actually in the end I didn't use this, and stated things directly, but this lemma is still worth keeping

Lemma A Λ -module I is injective if and only if for every exact sequence $0 \rightarrow A' \rightarrow A \rightarrow A'' \rightarrow 0$ the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(A'', I) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(A, I) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(A', I) \rightarrow 0 \quad (*)$$

is exact.

Proof The exactness of $(*)$ is equivalent to $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(A, I) \rightarrow \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(A', I)$ being epi.

If I is injective this is clearly true, and if $(*)$ is exact for every sequence and we are given a mono $A' \xrightarrow{\alpha} A$, apply this to $0 \rightarrow A' \rightarrow A \rightarrow \operatorname{Coker}(\alpha) \rightarrow 0$. \square

Remark Let G be an abelian group, Λ a ring. Then $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(\Lambda, G)$ is naturally a left Λ -module via the action, for $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and $\varphi \in \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(\Lambda, G)$, $(\lambda \cdot \varphi)(\mu) = \varphi(\mu\lambda)$. This defines a functor $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(\Lambda, -) : \mathbf{Ab} \rightarrow \Lambda\text{-Mod}$.

Lemma The functor $\text{Hom}_{\underline{A}b}(\Lambda, -)$ is right adjoint to the forgetful functor $F: \Lambda\text{-Mod} \rightarrow \underline{A}b$.

Proof Define a function, for a Λ -module M and abelian group G ,

$$\Phi: \text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, \text{Hom}_{\underline{A}b}(\Lambda, G)) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\underline{A}b}(F(M), G) \quad (4.1)$$

by the formula $\Phi(f)(m) = f(m)(1_{\Lambda})$. Since f is additive, $\Phi(f)$ is an element of $\text{Hom}_{\underline{A}b}(FM, G)$. We define

$$\Phi': \text{Hom}_{\underline{A}b}(FM, G) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, \text{Hom}_{\underline{A}b}(\Lambda, G))$$

by $\Phi'(g)(m)(\lambda) = g(\lambda m)$. Again it is clear $\Phi'(g)(m)$ is linear in λ , and that $\Phi'(g)$ is additive in m . To see $\Phi'(g)$ is Λ -linear, observe for $\mu \in \Lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi'(g)(\mu m)(\lambda) &= g(\lambda \mu m) \\ &= (\mu \cdot \Phi'(g)(m))(\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

so $\Phi'(g)(\mu m) = \mu \cdot \Phi'(g)(m)$ as required. We need only show Φ is natural (which we leave as an easy exercise) and that $\Phi' \circ \Phi = \text{id}$, $\Phi \circ \Phi' = \text{id}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \boxed{\Phi' \circ \Phi = \text{id}} \quad \Phi'(\Phi(f))(m)(\lambda) &= \Phi(f)(\lambda m) = f(\lambda m)(1_{\Lambda}) \\ &= (\lambda \cdot f(m))(1_{\Lambda}) = f(m)(\lambda) \quad \therefore \Phi'(\Phi f) = f \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\Phi \circ \Phi' = \text{id}} \quad \Phi(\Phi'g)(m) = \Phi'g(m)(1_{\Lambda}) = g(m) \text{ so } \Phi(\Phi'g) = g. \quad \square$$

Ex 3 Check Φ is natural in M, G .

(The reference for today's lecture is Mitchell "Theory of categories" II.15.)

Notice that (4.1) is an isomorphism of abelian groups, not just sets.

Proof of Baer's theorem Take $G = \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ in the above to get a natural iso

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(\Lambda, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})) \cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(FM, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}). \quad (*)$$

Set $E := \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(\Lambda, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$. We claim this is an injective cogenerator for $\Lambda\text{-Mod}$, whence $\Lambda\text{-Mod}$ has enough injectives, and we are done.

- E is a cogenerator since for a Λ -module M , by $(*)$

$$M = 0 \iff \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(FM, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) = 0 \iff \mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, E) = 0.$$

\uparrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} cogenerates \mathbf{Ab}

- E is injective. Since $(*)$ is natural, for a mono $u: M \rightarrow M'$ we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M', E) & \xrightarrow{u^*} & \mathrm{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, E) \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(M', \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) & \xrightarrow{u^*} & \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbf{Ab}}(M, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}). \end{array}$$

Since \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is injective the bottom row is surjective, hence so is the top row, whence E is injective. \square