

## Lecture 5

Colby cover: Olson 158, Friday 1/19, 2:10–3:00 pm.

Today: Characterizing projective modules (4 equivalent definitions)  
+ more examples

Recall I'll stop writing left  $R$ -mod. / right  $R$ -mod. We will assume we're working with a particular fixed category of modules. e.g.  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

Theorem The following are equivalent: (TFAE)

- ①  $P$  is a projective  $R$ -mod
- ② If  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A'' \rightarrow 0$  is exact (i.e. if  $\varphi$  is surjective)

then for all  $h : \text{Hom}_R(P, A'')$ , there exists a lift

$\tilde{h}$  (making the diagram commute :)

\* Keep this on a board

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & P & & \\ & \swarrow \tilde{h} & \downarrow h & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & A'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

- ③ If  $0 \rightarrow A' \xrightarrow{i} A \xrightarrow{\varphi} A'' \rightarrow 0$  is exact, then  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(P, A') \xrightarrow{i_*} \text{Hom}(P, A) \xrightarrow{\varphi_*} \text{Hom}(P, A'') \rightarrow 0$  is also exact.

- ④ If  $P \cong M/K$  then  $P$  is  $\cong$  to a submodule of  $M$ ,

i.e. every short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$$

splits. *Do you remember what this means?*

- ⑤  $P$  is a direct summand of a **free**  $R$ -module.

Recall Covered in 250B; quick review

① A SES splits if the dotted map exists: (a 'section')

$$0 \longrightarrow K \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} Q \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{where } ps = \text{id}_Q.$$

s  
"kernel"      "quotient"

② If the SES splits, then  $M \cong K \oplus Q$

Rough idea

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow M \xrightarrow{p} Q \longrightarrow 0$$

$i$        $m = i(k) + s(p(m))$        $p(m)$

Pf. Define an isomorphism

$$\psi: K \oplus Q \longrightarrow M$$

$$(k, q) \longmapsto i(k) + s(q)$$

$$\psi: M \longrightarrow K \oplus Q$$

let  $m \in M$ .

Then  $p(m) \in Q$  corresponds to the coset  $m+K$ .  
Consider  $sp(m)$ ; since  $ps = \text{id}_Q$ ,  $p(sp(m)) = p(m)$ ,  
so  $sp(m) \in m+K$ . Let  $m_Q = sp(m)$ .  
Then  $m_K := m - sp(m) \in K$ .  
Then  $m = m_K + m_Q$ .

Check that  $\psi\varphi = \text{id}_M$ ,  $\varphi\psi = \text{id}_{K \oplus Q}$ .

*no need to over if students recall split SES.*

Pf. We talked about ①, ②, ③ last time.  
 (① is the definition of ③ in Rotman.)

$\boxed{② \Rightarrow ③}$

Assume:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & P & & \\ & \swarrow \exists & \downarrow & & \\ A & \longrightarrow & A'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Suppose we have an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} P \longrightarrow 0.$$

Consider  $A'' = P$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & P & & & & \\ & \swarrow \exists s & \downarrow id_P & & & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K & \xrightarrow{i} & M & \xrightarrow{p} & P \longrightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

and  $p \circ s = id_P \Rightarrow s$  is a section.

$\textcircled{3} \Rightarrow \textcircled{4}$

Lemma. Every module is the quotient of a free module.  
(In lecture 4 notes; we didn't cover this in class)

Pf.

Given  $M$ , define  $F$  to be the free module generated by basis  $(x_m)_{m \in M}$ . everything is a basis element!

$\Rightarrow$  get an  $R$ -map  $g: F \rightarrow M$  clearly surjective!

$x_m \mapsto m$ .

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Consider any free  $F$  such that  $P$  is a quotient of  $F$ .

Let  $\pi: F \twoheadrightarrow P$  be the quotient map, and let  $K = \ker \pi$ .

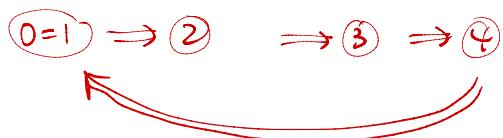
$\Rightarrow$  get the SES

$$0 \rightarrow K \xrightarrow{\quad i \quad \text{inclusion}} F \xrightarrow{\quad \pi \quad} P \rightarrow 0.$$

By assumption (3), this splits, so  $F \cong K \oplus P$ .

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To complete the TFAE proof, we need to complete the cycle of implications



④  $\Rightarrow$  ①: The interesting one! Go more slowly here

Suppose  $F \cong P \oplus K$ , where  $F$  is the free module generated by basis set  $B$ .

Suppose we are given

(We a priori don't know if  $P$  is projective yet — but we do know free modules are projective!)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & P & & \\ & \swarrow \tilde{h} ? & \downarrow h & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{p} & A'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

We WTS a lift  $\tilde{h}$  exists.

Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} F & & & & \\ \downarrow \pi & \text{(quotient map)} & & & \\ P & & & & \\ \downarrow h & \text{(arbitrary)} & & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{p} & A'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & \text{(surjective)} & & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} b \in F & & & & \\ \downarrow h\pi & & & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{p} & A'' & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \text{make choices for } b \in B \downarrow & H \swarrow & & & \\ \exists a_b \mapsto p(a) = h\pi(b) & & & & \end{array}$$

Define  $H$  by  $H(b) = a_b$ ,  
extend linearly.

(After the choices  $\{a_b\}$  are made, the map  $H$  exists and is unique by the univ prop of free modules)

But  $F \cong P \oplus K$ ! So define  $\tilde{h}(x) = H((x, 0))$ .

(for easier notation we treat this as an equal sign)

Then

$$F = P \oplus K$$

$\pi \downarrow$

"s is the  
"inclusion"  
of  $P$  into  $P \oplus K$   
as  $P \oplus \{0\}$ .

"clearly" commutes (because  $\tilde{h} = sh$ )

$\Rightarrow$  a lift  $\tilde{h}$  exists, so  $P$  is indeed projective.



Time for examples, now that we have 4 ways of determining whether an  $R$ -mod is projective

*nontrivial rings. i.e.  $1 \neq 0$*

e.g. Let  $R, S \neq \{0\}$  be rings, and consider them as left  $(R \times S)$ -modules.

i.e.  $(r, s)$  acts on  $R$  by left mult by  $r$ ,

and the  $s$  does nothing (i.e.  $s$  acts by  $1_R$ ).

Then both  $R$  and  $S$  are projective

(they are summands of the free module  $R \times S$ )

but they are not free:

e.g. More concrete example: Consider  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C}) = R$ .

Consider  $\mathbb{C}^2$  as an  $R$ -mod.

Indeed, elements  $A \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$  act on  
2d vectors!

①  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is a projective  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$ -mod:

b/c  $\mathbb{C}^2 \cong$  submodule of diagonal matrices in  
the free module  $R$

② But  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is not free

Reason  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$  has dim 4 over  $\mathbb{C}$ , whereas  
 $\mathbb{C}^2$  only is dim

\*This may be not very rigorous until we talk  
about base change...