

Math 4140. Lecture 16.

Midterm I: take-home, available 5pm, March 5 02.24.2021.
closed book. 5pm, March 6.

Last time: more on simple modules

- comp. series: defs. examples, statement of main result. (A : k -alg.)

a comp. series exists and is unique for any f.d. A -module
up to permutation of comp. factors

Today: More examples of comp series.

- Proofs of the existence result. Preparation for the pf of the uniqueness result.

1. Examples.

(a). Assuming the Jordan-Hölder Thm, we have that the length of a k -module ($\equiv k$ -vec. space) is just $\dim_k V$.

(b). $\frac{M_n(k)}{A} \cong \frac{M_n(k)}{A=V} = C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \dots \oplus C_n$. (eg. 3.7.(4) / 3.14. (1))

Two distinct composition series: $C_i = \left\{ \left[\begin{array}{c|c} * & \\ \hline 0 & \begin{array}{c} * \\ \vdots \\ * \end{array} \\ \hline & 0 \end{array} \right] \right\} \stackrel{\text{HW.}}{\cong} k^n = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} * \\ \vdots \\ * \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

① Let $V_i = C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \dots \oplus C_i \quad \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$.

Then the chain $0 =: V_0 \subset V_1 \subset V_2 \dots \subset V_n = V$ is a comp series of

V , the quotients are $V_i/V_{i-1} \cong C_i \cong k^n$, which is simple as an A -mod.

② Let $W_i = C_n \oplus C_{n-1} \oplus \dots \oplus C_{n-i+1} \quad \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$.

Then the chain $0 =: W_0 \subset W_1 \subset W_2 \subset \dots \subset W_n = V$ is a comp series

of V for the same reason. this time with $W_i/W_{i-1} \cong C_{n-i+1} \cong k^n$.

① and ② give us two distinct but equivalent comp series of V , each with n comp. factors that are all iso to k^n .

(c). $A = k \times k \cong V = A$. $S_1 = \{ (x, 0) : x \in k \} \in A$, $S_2 = \{ (0, y) : y \in k \} \subset A$.

(eg. 3.14.13)

Ex: (1). S_1 and S_2 are submodules of A . Moreover, they are simple.

(2). $A/S_1 \cong S_2$, $A/S_2 \cong S_1$.

(3) $S_1 \not\cong S_2$.

It follows that $0 =: V_0 \subset V_1 = S_1 \subset V_2 = V = A$

$$0 =: W_0 \subset W_1 = S_2 \subset W_2 = V = A$$

(after a permutation
of comp factors.)

are both comp. series of A , with quotients $(V_1/V_0 \cong S_1, V_2/V_1 \cong S_2)$

and $(W_1/W_0 \cong S_2, W_2/W_1 \cong S_1)$. So the seq. of comp factors are not the same up to iso, but the series are still equivalent.

2. Proofs

Let A be a k -algebra.

We already saw that not every A -module has a comp series ($A = k \oplus V, \dim V = \infty$)

But finite-dimensional A -modules do always have comp. series:

Prop: (Lemma 3.9) Every f.d. A -module V has a comp series.

(*) $U_i/U_{i-1} \ni$ simple
 $\forall 1 \leq i \leq l$

Pf: Use induction on $d := \dim_k V$.

Base case: $d=0$ or $d=1$. $\xrightarrow{\text{last lecture}}$ V has a comp series of length 0 or 1, resp. \checkmark

Inductive step: Say $d > 1$. If V is simple, then again we saw that V has a comp. series

of length 1. So assume V is not simple, i.e. V has at least one nonzero proper

submodule. Take a maximal nonzero proper submodule U of V . By induction,

since $\dim U < \dim V = d$, U must have a comp series $0 =: U_0 \subset U_1 \subset \dots \subset U_l = U$. (*)

But then $0 = U_0 \subset U_1 \subset \dots \subset U_l = U \subset V \ni$ a comp series of V : $\begin{cases} U/U \ni$ simple since $U \leq V$ \ni max. \\ $U_i/U_{i-1} \ni$ simple by (*). \end{cases} \quad \square

So the existence part is easy; uniqueness is harder:

Thm. (Jordan-Hölder, Thm 3.11) Suppose an A -module V has two comp. series

$$0 = V_0 \subset V_1 \subset \dots \subset V_{n-1} \subset V_n = V \quad (\text{I})$$

$$0 = W_0 \subset W_1 \subset \dots \subset W_{m-1} \subset W_m = V \quad (\text{II}).$$

Then they are equivalent, i.e., $n = m$ and there is a permutation $\sigma \in S_n = S_m$

$$\text{s.t. } V_i/V_{i-1} \cong W_{\sigma(i)}/W_{\sigma(i)-1} \quad \forall 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Remark: The proof will mainly be an exercise in induction and the second isomorphism theorem for modules.

for gps:

$$H \leq G, K \leq G$$

$$\begin{array}{c} H+K \\ \cong \\ H \\ \hline H \cap K \end{array}$$

for modules

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & u, w \leq V & \\ & u+w & \\ u & & w \\ & u \cap w & \end{array} \rightsquigarrow$$

module isos.

$$\begin{array}{c} u+w/u \cong w/u \cap w \\ \downarrow \\ u+w/w \cong u/u \cap w \end{array}$$

Lemma (inheritance, Prop 3.10.) If V has a comp series, then every submodule

$U \leq V$ also has a comp series.

Pf: Take a comp series $0 = V_0 \subset V_1 \subset \dots \subset V_n = V$ of V .

Intersecting each term in the series w/ U yields a chain of subspaces

$$0 = V_0 \cap U \subset V_1 \cap U \subset \dots \subset V_n \cap U = V \cap U = U \quad (*)$$

Removing duplicate terms if necessary, we may assume that all containments in

(*) are strict. We claim that $V_i \cap U / V_{i-1} \cap U \cong \underline{V_i / V_{i-1}}$, so (*) is a
comp series.

Pf of the claim that $V_i \cap U / V_{i-1} \cap U \cong V_i / V_{i-1}$:

(i). By the 2nd Iso Thm $\left(\begin{array}{ccc} & w_1 + w_2 & \\ w_1 & & w_2 \\ & w_1 \cap w_2 & \end{array} \right)$, we have

$$\frac{(V_i \cap U) / (V_{i-1} \cap U)}{(V_i \cap U) / (V_{i-1} \cap U)} = \frac{(V_i \cap U)}{V_{i-1} \cap (V_i \cap U)} \cong \frac{V_{i-1} + (V_i \cap U)}{V_{i-1}} \subseteq V_i / V_{i-1}$$

(ii). Since $V_{i-1} \cap U \neq V_i \cap U$ by assumption,

$$V_i \cap U / V_{i-1} \cap U \neq 0$$

Since V_i / V_{i-1} is simple, (i) and (ii) imply that $V_i \cap U / V_{i-1} \cap U \cong V_i / V_{i-1}$. \square

Next time: pf of the Jordan-Hölder Thm.