

Last time: Overview of semisimple modules and s.s. algebras.
(“s.s.”: \bigoplus of simples) (includes all $\mathbb{C}G$, G a finite grp)

Today: • Semisimple modules: examples, definitions and properties.
(mostly “closure properties”)
• “ A is a s.s. algebra \iff all modules of A are s.s.”
($A \cong A \cong$ s.s.)

1. Examples of s.s./non-s.s. modules

(0). Simple modules are s.s.

(1). $A = M_n(k)$ ^{regular} $\Leftrightarrow V = M_n(k)$

$$V = M_n(k) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n C_i \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \underbrace{k^n}_{\text{simple}} \quad \bar{V} \text{ s.s.}$$

(2) $A = T_n(k)$ $\Leftrightarrow V = k^n$. There are exactly $n+1$ submodules upper Δ .

$$0 = V_0 \subset V_1 \subset V_2 \subset \dots \subset V_n = V = k^n$$

where $V_i = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_i \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} : x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i \in k \right\}$ by Ex. 2.14. In particular,

no two nonzero submodules of V have intersection, so V cannot be the direct sum of a set of nonzero submodule, so V is not s.s.

2. Definition of s.s. modules.

Thm 4.3. Let A be a k -alg and let V be a nonzero A -module. TFAE:

(1) (def.) V is s.s. i.e., V is a direct sum of simple submodules.

(2) (complete reducibility) For every submodule U of V , there is a submodule

$$C \text{ of } V \text{ s.t. } V = U \oplus C.$$

"complement of U "

useful characterizations of
s.s.

(3) (sum) V is a sum of simple submodules, i.e., $V = \sum_{i \in I} S_i$ for some index set I , where S_i is simple for all $i \in I$

Remarks on the proof: (1) implies (3) since direct sums are sums. It then suffices

to prove that (3) implies (2) and that (2) \Rightarrow (1). These two proofs need Zorn's Lemma and we'll skip it for now.

3. Properties of s.s. modules. Let A be a k -alg.

The alternative characterizations of s.s. modules imply the following:

Corollary 1. (submodules \equiv quotients) Let V be a s.s. A -module. Then every

submodule of V is iso to a quotient module of V , and vice versa.

Pf. Use the complete reducibility condition/characterization:

"sub. \Rightarrow quotient": Let U be a submodule. Then it has a complement C s.t. $V = U \oplus C$. But then $V/C = (U \oplus C)/C = (U+C)/C = U/UC = U/0 \cong U$.

"quotient \Rightarrow sub.": Let W be a quotient of V . say $W = V/u'$. Then u' has a complement C' s.t. $V = u' \oplus C'$. Then, $W = V/u' = (u' \oplus C')/u' = (u'+C')/u' \cong C'/u' \cap C' \cong C'$. \square

Lemma: Let $\varphi: S \rightarrow V$ be an A -module hom, with S simple.

Then either $\varphi = 0$ or $\text{Im } \varphi$ is a simple A -submodule isv. to S .

Pf sketch:

S is simple \Rightarrow dichotomy $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varphi = 0 \\ \varphi \neq 0 \Rightarrow \ker \varphi \neq S \Rightarrow \ker \varphi = 0 \end{array} \right.$

In other words, homomorphic images of simples are either zero or simple.

Corollary 2. (Homomorphic images of s.s. modules are s.s.)

(Cor. 4.7.) Let $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$ be a $\overset{\text{nonzero}}{A}$ -mod. hom. If V is s.s. then $\text{Im } \varphi$ is s.s.

In particular, if φ is surjective ($\text{Im } \varphi = W$) then W is s.s.

Pf: V is s.s. $\Rightarrow V = \sum_{i \in I} S_i$ (simple) $\Rightarrow \text{Im } \varphi = \varphi(V) = \varphi\left(\sum_{i \in I} S_i\right) = \sum_{i \in I} \varphi(S_i)$
 (sketch) $\xrightarrow{\text{ignore } \varphi \text{ equals the zeros}}$ a sum of simple \Downarrow V is s.s. by the Lemma

Corollary 3. (Isos. preserve s.s.) Two isomorph. A -modules are either both s.s. or both non-s.s. i.e., if $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$ is an iso of A -modules, then V is s.s. iff W is s.s.

Pf: If V is s.s., then $W = \text{Im } \varphi$ is s.s. by Corollary 2.

If W is s.s., then we consider $\varphi^{-1}: W \rightarrow V$ (automatically an iso):

by Corollary 2, $V = \text{Im } \varphi^{-1}$ is s.s.

Corollary 4. (Submodules/quotients of s.s. are s.s.) Let V be a s.s. A -module.

Then every submodule of V is s.s., and every quotient module of V is s.s.

Pf sketch: Use

• "quotients are the same as homomorphic images" Hw. 7. (3).

$$V/W, W \text{ a submodule} \rightsquigarrow \pi: V \rightarrow V/W \Rightarrow V/W \cong \text{Im } \pi.$$

$v \mapsto v+W$

• "Homomorphic images of s.s. modules are s.s." + "Iso. preserves s.s."

$$\rightsquigarrow V/W \cong \text{Im } \pi \text{ is s.s.}$$

• "Submodules and quotients of s.s. modules are the same" + "Iso preserves s.s."

$$\rightsquigarrow U \text{ a submodule of } V \Rightarrow U \cong V/C \text{ for the complement } \dots$$

Corollary 5. (Direct sum / direct summands of s.s. modules are s.s.)

Let $(V_i)_{i \in I}$ be a family of nonzero A -modules. Then $\bigoplus_{i \in I} V_i$ is s.s.
iff V_i is s.s. $\forall i \in I$

Pf. Recall that ι_i is a natural inj. inclusion map $L_i : V_i \rightarrow V := \bigoplus_{i \in I} V_i$ with

$\text{Im } L_i \cong V_i$. If V is s.s. then $\text{Im } L_i$, being a submodule of V , is s.s.

so V_i is s.s. $\forall i$. Conversely, if V_i is s.s. then $V_i = \bigoplus_{j \in J_i} S_{ij}$ - so

$$V = \bigoplus_{i \in I} V_i = \sum_{i \in I} L_i(V_i) = \sum_{i \in I} L_i\left(\bigoplus_{j \in J_i} S_{ij}\right) = \sum_{i \in I, j \in J_i} \underbrace{L(S_{ij})}_{\text{either simple or zero}} \Rightarrow V \text{ is s.s. } \square$$

Summary: Homomorphic images, isomorphic copies, submodules, quotient modules, direct sums, and direct summands of s.s. modules are s.s.

Next time: s.s. algebras.