

## AA2. Lecture 37.

HW:

- deadline extended to this Friday
- next hw will be due next Friday

04.20.2022.

Last time: finished the pt of the A.W. thm.

Today:

- Some applications of the A.W. thm.
- Maschke's Thm: statement and first examples

# 1. Remarks on / Applications of the A.W. Thm

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Remark: (Commutativity) By the A.W. Thm, if  $k$  is alg. closed ( $k = \bar{k}$ ), then  $A$  is a s.s.  $k$ -algebra.  $\Leftrightarrow A \cong M_{n_1}(k) \times M_{n_2}(k) \times \dots \times M_{n_r}(k)$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ ,  $n_1, \dots, n_r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ .  $M_n(k)$  is commutative iff  $n=1$ .

If this is the case, we note that  $A$  is commutative iff  $n_i = 1 \forall i$ , i.e., (if  $k = \bar{k}$ ) comm. s.s. algebras  $\equiv$  direct products of  $k$ .

More generally, over an arbitrary field  $k$ ,  $A$  is comm. and s.s. iff

$A$  is a direct product of commutative division algebras over  $k$   $\left( \prod_{i=1}^r D_i = \prod_{i=1}^r M_1(D_i) \right)$ ,

which has to be a direct product of  $\downarrow$  has to be a field containing  $k$  fields containing  $k$ .

What about our three main types of examples? (What do the A.W. decomp look like?)

## (1) Path algebras

Recall that for an acyclic quiver  $Q = (Q_0, Q_1)$ , we proved using the theory of Jacobson radicals that  $J(kQ) = \text{Span}_k \{ \text{all positive length paths on } Q \} = kQ^{\geq 1}$

and hence  $kQ$  is s.s. iff  $Q_1 = \emptyset$ , i.e., iff  $Q$  has no arrows.

When this is the case,  $kQ = \prod_{i \in Q_0} k$ , which is commutative.

↓  
the A.W. decomp of a s.s. path algebra.

## (2) Polynomial rings

Recall:  $k[x]$  is not s.s.

• For  $f \in k[x]$  w/ irr. decomp  $f = f_1^{a_1} f_2^{a_2} \dots f_r^{a_r}$ , the algebra  $k[x]/\langle f \rangle$   
is s.s. iff  $a_i = 1 \forall i$ . (In this case ...)

(1) if  $k = \mathbb{C} = \overline{k}$ , then all the irreducible polys.  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  has to be of degree 1 and of the form  $(x - c_i)$  for some scalars  $c_1, \dots, c_r$ .

$$k[x]/\langle f \rangle = k[x]/\left\langle \prod_{i=1}^r (x - c_i) \right\rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Chinese Remainder Thm}} \prod_{i=1}^r k[x]/\langle x - c_i \rangle$$

↓  
some conclusion

|| our remark

$$\prod_{i=1}^r k$$

A.W. decomp of  $k[x]/\langle f \rangle$

(2). if  $k = \mathbb{R} \neq \bar{k}$ , then (fact:) every irr. poly. over  $\mathbb{R} = k$  has degree 1 or 2, (e.g.  $x-1$ ,  $x^2+1$ ), so we may assume (by reordering terms if necessary) that  $f = \underbrace{(f_1 \cdot f_2 \cdot \dots \cdot f_m)}_{\text{deg. 1 irr.}} \cdot \underbrace{(f_{m+1} \cdot \dots \cdot f_r)}_{\text{deg. 2 irr.}}$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} k[x]/\langle f \rangle &= k[x]/\langle f_1 \rangle \times \dots \times k[x]/\langle f_m \rangle \times k[x]/\langle f_{m+1} \rangle \times \dots \times k[x]/\langle f_r \rangle \\ &\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \text{Rmk 5.10.} \\ &= \mathbb{R} \times \dots \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C} \times \dots \times \mathbb{C} \\ &\qquad \qquad \qquad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{m} \qquad \qquad \qquad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{r-m} \end{aligned}$$

A.w. decomp for s.s. quotients  $\mathbb{R}[x]/\langle f_i \rangle$  at  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

### (3) Group algebras.

For finite groups, we have Maschke's Thm ...

## 2. Maschke's Thm (statement and examples)

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Thm: (Thm 6.3). Let  $k$  be a field and let  $G$  be a finite group. Then the group algebra  $kG$  is s.s. iff the characteristic  $\text{char}(k)$  of  $k$  does not divide  $|G|$ . In particular, if  $\text{char}(k) = 0$  then  $kG$  is s.s. for every finite group  $G$ .

Note: . Fact: If  $\text{char}(k) = 0$ , then  $\#$  simple modules of  $kG$  up to iso. =  $\#$  conj. classes in  $G$   
for any finite group  $G$ .

- Combining Maschke's Thm, the A.W. theorem and the above fact can help us find the A.W. decomp. of  $kG$  for finite  $G$ . /  $k$  with  $\text{char}(k) = 0$ .

Ex.  $k = \mathbb{C}$ ,  $G = S_3$ .

• By Abstract Algebra 1. # conj. classes of  $S_3 = \#$  cycle types for  $S_3 = 3$

So  $\mathbb{C}S_3$  has 3 simple modules (up to iso),

$(a)(b)(c)$ ,  $(ab)(c)$ ,  
 $(abc)$

So the A.W. decomp of  $\mathbb{C}S_3$  should be  $\mathbb{C}S_3 = M_{n_1}(\mathbb{C}) \times M_{n_2}(\mathbb{C}) \times M_{n_3}(\mathbb{C})$ .

• By dim. consideration, we should have  $n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2 = |S_3| = 6$

$\Downarrow$

$n_1 = n_2 = 1$ ,  $n_3 = 2$  if we assume  $n_1 \leq n_2 \leq n_3$

• Thus,  $\mathbb{C}S_3$  must have two simple modules of dim. 1 and one simple of dim 2.

What are they?

Simple 1: (the trivial module  $k = \mathbb{C}$  on which  $g \in G$  acts  $a \mapsto 1 \quad \forall g \in G$ )  $\cong$  "Span  $\{v_1 + v_2 + v_3\} \subseteq k^3$ "  
makes sense for any group.

dim-2 simple: " $\{av_1 + bv_2 + cv_3 \in k^3 \mid a+b+c=0\} = \text{Span}\{v_1-v_2, v_2-v_3\} \subseteq k^3$ " (from HW.)  
the perm. module

The third simple / second dim-1 simple:  $V = k = \mathbb{C}$ . with the action

$$g \cdot 1 = \text{sign}(g),$$

} the sign rep.

Corresponding to the rep  $\rho: G \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(V) = \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$g \mapsto \text{sign}(g)$$

Q: Can you find the A.W. decomp for  $GS_4$ ?

Next time: proof of Maschke's Thm.