

# MATH 593 - Introduction to Homological Algebra

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Exactness</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Flat, Projective, and Injective Modules</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Complexes*</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Projective and Injective Resolution*</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Derived Functors*</b>	<b>10</b>

# 1 Exactness

**Definition 1.1** (Complex). A **Complex** of  $R$ -modules is a family of  $R$ -modules  $(M_i)$  and  $R$ -linear maps  $d_i : M_i \rightarrow M_{i+1}$  s.t. for all  $i$ ,  $d_{i+1} \circ d_i = 0$ .

**Remark 1.1.** The followings are some specifications on the notations:

- The complex is often denoted by a chain

$$\dots \xrightarrow{d_{i-2}} M^{i-1} \xrightarrow{d_{i-1}} M^i \xrightarrow{d_i} M^{i+1} \xrightarrow{d_{i+1}} \dots$$

or a chain with indices on the bottom with  $M^i = M_{-i}$ .

- The complex extends to infinity in both ends. If the notation terminated on one side, all modules not written out are the trivial (the zero module).

**Remark 1.2.** The definition of a complex is the same as stating that  $\text{im } d_i \subseteq \ker d_{i+1}$  for all  $i$ .

**Definition 1.2.** For a sequence  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$  where  $f$  and  $g$  are  $R$ -linear maps, it is **exact at B** if the equality is reached in the remark above, i.e.  $\text{im } f = \ker g$ .

A sequence is exact if it is exact at  $A_i$  for all  $i$ . A complex is exact if it is exact everywhere.

**Example 1.1.** The sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B$  is exact implies that  $\ker f = \{0\}$ , i.e.  $f$  is injective. Similarly,  $A \xrightarrow{g} B \rightarrow 0$  implies that  $g$  is surjective.

**Definition 1.3.** A **Short Exact Sequence (SES)** is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} M'' \rightarrow 0$$

**Proposition 1.1.** Given a sequence  $(*) : 0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} M'' \rightarrow 0$ , the followings are equivalent:

- $(*)$  is a short exact sequence.
- $i$  is injective, and for  $q : M \rightarrow \text{coker } i$ , there exists a unique isomorphism  $\theta$  s.t.  $\theta \circ q = p$ .
- $p$  is surjective, and for  $j : M \rightarrow \ker p$ , there exists a unique isomorphism  $\eta$  s.t.  $i = \eta \circ j$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to prove the equivalence between i) and ii), as the case with iii) is similar:

- $i) \Rightarrow ii)$ . Apply the universal property of cokernel. Since  $(*)$  is exact,  $p \circ i = 0$ , there exists a map  $\theta$  s.t. the following diagram commutes. The fact that  $p$  is surjective, and the diagram should commute gives  $\theta$  should be surjective. To prove that  $\theta$  is

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} M' & \xrightarrow{i} & M & \xrightarrow{p} & M'' \\ & & \searrow q & & \uparrow \theta \\ & & & & \text{coker } i \end{array}$$

injective, it suffices to verify that  $\theta(b) = 0 \implies b = 0$  for  $b \in \text{coker } i$ . Since  $q$  by definition is surjective, there exists  $a \in M$  s.t.  $q(a) = b$ . This gives  $a \in \ker p = \text{im } i$ , which implies that  $q(a) = 0$  as the cokernel is defined by  $M/\text{im } i$ .

- $ii) \Rightarrow i)$ . Given that  $\mu$  is an isomorphism and  $i$  is injective, it suffices to verify that  $p$  is surjective, and  $\text{im } i = \ker p$ .  $\mu$  being surjective implies that  $p$  is surjective; and  $\mu$  being an isomorphism implies that  $\ker p = \ker q = \text{im } i$ .

□

**Proposition 1.2.** *Given a short exact sequence  $0 \longrightarrow M' \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} M'' \longrightarrow 0$ , the following statements are equivalent:*

- i) *There exists  $j : M \rightarrow M'$  s.t.  $j \circ i = \text{Id}_{M'}$*
- ii) *There exists  $q : M'' \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $p \circ q = \text{Id}_{M''}$*
- iii) *There exists a submodule  $N \subseteq M$  s.t.  $M$  can be expressed by the internal direct sum  $M = i(M') \oplus N$ ; and  $p$  induces an isomorphism  $N \simeq M''$ .*

Such a short exact sequence is a split exact sequence.

*Proof.* It suffices to give the equivalence between i) and iii), as for ii) it is similar.

- $i) \Rightarrow iii)$ . Let  $N = \ker j$ . Check that this gives an internal direct sum:
  - $N \cap i(M') = \{0\}$ . Let  $x \in i(M') \cap N$ . Then there exists  $u \in M'$  s.t.  $i(u) \in \ker j$ , i.e.  $j \circ i(u) = 0$ . But this indicates that  $u = 0$  as  $j \circ i = \text{Id}_{M'}$ . Since  $i$  is a morphism of modules,  $i(0) = 0$ , which indicates that the only element that is in both  $i(M')$  and  $N$  is 0.
  - $N + i(M') = M$ . Notice  $v - i \circ j(v) \in \ker q$ , and by inspection  $i \circ j(v) \in \text{im } i$ .

By the first isomorphism theorem,  $\text{im } i = \ker p$  implies  $M/\text{im } i \simeq N \simeq M''$ .

- $iii) \Rightarrow i)$ . Define  $j : i(M') \oplus N \rightarrow i(M') \simeq M'$  since  $i$  is injective.

□

**Remark 1.3.** Generally short exact sequences do not split. A counterexample is

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{i} 2\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

where  $i(\mathbb{Z}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}$ , but the inverse map cannot be extended properly to the whole ring  $\mathbb{Z}$ . If  $R$  is a field, then all short exact sequences split as one can complete a basis in a vector space; and subspaces spanned by a subset of a basis is always a direct summand of the whole space.

The following present a common technique known as “diagram chasing”:

**Proposition 1.3** (The 5-Lemma). *Consider the following diagram, with blocks commute and rows exact:*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u_1} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{u_2} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{u_3} & A_4 & \xrightarrow{u_4} & A_5 \\ \downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow f_2 & & \downarrow f_3 & & \downarrow f_4 & & \downarrow f_5 \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{v_1} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{v_2} & B_3 & \xrightarrow{v_3} & B_4 & \xrightarrow{v_4} & B_5 \end{array}$$

1. *If  $f_2, f_4$  are injective,  $f_1$  is surjective, then  $f_3$  is injective.*

2. If  $f_2, f_4$  are surjective,  $f_5$  is injective, then  $f_3$  is surjective.
3. (Combining i) and ii)) If  $f_1, f_2, f_4, f_5$  are all isomorphisms, then  $f_3$  is an isomorphism.

*Proof.* The argument is symmetric, so it suffices to prove the first one.  $f_3$  is injective if and only if  $f_3(b) = 0 \implies b = 0$ . Following the steps:

- Consider the third square.  $v_3 \circ f_3(b) = v_3(0) = 0$ , giving  $f_4 \circ u_3(b) = 0$ .  $f_4$  being injective implies that  $u_3(b) = 0$ .
- Consider the second square. The top row being exact implies that  $b \in \text{im } u_2$ , i.e. there exists some  $c \in A_2$  s.t.  $u_2(c) = b$ . Commutativity gives that  $v_2 \circ f_2(c) = 0$ , i.e.  $c' := f_2(c) \in \ker v_1$ .
- Consider the first square. The bottom row being exact implies that there exists some  $d' \in B_1$  s.t.  $v_1(d') = c'$ . Since  $f_1$  is surjective, there exists  $d \in A_1$  s.t.  $f_1(d) = d'$ . For the diagram to commute, it is required that  $u_1(d) = c$ . But this indicates that  $c \in \text{im } u_1$ , i.e.  $c \in \ker u_2$ , which gives  $b = u_2(c) = 0$ .

□

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings, and  $F : {}_R\text{Mod} \rightarrow {}_S\text{Mod}$  is an additive functor. Then  $F$  is **exact** if for all short exact sequences of  $R$ -modules  $0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0$ , the corresponding sequence after applying  $F$  is also exact.

**Proposition 1.4.**  $F$  is exact if and only if for all exact sequence  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$ ,  $F(A) \xrightarrow{f} F(B) \xrightarrow{g} F(C)$  is also exact.

*Proof.* Proceed by showing implication in two directions:

$\Leftarrow$ : This holds by definition, where one can consider the particular case where  $f$  is injective and  $g$  is surjective.

$\Rightarrow$ : Consider the following short exact sequences:

$$\begin{aligned} (1) : \quad & 0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \text{im } f \rightarrow 0 \\ (2) : \quad & 0 \rightarrow \ker g \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} B \xrightarrow{\beta_1} \text{im } g \rightarrow 0 \\ (3) : \quad & 0 \rightarrow \text{im } g \xrightarrow{\beta_2} C \rightarrow \text{coker } g \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{im } f = \ker g$  as the sequence given is exact. These by construction are all short exact sequences, where applying  $F$  gives also short exact sequences. Combining gives the sequence which is still exact after applying  $F$ :

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} \text{im } f \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} B \xrightarrow{\beta_1} \text{im } g \xrightarrow{\beta_2} C$$

where  $\alpha_1, \beta_1$  are surjective; and  $\alpha_2, \beta_2$  are injective. What we want to show is  $\text{im } F(f) = \ker F(g)$ . Since  $\alpha_1$  is surjective,  $\text{im } F(f) = \text{im } F(\alpha_2)$ ; and since  $\beta_2$  is injective,  $\ker F(g) = \ker F(\beta_1)$ . From the result of (2) after applying  $F$ , we have  $\text{im } F(\alpha_2) = \ker F(\beta_1)$ .

□

**Remark 1.4.** “One-sided” exact sequences can be understood functorially:

- Given exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow M' \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} M''$  is the same as saying that  $i$  is injective; and  $M'$  is the kernel of  $p$ .

- Similarly, given exact sequence  $M' \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} M'' \rightarrow 0$  is the same as saying that  $p$  is surjective; and  $M''$  is the cokernel of  $i$ .

**Definition 1.5.** Just as in the remark, one could consider exact functors only on one side.  $F : {}_R\mathbf{Mod} \rightarrow {}_S\mathbf{Mod}$  is **left exact** if for all exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ , the sequence  $0 \rightarrow F(A) \rightarrow F(B) \rightarrow F(C)$  is also exact; and the definition is symmetric for right exact functors. Notice that since  $F$  is an additive functor,  $F(0) = 0$  (as zero morphisms are mapped to zero morphisms).

**Proposition 1.5.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ - $S$  bimodule. Then functor  $F = \text{Hom}_R(M, -) : {}_R\mathbf{Mod} \rightarrow {}_S\mathbf{Mod}$  is left exact; and the converse is also true, i.e. if  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, C)$  is exact, then  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$  is exact.

*Proof.* What we first want to show is that if the sequence  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$  is exact, then the corresponding sequence  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, A) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, C)$  is exact: The natural way to define the functor  $F$  is via specifying

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & C \\ & & & \nwarrow u & \uparrow v & & \\ & & & & M & & \end{array}$$

$\text{Hom}(M, A) \ni u \mapsto f \circ u$ ,  $\text{Hom}(M, B) \ni v \mapsto g \circ v$ . Exactness follows from the universal property of kernel, where for all  $v \in \text{Hom}(M, B)$  s.t.  $\text{Hom}(M, C) \ni g \circ v = 0$ , it factors uniquely through  $f$ . Furthermore, since  $F$  is an additive functor, it preserves injectivity (via considering elements in Sets), which indicates that  $F(f)$  is also injective.

For the converse, take  $M = A$ . This gives the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A, A) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{Hom}(A, B) \xrightarrow{\beta} \text{Hom}(A, C)$ . The natural ways to define the map is via specifying  $\alpha = f \circ -$ ,  $\beta = g \circ -$ . Observe that the exactness of the sequence gives  $\beta \circ \alpha = g \circ f \circ - = 0$ , which indicates that  $g \circ f = 0$  by associativity.  $\alpha$  being injective follows directly from the fact that  $f$  is injective.  $\square$

**Remark 1.5.** The dual argument is also true, via applying the universal property of cokernel. That is, the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  is right exact. The direction of exactness reverses as the functor is contravariant.

**Proposition 1.6.** If  $M$  is an  $S$ - $R$  bimodule, then  $M \otimes_R -$  is right exact.

*Proof.* From the right exact version of Proposition 1.5, it suffices to prove that for left  $R$ -module  $N$  the sequence

$$\text{Hom}(M \otimes A, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M \otimes B, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M \otimes C, N) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. First make a parenthesis on the generalization of the adjoint property of extension and restriction of scalars:

**Parenthesis 1.1** (Prop 4.4 [c6]). Let  $M$  be an  $S$ - $R$  bimodule,  $C$  a left  $R$ -module, and  $N$  a left  $S$ -module, then there is a functorial isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_S(M \otimes_R C, N) \simeq \text{Hom}_R(C, \text{Hom}_S(M, N))$$

*Proof.* By the universal property of tensor product, it suffices to give every  $R$ -balanced map  $f : M \times C \rightarrow N$  a map in  $\text{Hom}_R(C, \text{Hom}_S(M, N))$ . Let the isomorphism be  $F$  defined via  $F(\tilde{f}[u \otimes v \mapsto f(u, v)]) = v \mapsto (u \mapsto f(u, v))$ . The inverse exists by inspection. It is well-defined as one can consider the map  $u \times v \mapsto f(u, v)$ ; and use the universal property of tensor product.  $\square$

Then apply the parenthesis and Proposition 1.5 gives that it suffices to verify that  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, C) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, B) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, A)$  is exact, which holds as  $M$  is in particular a right  $R$ -module; and in this case the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, \text{Hom}_S(M, N))$  is a contravariant functor. Recall that for a contravariant functor  $\text{Hom}(-, N)$ , if the sequence  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is exact, then  $0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(C, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(B, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(A, N)$  is exact. This finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 1.6.** Recall that the above isomorphism holds for all adjoint pairs  $(F, G)$ . Therefore, the proof applies as long as  $F$  is left exact (for  $G$  being right exact) or the converse holds.

In general, the above two functors and the contravariant is only left (right) exact instead of exact. Consider the short exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$$

- Applying  $- \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  gives

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{i} 2\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$$

where  $2\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = 0$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , as the map being  $R$ -linear restricts that  $f(0, 1) = f(1, 0) = f(0, 0)$ . This implies that  $i$  is not injective.

- Applying  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(-, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  gives

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{i} \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{p} \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 0$$

where  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \ni h = 0$  as it is required that  $h(1) + h(1) = \bar{1} + \bar{1} = 0$  which indicates that  $p$  is not surjective. Similar situations appear in the contravariant case.

It is then of specific interest in which modules are the above functors exact.

## 2 Flat, Projective, and Injective Modules

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $R$  be a ring, and  $M$  a left  $R$ -module. Then:

- $M$  is a **flat module** if  $- \otimes_R M$  is an exact functor.
- $M$  is a **projective module** if  $\text{Hom}_R(M, -)$  is an exact functor.
- $M$  is an **injective module** if  $\text{Hom}_R(-, M)$  is an exact functor.

**Remark 2.1.** By comparing with the results obtained in the propositions aforementioned (Proposition 1.5, 1.6), it is clear what is further required by the definitions:

- By Proposition 1.6, a module is flat if and only if for all injective maps  $M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ , the corresponding map  $M_1 \otimes M \rightarrow M_2 \otimes M$  is injective.
- By Proposition 1.5, a module is projective if and only if for all surjective maps  $M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ , the corresponding map  $\text{Hom}_R(M, M_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, M_2)$  is surjective; or the corresponding map is injective if the functor is contravariant.

**Remark 2.2.** The fact that  $\text{Hom}$  functors in the remark above is surjective is the same as the following definition (for projective modules):  $M$  is a projective  $R$ -module if and only if for all morphism of  $R$ -modules  $g : M \rightarrow V$  with module  $U$  for which there

exists a surjective morphism  $f : U \rightarrow V$ , there exists a morphism of  $R$ -modules  $h : M \rightarrow U$  s.t.  $g = f \circ h$ ; that is, making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & U \\ & \nearrow h & \downarrow f \\ M & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array}$$

In plain words, there exists an embedding into some module (for example, free modules) that could “project” surjectively to  $V$ . This embedding (injection) definitely needs not be unique, as for example one could always embed the projective module to a free module with higher rank.

This definition is indeed equivalent with the previous one, as for a surjective morphism  $f : U \rightarrow V$ , for any  $g : M \rightarrow V$  there exists some  $h : M \rightarrow U$  s.t. the diagram commute. This indicates that the morphism  $\text{Hom}(M, U) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, V)$  is a surjection.

The dual result holds also for injective modules: for all  $R$ -module  $M$  being injective, it is equivalent to state that for any morphism  $g : M \rightarrow V$ , there exists some  $R$ -module  $U$  with an injection  $f : V \rightarrow U$  and some morphism  $h : U \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $g = h \circ f$ , i.e. the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xleftarrow{h} & U \\ & \nwarrow g & \uparrow f \\ & & V \end{array}$$

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $M$  be a left  $R$ -module. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- i)  $M$  is a projective  $R$ -module.
- ii)  $M$  is a direct summand of a free  $R$ -module. That is, there exists a free  $R$ -module  $F$  and an  $R$ -module  $N$  s.t.  $F \simeq M \oplus N$ .
- iii) Let  $P$  be an  $R$ -module, and  $F$  be a free  $R$ -module. Then every short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow F \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$  is split exact.

*Proof.*

- i)  $\implies$  iii). Apply the definition given in Remark 2.2.  $M$  being an  $R$ -module implies that it admits a system of generators, namely there exists some  $(g_i)_{i \in I}$  s.t.  $M = (g_i)_{i \in I}$ . Then there exist  $F = R^{(I)}$  where there exists a surjection  $f : F \rightarrow M, f(e_i) = g_i$ . Let  $g : M \rightarrow M$  be the identity map. By the alternative definition there exists some  $h : M \rightarrow F$  s.t.  $f \circ h = g = \text{Id}_M$ . By Proposition 1.2 this indicates that the sequence of interest splits.
- iii)  $\implies$  ii). Consider the projection  $p : F \rightarrow M$  where  $M = (g_i)_{i \in I}$  and  $F = R^{(I)}$ . Therefore, the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker p \xrightarrow{i} F \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

is short exact, which gives  $F \simeq i(\ker p) \oplus M = \ker p \oplus M$ .

- $ii) \implies i)$ . Consider  $F$  as a projective module. This is true as  $F$  can be trivially embedded to itself. It then suffices to prove that if  $F$  is projective and  $F \simeq M \oplus N$ , then  $M$  is projective. By Remark 2.1, it suffices to prove that  $\text{Hom}_R(M, U) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, V)$  is surjective for all  $U \rightarrow V$  surjective.  $F$  is projective indicates that  $\text{Hom}_R(F, U) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(F, V)$  is surjective. By the fact that  $\text{Hom}_R(F, U) \simeq \text{Hom}_R(M, U) \oplus \text{Hom}_R(N, U)$ ,  $\text{Hom}_R(M, U) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, V)$  is surjective.

□

**Corollary 2.1.** The category of  ${}_R\text{Mod}$  has enough projective modules. In particular, for  $M = (g_i)_{i \in I}$  one can take  $F = R^{(I)}$ .

Similarly, we would like to prove that there are “enough” injective objects in  ${}_R\text{Mod}$ :

**Theorem 2.1.** *The category of  ${}_R\text{Mod}$  has enough injective objects. That is, for all  $R$ -module  $M$ , there exists an injective embedding  $M \hookrightarrow Q$  where  $Q$  is an injective module.*

**Proposition 2.2** (Baer). *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is injective if and only if  $\text{Hom}_R(R, M) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(I, M)$  is surjective for all left ideals  $I \subseteq R$ . That is, for all  $R$ -linear maps  $f : I \rightarrow M$ , there exists some  $u \in M$  s.t.  $f(x) = xu$  for all  $x \in I$  (and this gives an extension into  $R$ ).*

*Proof.* The implication from  $M$  being injective to the condition follows directly from the definition of injective modules, where one considers the map  $I \hookrightarrow R$  to be the injection. For the other direction, consider the following construction:

Let  $i : M_1 \hookrightarrow M_2$  be an injection, where  $M_1, M_2$  are  $R$ -modules; and let  $f : M_1 \rightarrow M$  be an  $R$ -linear map. It suffices to show that there exists some  $g : M_2 \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $g \circ i = f$ . Consider the family of modules  $N_i$  and corresponding maps  $h_i$  s.t.  $M_1 \subseteq N_i \subseteq M_2$  for all  $i$ ; and  $h_i|_{M_1} = f$ . Define the partial order  $(N, h) \leq (N', h')$  if and only if  $N \subseteq N'$ , and  $h'|_N = h$ . Notice that such family is non-empty, as in particular  $M_1$  is in the family. Further it is bounded above by  $M_2$ , which allows us to apply Zorn’s Lemma to retrieve a maximal element  $(\bar{N}, \bar{h})$ . Handle the cases respectively:

- $\bar{N} = M_2$ . Then letting  $g = \bar{h}$  finishes the proof.
- $\bar{N} \neq M_2$ . Proceed to show that this map can be further extended, which is a contradiction.

By the inequality there exists some  $x \in M_2 - \bar{N}$ . Consider  $I = \{a \in R \mid ax \in \bar{N}\}$  which is the submodule of  $M_2$  generated by  $x$ . Consider the morphism of  $R$ -modules  $f'$  where  $f'(a) = \bar{h}(ax)$ . By hypothesis there exists  $u \in M$  s.t.  $f'(x) = xu$  for all  $x \in I$ . Notice that  $\bar{h} \circ i = f$  where  $i : M_1 \hookrightarrow \bar{N}$  is the injection. Define the map  $\tilde{h} : \bar{N} + I = \bar{N} + Rx \rightarrow M$ ,  $\tilde{h}(a + vx) = \bar{h}(a) + vu$  for  $a \in \bar{N}$  and  $v \in R$ . This is well-defined, as for all  $v$  s.t.  $vx \in \bar{N}$ ,  $\bar{h}(vx) = h(vx) = f'(v) = vu$  by hypothesis. This indicates that  $\bar{N}$  is not maximal as the map can be extended to  $\bar{N} + Rx$ , which is a contradiction.

□

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then it is **divisible** if and only if for all  $u \in M$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ , there exists  $v \in M$  s.t.  $nv = u$  where multiplication by  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  is adding  $n$  copies of the elements to itself.

**Corollary 2.2.** If  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $M$  being an  $R$ -module is injective if and only if it is divisible.

*Proof.* If  $M$  is divisible, then for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ,  $u \in M$  there exists  $v \in M$  s.t.  $u = nv$ . That is, for all  $f : I \rightarrow M$  with  $n \in I \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ , there exists  $v \in M$  s.t.  $f(n) = u = nv$ . This gives the criterion in Proposition 2.2. The converse holds as the converse holds in the proposition.

□



*Proof of Theorem 2.1.* First prove the theorem with restriction  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ . From the the previous remark it is clear that  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules are injective if and only if it is divisible; and  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$  module is divisible. Consider the canonical projection  $\pi : \mathbb{Z}^{(I)} \rightarrow M$  where bases are mapped to generators. Then  $M \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{(I)} / \ker \pi$ , which embeds into  $\mathbb{Q}^{(I)} / \ker \pi$ . Since  $\ker \pi$  is a submodule of  $\mathbb{Z}^{(I)}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}^{(I)} / \ker \pi$  is divisible and thus injective; which satisfies the condition of interest.

Now consider the general case by reducing to the case of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules. As  $\mathbb{Z}$  modules, there exists an injection  $h : M \hookrightarrow Q$ , where  $Q$  is an injective module.  $Q$  being injective indicates that the functor  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(-, Q)$  is exact (on  $R$ -modules). But notice that by applying the adjoint property this gives

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(-, Q) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R \otimes_R -, Q) \simeq \text{Hom}_R(-, \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R, Q))$$

which indicates that the functor  $\text{Hom}_R(-, \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R, Q))$  is exact, i.e.  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R, Q)$  is an injective module. It then suffices to give an injective map from  $M$  to  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(R, Q)$ , which is given by  $u \mapsto (x \mapsto (h(xu)))$ , where  $u \in M$ , and  $x \in R$ . It is well-defined and bilinear by inspection.  $\square$

The followings turn to the discussion of flat modules:

**Remark 2.3.** Since the functor  $- \otimes M$  for a given  $R$ -module  $M$  is right exact,  $M$  is flat if and only if for all injective maps  $M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ ,  $M_1 \otimes M \rightarrow M_2 \otimes M$  is also injective.

**Proposition 2.3.** Given a family of left  $R$ -modules  $(M_i)_{i \in I}$ ,  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  is flat if and only if  $M_i$  is flat for all  $i$ .

*Proof.* Since direct sum commutes with tensor product, given any injective  $R$ -linear map  $N_1 \hookrightarrow N_2$ , we have the following commutative diagram: Notice  $f'$  is an injection if and only if  $f'_i$  is an injection for all  $i$  by the universal property of coproduct;

$$\begin{array}{ccc} N_1 \otimes (\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i) & \xhookrightarrow{f} & N_2 \otimes (\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i) \\ \downarrow \simeq & & \downarrow \simeq \\ \bigoplus_{i \in I} (N_1 \otimes M_i) & \xhookrightarrow{f'} & \bigoplus_{i \in I} (N_2 \otimes M_i) \end{array}$$

and  $f$  is an injection if and only if  $f'$  is an injection, as the diagram should commute.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.3.** Projective modules are flat.

*Proof.* By Proposition 2.1, an  $R$ -module  $M$  is projective if and only if there exists  $R$ -modules  $F$  and  $N$  where  $F$  is free s.t.  $F \simeq M \oplus N$ . By the previous proposition, it suffices to prove that  $F$  is flat. Since  $F \simeq \bigoplus_{i \in I} R^{(I)}$ , it suffices to prove that  $R$  is flat. This is indeed the case as  $- \otimes_R R = \text{Id}_R$ , which is trivially exact.  $\square$

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, and  $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$  specifies an  $R$ -algebra. Then  $S$  is a **flat  $R$ -algebra** if it is flat as an  $R$ -module.

**Remark 2.4.** This implies that the extension of scalar functor is exact, as by the fact that tensor product should be  $R$ -balanced, multiplication is indeed scalar multiplication on the  $R$ -module itself, which preserves injection.

**Example 2.1.** Consider the following flat structures:

- $R \rightarrow R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a flat  $R$ -algebra, as  $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  has a free  $R$ -module structure, where the basis is all monomials.

- Let  $S \subseteq R$  be a multiplicative system. Then  $R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  is a flat  $R$ -algebra. It suffices to verify that  $S^{-1}R \otimes -$  is exact. Notice  $S^{-1}R \otimes M \simeq S^{-1}M$ , this is the same as stating that  $S^{-1}(-)$  is exact.

Since  $N \subseteq M \implies S^{-1}N \subseteq S^{-1}M$ ,  $S^{-1}(-)$  preserves injections; and since  $S^{-1}(M/N) \simeq S^{-1}M/S^{-1}N$ ,  $S^{-1}(-)$  preserves surjection. Thus verifies the exactness and flatness.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a local Noetherian ring, and  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is projective if and only if  $M$  is free.*

*Proof.* It suffices to verify that  $M$  is free if it is projective. By Nakayama's Lemma,  $(u_1, \dots, u_m)$  forms a minimal system of generators of  $M$  if and only if  $(\bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_m)$  forms a basis in  $M/\mathfrak{m}$ . This is indeed the case, as denoting  $N = (u_1, \dots, u_m)$ , this gives  $N + \mathfrak{m}M = M$ , which indicates that  $N = M$ . Minimality is given by the minimality of cardinality of basis. Choose  $F = R^m$  with  $\varphi : F \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $\varphi(e_i) = u_i$  for all  $i$ . Since  $M$  is projective, consider the short exact sequence that splits:

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow F \xrightarrow{\varphi} M \longrightarrow 0$$

To prove that  $M$  is free, it suffices to show that  $K = 0$ . Note that if  $(a_1, \dots, a_m) \in K$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i u_i = 0 \implies \sum_{i=1}^m \bar{a}_i \bar{u}_i = 0 \implies \bar{a}_i = 0 \implies a_i \in \mathfrak{m}$  for all  $i$  since  $\bar{u}_i$ s give a basis. That is,  $K \subseteq \mathfrak{m}R^m$ . Now apply the functor  $- \otimes R/\mathfrak{m}$ . This is an additive functor, which preserves morphisms as it acts as a group homomorphism, i.e. split exact sequences remain split exact after applying the functor. This gives the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K/\mathfrak{m}K \xrightarrow{\alpha} F/\mathfrak{m}F \longrightarrow M/\mathfrak{m}M \longrightarrow 0$$

which is also split. Since  $K \subseteq \mathfrak{m}R^m$ ,  $K \subseteq \mathfrak{m}F$ , which indicates that  $\alpha = 0$ . Since  $\alpha$  is injective as the sequence is exact,  $K/\mathfrak{m}K = 0 \implies K = 0$ . The sequence being split exact gives  $F \simeq M \oplus K$ , which implies  $F \simeq M$ .  $\square$

### 3 Complexes\*

### 4 Projective and Injective Resolution\*

### 5 Derived Functors\*