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finite dimensional modules over algebra

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Assume that  $k$  is a field,  $A$  is a  $k$ -algebra and  $M$  is a  $A$ -module over  $k$ . In particular  $M$  is a  $A$ -module and a vector space over  $k$ , thus we may speak about  $M$  being finitely generated as  $A$ -module and finite dimensional as a vector space. These two concepts are related as follows:

**Proposition.** Assume that  $A$  and  $M$  are both unital and additionally  $A$  is finite dimensional. Then  $M$  is finite dimensional vector space if and only if  $M$  is finitely generated  $A$ -module.

*Proof.* „ $\Rightarrow$ ” Of course if  $M$  is finite dimensional, then there exists basis

$$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset M.$$

Thus every element of  $M$  can be (uniquely) expressed in the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \cdot x_i$$

which is equal to

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (\lambda_i \cdot 1) \cdot x_i$$

since  $M$  and  $A$  are unital. This completes this implication, because  $\lambda_i \cdot 1 \in A$  for all  $i$ .

„ $\Leftarrow$ ” Assume that  $M$  is finitely generated  $A$ -module. In particular there is a subset

$$\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset M$$

such that every element of  $M$  is of the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \cdot x_i$$

with all  $a_i \in A$ . Let  $m \in M$  be with the decomposition as above. Now  $A$  is finite dimensional, so there is a subset

$$\{y_1, \dots, y_t\} \subset A$$

which is a  $k$ -basis of  $A$ . In particular for each  $i$  we have

$$a_i = \sum_{j=1}^t \lambda_{ij} \cdot y_j$$

with  $\lambda_{ij} \in k$ . Thus we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \cdot x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{j=1}^t \lambda_{ij} \cdot y_j \right) \cdot x_i = \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^t \lambda_{ij} \cdot (y_j \cdot x_i) \end{aligned}$$

which shows, that all  $y_j \cdot x_i \in M$  together make a set of generators of  $M$  over  $k$  (note that  $y_j$  and  $x_i$  are independent on  $m$ ). Since it is finite, then  $M$  is finite dimensional and the proof is complete.  $\square$