INTRODUCTION TO HOMOLOGICAL ALGEBRA

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0. MATH 697 Homework Zero.Two

AM 2.1: Show that $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) = 0$ if m and n are coprime.

Proof. Choose $a \otimes b \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$. Since m and n are coprime, there exist $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $ms + nt = 1$ Observe that

$$a = a \cdot 1 = a(ms + nt) = ams + ant \equiv ant \pmod{m}.$$

Now observe that

$$a \otimes b = atn \otimes b = a \otimes nb = at \otimes 0 = 0.$$

We have shown that any simple tensor is zero, so any finite linear combination of simple tensors is zero. Conclude $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \otimes (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) = 0$.

□

AM 2.2: Let R be a ring, I an ideal of R, M an R-module. Show that $(R/I) \otimes_R M$ is isomorphic to M/IM.

Proof. Define $\varphi : R/I \times M \to M/IM$ by $\varphi(r + I, m) = rm + IM$, which we shall henceforth write as $\varphi(\overline{r}, m) = \overline{rm}$. Let $(\overline{r}, m) = (\overline{s}, m)$. Then $\overline{r} = \overline{s} \implies r \in \overline{s} \implies r = s + i$, some $i \in I$. Then $\varphi(\overline{r}, m) = \overline{rm} = \overline{(s+i)m} = \overline{sm + im} = \overline{sm} + \overline{im} = \overline{sm} + \overline{0} = \overline{sm} = \varphi(\overline{s}, m)$. Thus φ is well-defined.

Observe $\varphi(\overline{r} + \overline{s}, m) = \varphi(\overline{r + s}, m) = \overline{(r+s)m} = \overline{rm + sm} = \overline{rm} + \overline{sm} = \varphi(\overline{r}, m) + \varphi(\overline{s}, m)$. Similarly, $\varphi(\overline{r}, m + n) = \varphi(\overline{r}, m) + \varphi(\overline{r}, n)$. Lastly, $\varphi(\overline{rs}, m) = \overline{(rs)m} = \overline{r(sm)} = \varphi(\overline{r}, sm)$. Thus φ is R-biadditive (In fact, φ is R-bilinear).

Now we are guaranteed a unique R-homomorphism $\phi : R/I \otimes_R M \to M/IM$ given by $\phi(\overline{r} \otimes m) = \overline{rm}$. Notice if we define $f : M/IM \to R/I \otimes_R M$ via $f(\overline{m}) = \overline{1} \otimes m$ then f is a $\mathbb{Z}$-homomorphism which is the inverse of ϕ (as a function). Thus ϕ is a bijective function and hence an isomorphism when considered as an R-map. □

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