

A few notes about the tensor product.

- a. If  $v \otimes w = 0$  in  $V \otimes_R W$ , this means that  $B(v, w) = 0$  for *every* bilinear map  $B : V \times W \rightarrow P$  (otherwise, the universal property would fail!). So if you can find a bilinear map such that  $B(v, w) \neq 0$ , then  $v \otimes w \neq 0$ .
  - b. If  $\sum_i a_i v_i \otimes w_i = 0$ , then this means that  $\sum_i a_i B(v_i, w_i) = 0$  for *every* bilinear maps  $B : V \times W \rightarrow P$  (otherwise, the universal property would fail!). So if you can find a bilinear map such that  $\sum_i a_i B(v_i, w_i) \neq 0$ , then the sum of the tensors cannot be zero.
  - c. If  $V \otimes W = 0$ , then this means that there *are no bilinear maps*  $B : V \times W \rightarrow P$  for any  $R$  module  $P$ .
1. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $I, J$  be ideals in  $R$ . Prove that  $R/I \otimes_R R/J \cong R/(I + J)$ .<sup>1</sup> Consider the function  $B : R/I \times R/J \rightarrow R/(I + J)$  defined by  $B(r_1 + I, r_2 + J) = r_1 r_2 + (I + J)$ .
- (a)  $B$  is well-defined: let  $r'_1 + I = r_1 + I$ . Then  $r'_1 = r_1 + i$  for some  $i \in I$ . Thus,  $B(r'_1 + I, r_2 + J) = r'_1 r_2 + (I + J) = (r_1 + i) r_2 + (I + J) = r_1 r_2 + (i r_2 + I + J)$  but  $r_1 r_2 + i r_2 - r_1 r_2 = i r_2 \in I \subset I + J$ , so  $B(r'_1 + I, r_2 + J) = B(r_1 + I, r_2 + J)$ . The other side is similar.
  - (b)  $B$  is bilinear:  $B((r_1 + r'_1) + I, r_2 + J) = (r_1 + r'_1) r_2 + (I + J) = r_1 r_2 + r'_1 r_2 + (I + J) = B(r_1 + I, r_2 + J) + B(r'_1 + I, r_2 + J)$ . Also,  $B(\lambda r_1 + I, r_2 + J) = \lambda r_1 r_2 + (I + J) = \lambda(r_1 r_2 + (I + J)) = \lambda B(r_1 + I, r_2 + J)$ .
  - (c) Thus, we have a homomorphism  $\Phi : R/I \otimes_R R/J \rightarrow R/(I + J)$  with  $\Phi((r_1 + I) \otimes (r_2 + J)) = r_1 r_2 + (I + J)$ .
  - (d) To show that  $\Phi$  is onto, it's enough to show that  $1 + (I + J)$  is in the image of  $\Phi$ . This is true, for example, because  $\Phi(1 + I, 1 + J) = 1 + (I + J)$ .
  - (e) Now consider  $x = \sum_i c_i (r_i + I) \otimes (r'_i + J) \in R/I \otimes R/J$ . Using linearity in the first component, we can factor out  $r_i$  and similarly, we factor out  $r'_i$  from the second. Hence,  $x = \sum_i c_i r_i r'_i (1 + I) \otimes (1 + J)$ . Then we'll reabsorb the sum and the coefficients into the second component, say, so  $x = (1 + I) \otimes (\sum_i c_i r_i r'_i + J)$ . Assume that  $\Phi(x) = 0$ . Then  $\sum_i c_i r_i r'_i \in I + J$ , so  $\sum_i c_i r_i r'_i = z + z'$  where  $z \in I$  and  $z' \in J$ . So  $x = (1 + I) \otimes (z + z' + J) = (1 + I) \otimes (z + J) = z(1 + I) \otimes (1 + J) = (z + I) \otimes (1 + J) = 0 \otimes (1 + J) = 0$ . Hence,  $\ker \Phi = 0$ , so  $\Phi$  is injective.
2. Let  $V = F^n, W = F^m$  be two finite-dimensional vector spaces over a field  $F$ . Let  $A$  be a matrix in  $\text{Mat}_{n \times m}(F)$ . Prove that the function  $B : V \times W \rightarrow F$  defined by  $B(v, w) = v^T A w$  is a bilinear map.<sup>2</sup>  $B(v + v', w) = (v + v')^T A w = v^T A w + v'^T A w$ , which holds on the other side as well. Further,

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<sup>1</sup>Hint: Use multiplication as your bilinear map, but you must show it is well-defined.

<sup>2</sup>If  $n = m$  and  $A$  is the identity matrix,  $B(v, w)$  is simply the dot product. So this is a generalization of that idea.

$B(\lambda v, w) = (\lambda v)^T A w = \lambda v^T A w = \lambda B(v, w)$ , and similarly on the other side. Hence,  $B$  is bilinear. (This means that every inner product on  $V \times W$  gives a homomorphism  $V \otimes W \rightarrow F$ , and vice-versa.)

3. Suppose that  $V$  and  $W$  are vector spaces over a field  $F$  with bases  $\mathcal{B} = \{e_i\}_{i \in I}$  and  $\mathcal{C} = \{f_j\}_{j \in J}$ . Our goal is to prove that the set  $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{C} := \{e_i \otimes f_j\}_{i \in I, j \in J}$  is a basis for  $V \otimes W$ .

- i. Prove that  $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{C}$  spans  $V \otimes W$ . We know already that  $V \otimes W$  is spanned by tensors  $v \otimes w$ , so if we can show that every tensor of this form is a linear combination of the elements of  $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{C}$ , we're done. Since the  $e_i$  form a basis for  $V$ , and similarly with  $f_j$ , write

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \sum_i \lambda_i e_i \\ w &= \sum_j \mu_j f_j \end{aligned}$$

Then using the multilinearity

$$\begin{aligned} v \otimes w &= \left( \sum_i \lambda_i e_i \right) \otimes \left( \sum_j \mu_j f_j \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \mu_j (e_i \otimes f_j) \end{aligned}$$

so indeed,  $v \otimes w$  is a linear combination of the elements in  $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{C}$ .

- ii. For any pair of integers  $k \in I$  and  $l \in J$ , define the function

$$\begin{aligned} B_{kl} : V \times W &\rightarrow F \\ B_{kl}(v, w) &= [v]_k [w]_l \end{aligned}$$

the product of the  $k$ -coordinate of  $v$  and the  $l$  coordinate of  $w$ . (This can also be realized as  $v^T(e_k e_l^T)w$ .) Prove that  $B_{kl}(v, w)$  is bilinear (see problem 2). For each  $k, l$ ,  $e_k e_l^T$  is a matrix, so  $B_{kl}(v, w) = v^T A w$ . By problem 2, then,  $B$  is bilinear.

- iii. Utilize the map from part (ii) to prove that  $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{C}$  is a linearly independent set. (Hint: use remark (b) from the notes at the top of the page!) Suppose that there is a linear dependence:

$$\sum_{i,j} a_{ij} e_i \otimes f_j = 0.$$

By the note at the top, then,

$$\star \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} B_{kl}(e_i, f_j) = 0$$

for *any choice* of integers  $k, l$ . However,  $[e_i]_k = \begin{cases} 1 & i = k \\ 0 & i \neq k \end{cases}$  and similarly with  $j$  and  $l$ . Hence,  $\star$  really says that  $a_{kl}(1) = 0$  for each  $k, l$ , so  $\mathcal{B} \otimes \mathcal{C}$  is linearly independent.

4. Complete the work we started in class: Prove that if  $V$  and  $W$  are finite-dimensional vector spaces over a field  $F$ , then  $V^* \otimes W \cong \text{Hom}_F(V, W)$  where  $V^* := \text{Hom}_F(V, F)$ . Define  $B : V^* \times W \rightarrow \text{Hom}_F(V, W)$  by  $B(\varphi, w) = g_{\varphi, w}$  where  $g_{\varphi, w}$  is the function defined by  $g_{\varphi, w}(v) = \varphi(v)w$ .

(a)  $B$  is bilinear (this is pretty easy). So we get a homomorphism  $\Phi : V^* \otimes W \rightarrow \text{Hom}_F(V, W)$ .

(b)  $\Phi$  is onto: Let  $L_{ij} : V \rightarrow W$  be the linear transformation defined by

$$L_{ij}(e_k) = \begin{cases} f_i & j = k \\ 0 & j \neq k \end{cases}. \text{ It can be easily verified that these are linear}$$

transformations that form a basis for  $\text{Hom}_F(V, W)$  (they are the matrices with a 1 in the  $ij$  entry and zeroes everywhere else). We will show that  $L_{ij} = \Phi(\varphi_j \otimes w_i)$ . Indeed, consider  $\varphi_j : V \rightarrow F$  defined by

$$\varphi_j(e_k) = \begin{cases} 1 & j = k \\ 0 & j \neq k \end{cases}. \text{ When extended linearly, this is a linear trans-}$$

formation. Consider  $\Phi(\varphi_j \otimes f_i) = g_{\varphi_j, f_i}$  which has the property that

$$g_{\varphi_j, f_i}(e_k) = \varphi_j(e_k)f_i = \begin{cases} f_i & j = k \\ 0 & j \neq k \end{cases}. \text{ Since } L_{ij} \text{ and } g \text{ agree on a basis, they}$$

are the same transformation. Hence,  $\Phi$  is onto.

(c) We showed in class that  $\dim F^n \otimes F^m = n \cdot m$  when  $F$  is a field, and  $\dim \text{Hom}_F(V, W) = nm$  since it is identified with  $\text{Mat}_{m \times n}(F)$ . Since  $\Phi$  is an onto linear map between two spaces of equal dimension, it is bijective, so an isomorphism.

Given an  $R$  module  $M$ , we can think of  $\text{Hom}_R(M, -)$  as a function. It takes an  $R$ -module  $N$  as an input, and produces the abelian group  $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Hom}_R(M, -) : \text{Mod}(R) &\rightarrow \mathcal{AB} \\ \text{Hom}_R(M, -)(N) &= \text{Hom}_R(M, N).\end{aligned}$$

More can be said. If  $f : N \rightarrow N'$  is a homomorphism, then we can define  $\text{Hom}_R(M, f)$  to be a function which takes a homomorphism from  $\text{Hom}_R(M, N)$  and outputs a homomorphism in  $\text{Hom}_R(M, N')$  by composition:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Hom}_R(M, f) : \text{Hom}_R(M, N) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, N') \\ \text{Hom}_R(M, f)(\varphi) &= f \circ \varphi\end{aligned}$$

A creature like  $\text{Hom}_R(M, -)$ , which associates objects in a target category to objects in a source category in such a way that it also takes homomorphisms to homomorphisms is called a *functor*. Think of these as function whose domains and codomains are categories.

5. Describe the following abelian groups:

- (a)  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z})$  Suppose that  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is a homomorphism. Then if  $\phi([1]) = a$ ,  $0 = \phi([2]) = \phi([1]) + \phi([1]) = a + a$ , so  $2a = 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Thus,  $a = 0$ . Hence  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}) = 0$
- (b)  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  Since this function is defined by  $f([1])$ , we consider the possible values of  $f([1])$ . If  $f([1]) = 0$ , then  $f = 0$  is the zero function. Otherwise,  $f([1]) = [1]_2$ . This is well-defined (since it is really the quotient homomorphism by the submodule  $2\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ ), and it has the property that  $(f + f)([1]) = [1]_2 + [1]_2 = [2]_2 = [0]_2$ , so it has order 2. Hence, this group is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .
- (c)  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})$  for any integer  $m$  Similar to above, if  $f([1]) \neq 0$ ,  $f([1])$  has order 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ . Hence  $m$  is divisible by 2, and  $f(1) = m/2$ . It's clear to show in this case that  $f$  has order 2, so  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  if  $m$  is even and 0 otherwise.
- (d)  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}[t]}(N, N)$  where  $N$  is the  $\mathbb{C}[t]$ -module which, as a vector space, is  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and on which  $T$  acts via the matrix  $T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  Suppose that  $f : N \rightarrow N$  is a homomorphism of  $R$  modules where  $R = \mathbb{C}[t]$ . This means that  $f$  is an abelian group homomorphism, and that  $f(rn) = rf(n)$  for all  $r \in R$  and  $n \in N$ 
  - i. That  $f$  is an abelian group homomorphism means that  $f(n + n') = f(n) + f(n')$  for all  $n, n' \in N$ .
  - ii. Since the constant polynomials  $\lambda$  are in  $\mathbb{C}[t]$ , we also require that  $f(\lambda n) = \lambda f(n)$  for all  $n \in N$ .
  - iii. These two together imply that  $f$  is a linear transformation. Since  $N$  is 2 dimensional, let's say  $f = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ .

- iv. The polynomial  $t \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ , so we need to also verify that  $f(tn) = tf(n)$ . But these are both linear transformations, so we need to ensure that

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

This implies that  $a = d$  and  $c = 0$ , so  $f = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix}$ .

- v. Finally, we need to ensure that  $f(p(t)n) = p(t)f(n)$  for all  $n \in N$  and  $p(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ . Let  $p(t) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i t^i$ . Then  $f \sum_{i=0}^m a_i t^i n = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i f t^i n = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i t^i f(n) = p(t)f(n)$  (since above we showed that  $f$  and  $t$  commute).
- vi. Hence,  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}[t]}(N, N) \cong \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$ .

6. Prove that if  $f : N \rightarrow N'$  is injective, then

$$\text{Hom}_R(M, f) : \text{Hom}_R(M, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_R(M, N')$$

is also injective. First note that  $\text{Hom}_R(M, f)$  is a homomorphism of abelian groups (indeed,  $\text{Hom}_R(M, f)(\varphi + \varphi') = f \circ (\varphi + \varphi') = f \circ \varphi + f \circ \varphi'$  since  $f$  is a homomorphism of modules). Thus, it suffices to show that  $\ker(\text{Hom}_R(M, f)) = 0$ . So assume that  $\text{Hom}_R(M, f)(\varphi) = 0$ . Then  $f \circ \varphi(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . Then  $f(\varphi(x)) = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . But  $f$  is injective, so  $\ker f = 0$ , hence  $\varphi(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . This implies  $\varphi = 0$ .

7. On the other hand, it is not always the case that  $\text{Hom}_R(M, f)$  is surjective when  $f$  is. Here, you'll work out an example. Let  $f : \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  be the quotient map  $f([x]_4) = [x]_2$  (you probably identified it in problem 4).  $f$  is clearly surjective. Show that the map  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, f) : \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  is not surjective. Suppose that  $\varphi$  is the only non-trivial homomorphism in  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$ . I.e.,  $\varphi([x]_2) = [2x]_4$ . Then  $f \circ \varphi(x) = f([2x]_4) = [2x]_2 = 0$ . Hence,  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, f)$  is the zero map, even though the domain and codomain are not trivial, so it is not surjective.