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MA 526

Commutative Algebra

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Noetherian Rings and Modules

Def. (Poset) A set S with a relation \leq which is

- (i) Reflexive
- (ii) Anti-symmetric
- (iii) Transitive

A **total order** is a poset in which any two elements are comparable.

A subset of a poset is called a **chain** if it is totally ordered.

Prop. Let S be a poset.

TFAE

- (1) $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq x_3 \leq \dots \Rightarrow \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } x_n = x_{n+1} \forall n \geq N$
- (2) $T \subseteq S, T \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow T \text{ has a maximal element.}$

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2)

Let $\emptyset \subsetneq T \subsetneq S$. Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that T has no maximal element.

Pick any $x_1 \in T$. x_1 not maximal. $\therefore \exists x_2 \in T$ s.t. $x_2 > x_1$.
 x_2 not maximal. $\exists x_3 \in T$ with $x_3 > x_2$. . .

We get a chain $x_1 < x_2 < \dots$ which does not stabilise.

(2) \Rightarrow (1) Let $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq x_3 \leq \dots$ be a chain.

Consider $T = \{x_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$. This has a maximal element.

Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$ be s.t. x_N is maximal.

By assumption, $x_N \leq x_{N+1}$ but also maximal.
 $\therefore x_N = x_{N+1}$.

In fact, for any $M > N$, the above argument holds. \blacksquare

- (1) is called the ascending chain condition. (a.c.c.)
 (2) \rightarrow maximal condition.

Defn. Let R be a commutative ring with 1 .

Let M be an R -module.

Let P be the poset of submodules of M (w.r.t. inclusion).
 M is said to be Noetherian if P satisfies a.c.c.

(Equivalently, P satisfies maximal condition.)

If R is a Noetherian R -module, R is called a Noetherian ring.

There are the dual properties: descending chain condition (d.c.c.) minimal condition.

Defn. If submodules of an R -module M satisfy d.c.c., M is called an Artinian module.

Similarly, if R is Artinian as an R -module, it is called an Artinian ring.

Note that R -submodules of R are precisely ideals.
 Thus, the Art./Noe. conditions are a.c.c./d.c.c. on ideals.

We shall soon see that Noe. rings are Art. but converse not true.

Examples .

(1) R P.I.D. $R = \mathbb{Z}$ or $K[x]$, for example.

Let us consider \mathbb{Z} .

$$0 \subset (n_1) \subset (n_2) \subset \dots$$

$n_2 \mid n_1$ with $n_2 \neq \pm n_1, \dots$
 At each stage, at least one prime is exhausted.

Similar argument works in $\mathbb{K}[x]$ or any PID.

\mathbb{Z} is Noetherian. $(2) \supseteq (2^2) \supseteq (2^3) \supseteq \dots$

Can do the same in any PID which is not a field.

(2) \mathbb{K} a field. \mathbb{K} is both. } have only finitely many ideals. Satisfy acc & dec trivially.
 (3) $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \leftarrow$ both $n > 1$

(4) Any finite abelian group G is a \mathbb{Z} -module.
 Only finitely many subgroups (\mathbb{Z} -submodules) and hence, both.

(5) \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} . $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$.

$$\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} = \left\{ \frac{r}{s} + \mathbb{Z} \mid r, s \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ with } s \neq 0 \right\}$$

is an infinite abelian group.

Fix a prime $p > 0$. Define $G_n \subset \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ as

$$G_n := \left\{ \frac{a}{p^n} + \mathbb{Z} \mid a \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

$$G_0 = 0 \subsetneq G_1 \subsetneq G_2 \subsetneq \dots$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{p^n} + \mathbb{Z} \in G_n \setminus G_{n-1} \right)$$

Thus, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is not Noetherian. (as a \mathbb{Z} -module)

Moreover, $G = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} G_n \leq \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$. This subgroup is also not a Noetherian \mathbb{Z} -module.

However, G does satisfy d.c.c.
(Ex. Every subgroup of G is of the form G_n)

Thus, G is Artinian but not Noetherian!

(6) Hilbert Basis Theorem. $\mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is Noe. ($n=1$ done above)

However, $\mathbb{K}[x_1, \dots]$ is not Noetherian.

$$(x_1) \subsetneq (x_1, x_2) \subsetneq \dots$$

Not Artinian either. $R \supsetneq (x_1, x_2, \dots) \supsetneq (x_2, \dots) \supsetneq (x_3, \dots) \supsetneq \dots$
 $(x_1) \supsetneq (x_1^2) \supsetneq (x_1^3) \supsetneq \dots$

$$(7) 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H \stackrel{\cong}{\hookleftarrow} \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow G \rightarrow 0$$

$$H = \left\{ \frac{m}{p^n} : m \in \mathbb{Z}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \right\} \quad (\text{p fixed prime})$$

Lecture 2 (12-01-2021)

12 January 2021 14:02

Thm. Suppose R is a ring and M an R -module.
Then M is Noetherian iff every submodule of M is f.g.

Proof (\Rightarrow) Suppose M is Noetherian and $N \subseteq M$ a submodule.

To show: N is not f.g.

Suppose not.

Then, $N \neq \{0\}$. ($\because \langle \phi \rangle = \{0\}$)

$\Rightarrow \exists x_1 \in N$ s.t. $x_1 \neq 0$.

$N_1 = Rx_1 \subsetneq N$. Thus, $\exists x_2 \in N \setminus N_1$.

$N_1 \subsetneq N_2 = Rx_1 + Rx_2 \subsetneq N$.

Similarly, we can construct x_3, \dots

Thus, $0 \neq N_1 \subsetneq N_2 \subsetneq N_3 \subsetneq \dots \subseteq N \subseteq M$.

$\rightarrow \leftarrow$

Thus, N is f.g.. As N was arbitrary, every submodule of M is f.g..

(\Leftarrow) Suppose every submodule of M is f.g.

We show that a.c.c. holds

Let $M_1 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq M_3 \subseteq \dots \subseteq M$ be a seq. of submodules.

Put $N := \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} M_i$. \leftarrow This is a submodule of M since $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} M_i$ is a chain.

Thus, N is f.g. Then, $R = \langle x_1, \dots, x_g \rangle$ for some $x_1, \dots, x_g \in N$.

$\therefore N = \bigcup_{i=1}^g M_i$, for some $x_j, \exists M_j$ s.t. $x_j \in M_j$.

$$N = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} M_i, \quad \text{for some } x_j, \exists M_j \text{ s.t. } x_j \in M_j.$$

However, note that $\{N_i\}$ is a chain and $\exists t \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t.

$$x_1, \dots, x_g \in M_t.$$

$$\text{Thus, } x_1, \dots, x_g \in M_T \quad \forall T \geq t.$$

$$\Rightarrow M_t = N = M_T \quad \forall T \geq t.$$

Thus, M is Noetherian.

Gr. A ring is Noetherian iff every ideal of R is f.g.

Propn. Suppose $0 \rightarrow N \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} P \rightarrow 0$ is an exact sequence. (That is, $\ker f = 0$, $\operatorname{im} f = \ker g$, $\operatorname{im} f = P$.)

(i) M is Noetherian $\Leftrightarrow N$ and P are Noetherian

(ii) M is Artinian $\Leftrightarrow N$ and P are Artinian

Prof. We prove (i). (ii) is similar.

$\Rightarrow N \cong f(N)$ as f is injective.

Enough to prove $f(N)$ is Noetherian. But $f(N) \leq M$.

Thus, any chain in $f(N)$ is also in M . Thus, $f(N)$ is Noetherian because M is so.

$$P \cong M/\ker g$$

\uparrow sufficient to show
this is Noetherian

Note any submodule of $M/\ker g$ is of the form $L/\ker g$ for some $L \leq M$ with $\ker g \subseteq L$.

Conclude.

(\Leftarrow) Let N and P be Noetherian modules.

Let $M_0 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq M$ be an increasing sequence.

$$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(M_0) \subseteq f^{-1}(M_1) \subseteq \dots \subseteq N.$$

$$N \text{ is Noe, thus } \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } f^{-1}(M_{n+i}) = f^{-1}(M_n) \quad \forall i > 0.$$

Similarly,

$$g(M_0) \subseteq g(M_1) \subseteq \dots \subseteq P$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists m \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } \underset{\text{with } m \geq n}{g(M_m)} = g(M_{m+i}) \quad \forall i > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(M_m) &= f^{-1}(M_{m+i}) \\ g(M_m) &= g(M_{m+i}) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \right\} \forall i > 0$$

Claim. $M_m = M_{m+i} \quad \forall i > 0.$

(\Leftarrow) is given

$$(2) \text{ Let } x \in M_{m+i}. \quad g(x) \in g(M_{m+i}) = g(M_m)$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x) = g(y) \text{ for some } y \in M_m$$

$$\Rightarrow x - y \in \ker g = \inf \cap M_{n+i}$$

$$\Rightarrow x - y = f(z) \text{ for some } z \in N$$

$$\Rightarrow z \in f^{-1}(M_{m+i}) = f^{-1}(M_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(z) \in M_n$$

$$\Rightarrow x - y \in M_n \text{ but } y \notin M_n$$

$\therefore x \in M_n$, as desired.

Cor. Let M_1, \dots, M_n be R -modules.

Then

$$\bigoplus_{i=1}^n M_i \text{ is Noe} \Leftrightarrow M_i \text{ is Noe } \forall i.$$

Similar statement holds for Artinian.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) $\pi_i: \bigoplus_{j=1}^n M_j \rightarrow M_i$ is onto.

$$0 \rightarrow \ker \pi_i \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} \bigoplus_{j=1}^n M_j \xrightarrow{\pi_i} M_i \rightarrow 0$$

shows M_i is Noe. (or Art).

(\Leftarrow) Induction on n . $n=1$ true. Assume for n . Then,

$$0 \rightarrow M_{n+1} \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n+1} M_i \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M_i \rightarrow 0$$

\uparrow
Noetherian
(assumption)

\uparrow
Noetherian
(induction)

$$\therefore \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n+1} M_i \text{ is Noe.}$$

□

Cor. Let R be a Noetherian (resp. Artinian) ring and M a f.g. R -module. Then, M is Noetherian (resp. Artinian).

Proof. Since M is f.g., we can write M as a quotient of $R^{\oplus n}$. (*)

But $R^{\oplus n}$ is Noe. (resp Art.) since R is.

Thus, so is M .

(*) Let $M = Rm_1 + \dots + Rm_n$ for $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$

$$0 \rightarrow \ker f \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^n R \xrightarrow{e_i} M \rightarrow 0$$

$e_i \mapsto m_i$

is an exact sequence.

Note that for Noe., it is necessary that M be f.g. Thus, it is necessary & suff. if R is Noetherian.
However, for Art., M need not be f.g.

Remark Subrings of Noetherian rings need not be Noetherian.

$$R = \mathbb{K}[x, y] \quad \mathbb{K} \text{ field; } x, y \text{ indeterminate}$$

R is Noetherian. (Hilbert's basis theorem)

$S = \mathbb{K}[x, xy, xy^2, \dots]$ is a subring of R .

Note that

$\langle x \rangle \subsetneq \langle x, xy \rangle \subsetneq \langle x, xy, xy^2 \rangle \subsetneq \dots$
are strictly increasing ideals in S .

Note that in R , $\langle x \rangle = \langle x, xy \rangle$ since $y \in R$.

Thus, S is not Noetherian even though R is.

EXAMPLE. Let $X = [0, 1]$. $\ell(X) = \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$
is a comm. ring with 1. (Pointwise operations.)

$\ell(X)$ is not Noetherian.

Define $f_n := \left[0, \frac{1}{n}\right]$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$F_1 \supset F_2 \supset F_3 \supset \dots$$

Define

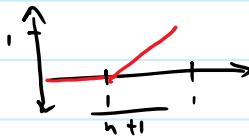
$$I_n = \{f \in \ell(X) : f(f_n) = 0\}.$$

Note I_n is an ideal. Moreover

$$I_1 \subsetneq I_2 \subsetneq I_3 \subsetneq \dots$$

(C) is clear because $F_{n+1} \subset F_n$

(F) because



Thus, R is not Noetherian.

 X

R : Noetherian ring, I is an ideal

$\Rightarrow R/I$ is Noetherian (as a ring)

(What NOT to do: $0 \rightarrow I \rightarrow R \rightarrow R/I \rightarrow 0$)

This only shows R/I is a Noe. R -module, not as ring.)

(However, this can be improved.)
See note.

Proof

let $K \trianglelefteq R/I$ be an ideal. Then, $K = J/I$ for some $I \subseteq J \trianglelefteq R$.

R is Noe $\Rightarrow J$ is f.g. $\Rightarrow I$ is f.g. \blacksquare

Note.

Let M be an R -module.

$$\text{ann } M := \{r \in R : rm = 0 \ \forall m \in M\}.$$

(E.g. R/I is an R -module and $\text{ann}(R/I) = I$.)

M is also an $R/\text{ann } M$ - module with operation

$$(r + \text{ann } M)m = rm. \quad (\text{well-defined})$$

Then, the module structure is the "same". This shows that the previous argument actually works.

 X

T. L. L.

Tm. (Hilbert Basis Theorem) (Hilbert's Basis Theorem)

Let R be a Noetherian ring and x an indeterminate.
Then $R[x]$ is Noetherian.

Remark. Note the converse is trivial since $R \cong \frac{R[x]}{\langle x \rangle}$.

Proof. Suppose $R[x]$ is not Noetherian.

Then, $\exists I \trianglelefteq R[x]$ s.t. I is not f.g.

In particular, $I \neq 0$. $\exists f_1 \in I \setminus \{0\}$

Pick f_1 of least degree. (May be many such f_i . Does not matter.)

$$f_1 = a_1 x^{d_1} + (\text{smaller terms})$$

$$(d_1 = \deg f_1)$$

$I \neq (f_1)$. Choose $f_2 \in I \setminus (f_1)$ of least degree.
(d_2)

$$f_2 = a_2 x^{d_2} + (\text{smaller terms})$$

$I \neq (f_1, f_2)$. Continue picking f_3, f_4, \dots similarly

Note $a_1 \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0, \dots$

Consider the following ideals of R :

$$(a_1) \subseteq (a_1, a_2) \subseteq (a_1, a_2, a_3) \subseteq \dots$$

R is Noetherian. Thus, the above chain stabilises

$$\Rightarrow (a_1, \dots, a_k) = (a_1, \dots, a_k, \dots, a_{k+i}) \quad \forall i > 0$$

$$a_{k+i} = b_1 a_1 + \dots + b_k a_k \quad \text{for some } b_1, \dots, b_k \in R.$$

$$f_1 = a_1 x^{d_1} + (\dots)$$

Note $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots$

:

$$f_k = a_k x^{d_k} + (\dots)$$

$$f_{k+1} = a_{k+1} x^{d_{k+1}} + (\dots)$$

Then, $d_{k+1} > d_k \geq \dots$

Now, look at

$$g = b_1 f_1 x^{d_{k+1} - d_1} + \dots + b_k f_k x^{d_{k+1} - d_k} - f_{k+1}$$

Note : $\deg g < \deg f_{k+1}$ but $g \notin (f_1, \dots, f_k)$.

$$\deg f_{k+1}$$

else $f_{k+1} \in (f_1, \dots, f_k) \rightarrow$

Thus, $R[x]$ is Noetherian.

Cor. R Noetherian $\Rightarrow R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is Noetherian.

Moreover, quotients are also Noetherian.

Cor. R Noetherian \Rightarrow any f.g. R -alg is Noetherian.

$$S = R[s_1, \dots, s_n] \simeq \frac{R[x_1, \dots, x_n]}{I}.$$

Remark. Analogous result not true for Artinian \mathbb{k} & $\mathbb{k}[x]$.

Lecture 3 (15-01-2021)

15 January 2021 14:03

Lemma. Let $I \trianglelefteq R$ be an ideal and $b \in R$ be s.t.

$$I:b = \{r \in R \mid rb \in I\} \text{ and}$$

$\langle I, b \rangle$ are finitely generated. Then, I is also f.g.

Proof.

$$I:b \quad \langle I, b \rangle$$

$$\setminus \quad /$$

$$\langle I, b \rangle = \{x + yb \mid x \in I, y \in R\}$$

Generators of $\langle I, b \rangle$ can be of the form
 $a_1, \dots, a_r \in I, b$.

$$\langle I, b \rangle = \langle a_1, \dots, a_r, b \rangle.$$

$$(I:b) = (c_1, \dots, c_s) \Rightarrow cb \in I \quad \forall i$$

$$\text{Put } J = \langle a_1, \dots, a_r, c_1b, \dots, c_sb \rangle \subseteq I.$$

We show $I \subseteq J$ and conclude. ($\because J$ is f.g.)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } a \in I \subseteq \langle I, b \rangle = \langle J, b \rangle. \quad \text{Then, } a &= c + rb, \quad c \in J, r \in R \\ &\Rightarrow rb = a - c \in I \\ &\Rightarrow r \in I:b \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus, } r = d_1 c_1 + \dots + d_s c_s \quad (I:b = \langle c_1, \dots, c_s \rangle)$$

$$\Rightarrow a = c + rb = c + d_1 \underbrace{bc_1}_{\in J} + \dots + d_s \underbrace{bc_s}_{\in J}$$

$$\therefore a \in J. \quad \square$$

Thm.

(Cohen's Theorem)

If prime ideals of a commutative ring are f.g., then the ring is Noetherian.

Proof. We show that all ideals are f.g.

Suppose not. Define

$$\Sigma = \{ I \mid I \trianglelefteq R \text{ s.t. } I \text{ is not f.g.} \}$$

$\Sigma \neq \emptyset$ by hypothesis. Σ is a poset, under \subseteq .

Suppose $\{I_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$ is a chain of ideals in Σ .
We show that

$$I = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} I_\alpha \text{ is not f.g.}$$

(That it is an ideal is clear.)

This is simple for if $I = \langle x_1, \dots, x_r \rangle$, then one can find a suitable $\alpha \in \Lambda$ s.t. $I_\alpha \ni x_1, \dots, x_r$. ($\because \{I_\alpha\}$ is a chain)

In that case

$$I = \langle x_1, \dots, x_r \rangle \subseteq I_\alpha \subseteq I.$$

Thus, $I_\alpha = \langle x_1, \dots, x_r \rangle$ is f.g. $\rightarrow \leftarrow$

Thus, Σ has a maximal element, by Zorn's Lemma.

Let J be a maximal element of Σ .

Since $J \in \Sigma$, J is not f.g. and hence, not prime.

$\therefore \exists a, b \in R$ s.t. $a \notin J, b \notin J$ but $ab \in J$.

$$ab \in J \Rightarrow a \in J : b \geq J \text{ since } a \notin J$$

$$\text{Also, } (J, b) \geq J \text{ since } b \notin J.$$

Since J is maximal, $(J : b), (J, b) \notin \Sigma$.

Thus, both are f.g. By the earlier lemma,

\bar{s}_0 is J .

Thus, we have a contradiction.

Thus, all ideals are f.g. and hence, R is Noetherian.

Cor. R is Noetherian $\Rightarrow R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is Noetherian.

Proof. Enough to prove for $n=1$.

Using Cohen's, it is sufficient to show that prime ideals in $R[x]$ are f.g.

Consider the evaluation map $\phi: R[x] \rightarrow R$
 $f(x) \mapsto f(0)$

Let $p \in \text{Spec}(R[x])$. Then, $\phi(p)$ is an ideal of R and hence, $\phi(p)$ is f.g. (since R is Noetherian)

$\phi(p) = \langle a_1, \dots, a_r \rangle$ ← ideal of all constant terms in p .

Case 1. $x \in p$.

Let $f(x) \in p$ be arbitrary

Write $f(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots = b_0 + x(b_1 + b_2 x + \dots)$

Then, $b_0 \in \phi(p)$. $\cap \langle b_0, x \rangle$

$$b_0 = c_1 a_1 + \dots + c_r a_r$$

$$f(x) \in \langle a_1, \dots, a_r, x \rangle \subset p$$

$$\therefore p = \langle a_1, \dots, a_r, x \rangle \text{ is f.g.}$$

Case 2. $x \notin p$

$$\phi(p) = \langle a_1, \dots, a_r \rangle$$

for each $i=1, \dots, r$, we have $f_i(x) \in p$

s.t.

$$f_i(x) = a_i + x g_i(x); \quad g_i(x) \in R[x].$$

Claim. $p = \langle f_1, \dots, f_r \rangle$. (2) is obvious.

Proof. Let $g(x) \in p$.

$$\text{Write } g(x) = b + x h(x), \quad h(x) \in R[x].$$

$$b = \sum_{i=1}^r b_i a_i$$

$$g - \sum b_i f_i = [b + x h(x)] - \sum b_i (a_i + x g_i(x))$$

$$g - \sum b_i f_i \stackrel{p}{\in} p \quad \begin{matrix} \text{if } \\ \text{if } \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} g \\ \in p \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{if } \\ \notin p \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \left[h(x) - \sum_{i=1}^r b_i g_i(x) \right] \\ \therefore \in p \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{call this } h_1(x) \end{matrix}$$

$$g(x) = \sum b_i f_i + x h_1(x)$$

Can repeat the process on $h_1(x) \in p$ to give

$$h_1(x) = \sum c_i f_i + x h_2(x) \quad \text{for } h_2(x) \in R[x].$$

$$g(x) = \sum b_i f_i + x \sum c_i f_i + x^2 h_2(x)$$

Can continue so on to get $g(x) \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_n \rangle$.

$$g(x) = f_1(b_1 + x c_1 + x^2 d_1 + \dots)$$

$$+ f_r (br + \alpha r + \alpha^2 dr + \dots)$$