

sum of the cyclic factors whose elementary divisors are powers of p) is isomorphic to the p -primary submodule of M_2 , since these are the submodules of elements which are annihilated by some power of p . We are therefore reduced to the case of proving that if two modules M_1 and M_2 which have annihilator a power of p are isomorphic then they have the same elementary divisors.

We proceed by induction on the power of p in the annihilator of M_1 (which is the same as the annihilator of M_2 since M_1 and M_2 are isomorphic). If this power is 0, then both M_1 and M_2 are 0 and we are done. Otherwise M_1 (and M_2) have nontrivial elementary divisors. Suppose the elementary divisors of M_1 are given by

$$\text{elementary divisors of } M_1: \underbrace{p, p, \dots, p}_{m \text{ times}}, p^{\alpha_1}, p^{\alpha_2}, \dots, p^{\alpha_s},$$

where $2 \leq \alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2 \leq \dots \leq \alpha_s$, i.e., M_1 is the direct sum of cyclic modules with generators $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, x_{m+1}, \dots, x_{m+s}$, say, whose annihilators are $(p), (p), \dots, (p), (p^{\alpha_1}), \dots, (p^{\alpha_s})$, respectively. Then the submodule pM_1 has elementary divisors

$$\text{elementary divisors of } pM_1: p^{\alpha_1-1}, p^{\alpha_2-1}, \dots, p^{\alpha_s-1}$$

since pM_1 is the direct sum of the cyclic modules with generators $px_1, px_2, \dots, px_m, px_{m+1}, \dots, px_{m+s}$ whose annihilators are $(1), (1), \dots, (1), (p^{\alpha_1-1}), \dots, (p^{\alpha_s-1})$, respectively. Similarly, if the elementary divisors of M_2 are given by

$$\text{elementary divisors of } M_2: \underbrace{p, p, \dots, p}_{n \text{ times}}, p^{\beta_1}, p^{\beta_2}, \dots, p^{\beta_t},$$

where $2 \leq \beta_1 \leq \beta_2 \leq \dots \leq \beta_t$, then pM_2 has elementary divisors

$$\text{elementary divisors of } pM_2: p^{\beta_1-1}, p^{\beta_2-1}, \dots, p^{\beta_t-1}.$$

Since $M_1 \cong M_2$, also $pM_1 \cong pM_2$ and the power of p in the annihilator of pM_1 is one less than the power of p in the annihilator of M_1 . By induction, the elementary divisors for pM_1 are the same as the elementary divisors for pM_2 , i.e., $s = t$ and $\alpha_i - 1 = \beta_i - 1$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$, hence $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$. Finally, since also $M_1/pM_1 \cong M_2/pM_2$ we see from (3) of the lemma above that $F^{m+s} \cong F^{n+t}$, which shows that $m + s = n + t$ hence $m = n$ since we have already seen $s = t$. This proves that the set of elementary divisors for M_1 is the same as the set of elementary divisors for M_2 .

We now show that M_1 and M_2 must have the same invariant factors. Suppose $a_1 \mid a_2 \mid \dots \mid a_m$ are invariant factors for M_1 . We obtain a set of elementary divisors for M_1 by taking the prime power factors of these elements. Note that then the divisibility relations on the invariant factors imply that a_m is the product of the largest of the prime powers among these elementary divisors, a_{m-1} is the product of the largest prime powers among these elementary divisors once the factors for a_m have been removed, and so on. If $b_1 \mid b_2 \mid \dots \mid b_n$ are invariant factors for M_2 then we similarly obtain a set of elementary divisors for M_2 by taking the prime power factors of these elements. But we showed above that the elementary divisors for M_1 and M_2 are the same, and it follows that the same is true of the invariant factors.

Corollary 10. Let R be a P.I.D. and let M be a finitely generated R -module.

- (1) The elementary divisors of M are the prime power factors of the invariant factors of M .
- (2) The largest invariant factor of M is the product of the largest of the distinct prime powers among the elementary divisors of M , the next largest invariant factor is the product of the largest of the distinct prime powers among the remaining elementary divisors of M , and so on.

Proof: The procedure in (1) gives a set of elementary divisors and since the elementary divisors for M are unique by the theorem, it follows that the procedure in (1) gives the set of elementary divisors. Similarly for (2).

Corollary 11. (*The Fundamental Theorem of Finitely Generated Abelian Groups*) See Theorem 5.3 and Theorem 5.5.

Proof: Take $R = \mathbb{Z}$ in Theorems 5, 6 and 9 (note however that the invariant factors are listed in reverse order in Chapter 5 for computational convenience).

The procedure for passing between elementary divisors and invariant factors in Corollary 10 is described in some detail in Chapter 5 in the case of finitely generated abelian groups.

Note also that if a finitely generated module M is written as a direct sum of cyclic modules of the form $R/(a)$ then the ideals (a) which occur are not in general unique unless some additional conditions are imposed (such as the divisibility condition for the invariant factors or the condition that a be the power of a prime in the case of the elementary divisors). To decide whether two modules are isomorphic it is necessary to first write them in such a standard (or *canonical*) form.

EXERCISES

1. Let M be a module over the integral domain R .
 - (a) Suppose x is a nonzero torsion element in M . Show that x and 0 are “linearly dependent.” Conclude that the rank of $\text{Tor}(M)$ is 0, so that in particular any torsion R -module has rank 0.
 - (b) Show that the rank of M is the same as the rank of the (torsion free) quotient $M/\text{Tor}M$.
2. Let M be a module over the integral domain R .
 - (a) Suppose that M has rank n and that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n is any maximal set of linearly independent elements of M . Let $N = Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_n$ be the submodule generated by x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n . Prove that N is isomorphic to R^n and that the quotient M/N is a torsion R -module (equivalently, the elements x_1, \dots, x_n are linearly independent and for any $y \in M$ there is a nonzero element $r \in R$ such that ry can be written as a linear combination $r_1x_1 + \dots + r_nx_n$ of the x_i).
 - (b) Prove conversely that if M contains a submodule N that is free of rank n (i.e., $N \cong R^n$) such that the quotient M/N is a torsion R -module then M has rank n . [Let y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{n+1} be any $n+1$ elements of M . Use the fact that M/N is torsion to write $r_i y_i$ as a linear combination of a basis for N for some nonzero elements r_1, \dots, r_{n+1} of R . Use an argument as in the proof of Proposition 3 to see that the $r_i y_i$, and hence also the y_i , are linearly dependent.]

3. Let R be an integral domain and let A and B be R -modules of ranks m and n , respectively. Prove that the rank of $A \oplus B$ is $m + n$. [Use the previous exercise.]
4. Let R be an integral domain, let M be an R -module and let N be a submodule of M . Suppose M has rank n , N has rank r and the quotient M/N has rank s . Prove that $n = r + s$. [Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s be elements of M whose images in M/N are a maximal set of independent elements and let $x_{s+1}, x_{s+2}, \dots, x_{s+r}$ be a maximal set of independent elements in N . Prove that x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{s+r} are linearly independent in M and that for any element $y \in M$ there is a nonzero element $r \in R$ such that ry is a linear combination of these elements. Then use Exercise 2.]
5. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and let $M = (2, x)$ be the ideal generated by 2 and x , considered as a submodule of R . Show that $\{2, x\}$ is not a basis of M . [Find a nontrivial R -linear dependence between these two elements.] Show that the rank of M is 1 but that M is not free of rank 1 (cf. Exercise 2).
6. Show that if R is an integral domain and M is any nonprincipal ideal of R then M is torsion free of rank 1 but is not a free R -module.
7. Let R be any ring, let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m be R -modules and let B_i be a submodule of A_i , $1 \leq i \leq m$. Prove that

$$(A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_m) / (B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus B_m) \cong (A_1/B_1) \oplus (A_2/B_2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (A_m/B_m).$$
8. Let R be a P.I.D., let B be a torsion R -module and let p be a prime in R . Prove that if $pb = 0$ for some nonzero $b \in B$, then $\text{Ann}(B) \subseteq (p)$.
9. Give an example of an integral domain R and a nonzero torsion R -module M such that $\text{Ann}(M) = 0$. Prove that if N is a finitely generated torsion R -module then $\text{Ann}(N) \neq 0$.
10. For p a prime in the P.I.D. R and N an R -module prove that the p -primary component of N is a submodule of N and prove that N is the direct sum of its p -primary components (there need not be finitely many of them).
11. Let R be a P.I.D., let a be a nonzero element of R and let $M = R/(a)$. For any prime p of R prove that

$$p^{k-1}M/p^kM \cong \begin{cases} R/(p) & \text{if } k \leq n \\ 0 & \text{if } k > n, \end{cases}$$

where n is the power of p dividing a in R .

12. Let R be a P.I.D. and let p be a prime in R .
 - (a) Let M be a finitely generated torsion R -module. Use the previous exercise to prove that $p^{k-1}M/p^kM \cong F^{n_k}$ where F is the field $R/(p)$ and n_k is the number of elementary divisors of M which are powers p^α with $\alpha \geq k$.
 - (b) Suppose M_1 and M_2 are isomorphic finitely generated torsion R -modules. Use (a) to prove that, for every $k \geq 0$, M_1 and M_2 have the same number of elementary divisors p^α with $\alpha \geq k$. Prove that this implies M_1 and M_2 have the same set of elementary divisors.
13. If M is a finitely generated module over the P.I.D. R , describe the structure of $M/\text{Tor}(M)$.
14. Let R be a P.I.D. and let M be a torsion R -module. Prove that M is irreducible (cf. Exercises 9 to 11 of Section 10.3) if and only if $M = Rm$ for any nonzero element $m \in M$ where the annihilator of m is a nonzero prime ideal (p) .
15. Prove that if R is a Noetherian ring then R^n is a Noetherian R -module. [Fix a basis of R^n . If M is a submodule of R^n show that the collection of first coordinates of elements of M is a submodule of R hence is finitely generated. Let m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k be elements of M