

Exercise 0.1 (18). Show that every free module is projective.

Proof. Suppose F is a free R -module on a set X . Let $f: F \rightarrow M$ be a map and $q: N \rightarrow M$ a surjective map. We have the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & P & \longleftarrow X \\ & \downarrow f & \swarrow \exists! \tilde{f} \\ N & \xrightarrow{q} & M \end{array}$$

We define a map $X \rightarrow N$ by sending $x \in X$ to some $n \in N$ such that $q(n) = \tilde{f}(x)$ - this exists by surjectivity of q . Then this extends to a unique map $g: P \rightarrow N$ such that $q \circ g \circ \iota(x) = \tilde{f}(x)$ for all $x \in X$. But this extends to a unique map $\tilde{g}: P \rightarrow M$ such that $\tilde{g} \circ \iota = q \circ g \circ \iota = \tilde{f}$. Since $q \circ g$ is the unique map for the first equality, we obtain $\tilde{g} = q \circ g$. But for $\tilde{g} \circ \iota = \tilde{f}$, we obtain again by uniqueness that $\tilde{g} = f$. Hence $f = q \circ g$. □

Exercise 0.2 (19). Suppose R is a PID and let F be a projective R -module. Show that F is free.

Proof. Since F is projective, F is a direct summand in a free R -module, hence in particular, it is finitely generated. Hence $\bigoplus_{i \in I} R \approx F \oplus K$ and by the structure theorem, also $F \approx R^n \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^r \bigoplus_{j=1}^{s_i} R/(p_i^{m_{ij}})$. But $\bigoplus_{i \in I} R$ has no torsion, so F must also be torsion-free, hence $F \approx R^n$, i.e., F is free. □

Exercise 0.3 (20). Let M be an R -module. We say that M is torsion-free if whenever $rm = 0$ for $r \in R$ and $m \in M$, then either $r = 0$ or $m = 0$.

- (1) Show that R is torsion-free when considered as a module over itself if and only if R is an integral domain.
- (2) Let R be an integral domain. Show that any projective R -module is torsion-free.

Proof. (1) Saying that R is torsion-free as a module over itself is the same as saying $rr' = 0$ for $r \in R$ and $r' \in R$ if and only if $r = 0$ or $r' = 0$ which is precisely the same as saying that R is an integral domain.

- (2) If P is a projective R -module, then it is a direct summand in a free R -module. But any free R -module is torsion-free, so P must be as well.
- (3) \mathbb{Q} as a \mathbb{Z} -module is torsion-free, however \mathbb{Q} is not projective over \mathbb{Z} since the sequence $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$ is exact, but

$$0 \rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Z})}_{=0} \rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})}_{\approx \mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})}_{=0} \rightarrow 0$$

is not exact. □

Exercise 0.4 (21). Let P be a projective R -module. Prove that there exists a free R -module F such that $P \oplus F$ is free.

Proof. P is a quotient of a free R -module, T , say $P = T/A$. Also, P is a direct summand of a free R -module \overline{F} , say $\overline{F} = P \oplus S$. Then

$$P \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{F}_i) \approx P \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} S_i \oplus P_i) \approx \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} P \oplus S \approx \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{F}_i.$$

□