

**Example. 4.20. (Direct product of modules)**

Let  $I$  be a set, we consider the category  $\mathcal{J}$  whose objects are the elements of  $I$  and the only morphisms the identities. For any functor  $F : \mathcal{J} \rightarrow \mathbf{MOD}\text{-}R$ , the limit is a pair  $(\prod_i F(i), \{p_i\}_i)$ , of a module  $\prod_i F(i)$ , the cartesian product with pointwise operation, and the family of projectios  $\{p_i : \prod_i F(i) \rightarrow F(i) \mid i \in I\}$ , it is the direct product of the family of modules  $\{F(i) \mid i \in I\}$ .

**Example. 4.21. (Kernel in modules)**

Let us consider the category  $\mathcal{C}$  with two objects  $X \xrightarrow[a]{a} Y$ , the identities and two morphisms:  $a$  y  $b$ . For any functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{MOD}\text{-}R$  such that  $F(b) = 0$  a limit is a pair  $(L, \{p_X, p_Y\})$  that makes a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & F(X) \\
 & \nearrow p'_X & \nearrow p_X \\
 L' & \xrightarrow{\exists_1 f} & L \\
 & \searrow p'_Y & \searrow p_Y \\
 & & F(Y)
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \downarrow F(a) \\
 \downarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

therefore  $F(a)p_X = 0$ , and for any module map  $p'_X : L' \rightarrow F(X)$  such that  $F(a)p'_X = 0$ , there is a unique module map  $f : L' \rightarrow L$  such that  $p'_X = p_X f$ . Thus is, we have that  $(L, f)$  is the **kernel** of  $F(a)$ .

**Example. 4.22. (Product in Fields)**

In the category  $\mathcal{C}$  of fields and field homomorphisms does not exist the product of some families of fields. Let us consider a field extension  $F/K$ , where  $K$  is the prime subfield of  $F$ , i.e.,  $K$  is either  $\mathbb{Q}$  or  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , with Galois group isomorphic to  $C_2$ , for instance  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\text{Gal}(F/K) = \{1, \varphi\}$ . Let us consider the product of  $F$  by  $F$ ; it is a pair  $(E, \{p_1, p_2\})$ , and it satisfies a universal property; for any field  $L$  and homomorphisms  $f_1 : K \rightarrow F_1$ ,  $f_2 : L \rightarrow F_2$  there is a unique field homomorphism  $f : L \rightarrow E$  such that  $p_1 f = f_1$  and  $p_2 f = f_2$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & L & \\
 f_1 \swarrow & \downarrow \exists_1 f & \searrow f_2 \\
 F_1 & \xleftarrow{p_1} E \xrightarrow{p_2} & F_2
 \end{array}$$

We take several pairs  $(L, \{f_1, f_2\})$  to check the direct producto.

Let take the pair  $(F, \{\text{id}, \text{id}\})$ , then there is a unique map, say  $f : F \rightarrow F$  such that  $p_1 f = \text{id}$ ,  $p_2 f = \text{id}$ , i.e.,  $f = p_1^{-1} = p_2^{-1}$ .

If we take the pair  $(F, \{\varphi, \text{id}\})$ , there exists a unique map  $g : F \rightarrow F$  such that  $p_1 g = \varphi$ ,  $p_2 g = \text{id}$ . As a consequence,  $p_1^{-1} \varphi = p_2^{-1} = p_1^{-1}$ , and  $\varphi = \text{id}$ , which is a contradiction.

Therefore, product of  $F$  by  $F$  does not exist.

## Colimits

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a small category (a diagram), its class of morphism is a set, and let  $F : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbf{MOD}\text{-}R$  be a functor. A **colimit** of  $F$  is a pair  $(\{q_X\}_X, C)$ , consitutes by a module  $C$  and a family of module maps