

- HW
- OFFICE HOURS
- RESERVE

Lecture

Group  $\Sigma_3 = \langle e, (12), (123), (23), (13), (132) \rangle$

$G_1 = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle G_1 \cong \Sigma_3 \leq GL_3(\mathbb{R})$

$G_2 = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle G_2 \cong \Sigma_3$

two different representations of  $\Sigma_3$

- Rep theory studies how to "represent" a group as matrices.
- Groups acting on vector spaces

Variations

Group: finite, discrete, algebraic  
 Field: char 0 vs char p, alg closed?

More general: represent fin. dim. algs

Plan • Algebra For a While (I-IV)

- Sym groups, reps of sym g/cn.
- Current areas of research

# Lecture 1

## Review

Def  $R$  a ring (w/identity). A (left)  $R$ -module is an abelian group  $M$  together with an action  $R \times M \rightarrow M, (r, m) \rightarrow rm$  such that

- $(r_1 + r_2)m = r_1m + r_2m$
- $r(m_1 + m_2) = rm_1 + rm_2$
- $(r_1 r_2)m = r_1(r_2m)$
- $1m = m$

$$\forall r, r_i \in R, m, m_i \in M$$

similarly for right  $R$ -modules.

## Examples

1. Left regular module  ${}_R R$  ( $M = R$ )
2. Given  $R$ -modules  $\{M_i \mid i \in I\}$  then  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} M_i$  is an  $R$ -module.
3. Any left ideal  $I \subset R$ , then  $I$  is a submodule.
4. Cat of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules equiv cat of abelian groups.

Def A submodule is a subgroup  $N \subseteq M$  such that  $rn \in N \forall r \in R, n \in N$ .

A module is simple (aka irreducible) if the only submodules are zero and the entire module. INDECOMPOSABLE

Given a submodule  $N \subseteq M$ , the quotient group  $M/N$  is an  $R$ -module via  $r(m+N) = rm+N$  ( $r\bar{m} = \overline{rm}$ ), just check well-defined!

Thus no such thing as a "normal submodule".

\* MODULE HOMOMORPHISMS, ISOMORPHISMS

Def. A composition series for an  $R$ -module  $M$  is a series of submodules

$0 = M_0 \subset M_1 \subset M_2 \dots \subset M_n = M$  such that  $M_i/M_{i-1}$  is simple.

A module satisfies the ACC if every ascending chain of submodules stops, and is called Noetherian. Similar D.C.C.

Jordan-Hölder Theorem Given any two series

$$0 = M_0 \subseteq \dots \subseteq M_r = M$$

$$0 = M'_0 \subseteq \dots \subseteq M'_s = M \quad \text{we may refine them to}$$

$$0 = L_0 \subseteq \dots \subseteq L_n = M$$

$0 = L'_0 \subseteq \dots \subseteq L'_n = M$  so that  $\{L_i/L_{i-1}\}$  and  $\{L'_i/L'_{i-1}\}$  are permutations, up to  $\cong$ . Thus TFAE

1.  $M$  has a composition series
2. Every series can be refined to a composition series.
3.  $M$  satisfies ACC and DCC.

Def. The length of a composition series is the composition length.  
 $M$  is uniserial if it has a unique composition series.

Ex  $M = S_1 \oplus S_2$  is not!

# Algebras

Remarks Our rings usually have additional vector space structure

Def  $R$  a field. A  $R$ -algebra is a vector space  $V$  over  $R$  which is also a ring, and operations are compatible, e.g.  $\lambda(ab) = (\lambda a)b = a(\lambda b) \forall \lambda \in R, a, b \in V$ .

- Remarks
1. Think of as a vector space w/ multiplication or as a ring w/ scalars
  2. Called a finite-dimensional algebra if f.d. as a vector space
  3. Usually assume identity, so  $\{\lambda \cdot 1\}$  is a copy of the field inside.

## Examples

1. Field  $R$  is a 1-dim  $R$ -algebra
2. Polynomial algebras  $R[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$   $\rightarrow$  commutative
3. Matrix algebras  $M_n(R) = \{n \times n \text{ matrices, entries in } R\}$
4.  $T_n(R) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \in M_n(R) \right\}$  subalgebra. (weaker than ideal)

### 5. Group algebras

$G$  a group,  $RG$  is a vector space w/  $G$  as a basis

Elements are finite linear combinations of group elements

• ~~dim~~ Multiplication is via distributive law

- $RG$  has a distinguished basis, namely  $G$
- Other elements are not necessarily invertible

• Occasionally "group rings" like  $\mathbb{Z}G$ ,  $RG$  are useful.