

## 5. Modules over a PID

\* Throughout,  $R$  is a PID, and all modules are unitary.

Def: If  $M$  is an  $R$ -module, then  $x \in M$  is a torsion element if  $rx = 0$  for some  $r \neq 0$  in  $R$ . (generalizes the concept of "finite order")

Def: If  $x \in M$  is a torsion element, then its annihilator (or order ideal) is  $\text{Ann}(x) = \{r \in R : rx = 0\}$ .

Def: The ideal  $\text{Ann}(x)$  is principal, and the generator  $S_x$  (i.e.,  $\text{Ann}(x) = (S_x)$ ) is called its order (unique up to associates).

Example: Let  $R = \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , and  $M = V_T$  where  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Then  $\text{Ann}(u)$  and  $\text{Ann}(v)$  are ideals of  $R = \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

Note: If  $f(x) = x - 1$ , then  $f(x) \cdot u = Tu - u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\Rightarrow |u| = x - 1$$

If  $g(x) = x^2 - 2x + 1$ , then  $g(x) \cdot v = T^2 v - 2Tv + v$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

check:  $(ax + b) \cdot v \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $x^2 - 2x + 1 \in \text{Ann}(v)$

$$\Rightarrow |v| = x^2 - 2x + 1$$

Def: Let  $\text{Tor}(M)$  be the set of torsion elements of  $M$ .

(i) If  $\text{Tor}(M) = M$ , then  $M$  is a torsion module.

(ii) If  $\text{Tor}(M) = \{0\}$ , then  $M$  is torsion-free.

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Prop 5.1  $\text{Tor}(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ , and  $M/\text{Tor}(M)$  is torsion-free.

Pf: Pick  $x, y \in T = \text{Tor}(M)$ ;  $|x| = a$ ,  $|y| = b$ .

We must show:  $\underline{x-y} \in T$  and  $\underline{rx} \in T \quad \forall r \in R$ .

Consider  $ab(x-y) = b \cdot ax - a \cdot by = 0 \Rightarrow x-y \in T \quad \checkmark$

Also,  $a(rx) = r(ax) = 0 \Rightarrow rx \in T$  for any  $r \in R$ .  $\checkmark$

Therefore,  $T$  is a submodule of  $M$ .  $\checkmark$

Now, consider  $r(x+T) = rx+T = T \in M/T$ . [Goal: show  $x \in T$ ]

Then  $rx \in T \Rightarrow \text{Ann}(rx) \neq 0$ .

Pick  $s \in \text{Ann}(rx)$ . Then  $s \cdot rx = sr \cdot x = 0 \Rightarrow x \in T \quad \checkmark$

□

Def:  $\text{Tor}(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .

Remark 1: If  $A$  is an abelian group, then  $\text{Tor}(A)$  is the subgroup of elements of finite order.

Remark 2: Prop 5.1 actually holds if  $R$  is any integral domain.

Prop 5.2: If  $M$  is a finitely generated torsion-free  $R$ -module, then  $M$  is free of finite rank.

Pf: Let  $M = R\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ , and let  $\{b_1, \dots, b_k\}$  be a maximal linearly independent subset of  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ .

Claim:  $M \hookrightarrow N := R\langle b_1, \dots, b_k \rangle \Rightarrow M$  is free (Thm 2.12).

For each  $x_i$ ,  $\exists s_i \neq 0 \in R$  and  $r_{i1}, \dots, r_{ik} \in R$  s.t.  $s_i x_i + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^k r_{ij} b_j}_{\in N} = 0$

$\Rightarrow s_i x_i \in N$ .

Put  $s = \prod_{i=1}^n s_i$ . Clearly,  $s x_i \in N \ \forall i \Rightarrow s m \in N \ \forall m \in M$ .

Define  $f: M \rightarrow N$ ,  $f(m) = sm$ .

Easy:  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$ .

Since  $M$  is torsion-free,  $f(m) = sm \neq 0 \Rightarrow \ker f = 0$ .

Thus  $f: M \hookrightarrow N$ .

Since  $R$  is a PID,  $M$  finitely generated &  $N$  free,

Thm 2.12  $\Rightarrow M$  is free. □

Thm 5.3: If  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module, then  $M$  has a free submodule  $F$  of finite rank such that  $M = \text{Tor} \oplus F$ . The rank of  $F$  is uniquely determined by  $M$ .

PF: Let  $\eta: M \rightarrow M/\text{Tor}(M)$  be the natural quotient map.

By Prop 3.1,  $M = F \oplus \ker \eta = \text{Tor}(M) \oplus F$  for some free  $R$ -module  $F$ , which is free by Prop 5.2.

By FHT for modules,  $F \cong M/\text{Tor}(M)$ .

If  $M = \text{Tor}(M) \oplus F'$  for another free  $R$ -module  $F'$ , then

$F' \cong M/\text{Tor}(M) \cong F \Rightarrow F \subseteq F' \Rightarrow \text{rank } F = \text{rank } F'$ . □

(9)

Def: If  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module, then the rank of  $M$  is  $\text{rank } F$ , where  $M = \text{Tor}(M) \oplus F$ .

By Thm 5.3, this is well-defined.

Let  $M$  be a torsion module. Suppose  $\exists r \in R^* \text{ with } rx=0$   
for all  $x \in M$ .

The set  $I = \{s \in R : sx=0 \forall x \in M\}$  is an ideal of  $R$ ,  
and its generator  $a \in I$  (i.e.,  $I=(a)$ ) is called the  
exponent of  $M$ .

Clearly,  $a|r$  and  $a$  is unique up to associates.

Remark: If  $M$  has an exponent  $a \in M$ , then  $a = \text{lcm}\{x : x \in M\}$ .

Not every torsion module has an exponent.

For example,  $M = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{Z}_n$ .

Finitely generated torsion modules have an exponent:

If  $M = R\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$  and  $r_i \in \text{Ann}(x_i)$ , then

$r = r_1 r_2 \dots r_n \in \text{Ann}(x_i) \Rightarrow M$  has an exponent  $a|r$ .

Exercise: If  $M$  is an  $R$ -module and  $x, y \in \text{Tor}(M)$  with

$|x|=r$ ,  $|y|=s$ , and  $(x, y)=1$  in  $R$ . Then  $|x+y|=rs$ .

Pf: Exercise.

Prop 5.4: If  $M$  is a torsion module with exponent  $r \in R$ , then  $M$  has an element of order  $r$ .

PF: Since  $R$  is a PID, it is a UFD.

Write  $r = p_1^{d_1} p_2^{d_2} \dots p_k^{d_k}$ ,  $p_i$ 's distinct primes  $d_i > 0$ .

Put  $r_i = r/p_i$ .

Since  $r \neq 0$ ,  $\exists x_i \in M$  s.t.  $r_i x_i \neq 0$  for each  $i$ .

Put  $y_i = (r/p_i^{d_i}) x_i$ .

Note:  $p_i^{d_i} y_i = 0$  but  $p_i^{d_i-1} y_i = r_i x_i \neq 0 \Rightarrow |y_i| = p_i^{d_i}$ .

Put  $x = y_1 + \dots + y_k$ . By Exercise,  $|x| = \prod_{i=1}^k |y_i| = r$ .  $\square$

Def: If  $M$  is an  $R$ -module and  $s \in R$ , define  $M[s] = \{x \in M : sx = 0\}$  and let  $sM = \{sx : x \in M\}$ .

Exercise (easy):  $M[s]$  &  $sM$  are submodules of  $M$ .

Notation: To avoid confusion, we'll write  $(r, s) = \gcd(r, s)$  and  $\langle r, s \rangle =$  ideal generated by  $r$  &  $s$ .

Prop 5.5: Suppose  $M = R\langle y \rangle$  is cyclic of order  $r$ , and  $s \in R$ . Then

$$(i) \ M[s] = R\langle \frac{r}{(r,s)} y \rangle \cong R/\langle r, s \rangle$$

$$(ii) \ sM = R\langle sy \rangle \cong R/\langle \frac{r}{(r,s)} \rangle.$$

i.e.,  $M[s]$  is cyclic of order  $(r, s)$

$sM$  is cyclic of order  $\frac{r}{(r, s)}$ .

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Pf: (i)  $M[s] = \{uy : u \in R, suy = 0\}$ , and  $suy = 0$  iff  $\frac{r}{(r,s)} \mid u$ .

$$\Rightarrow M[s] = R \left\langle \frac{r}{(r,s)} y \right\rangle$$

Define  $\varphi: R \rightarrow M[s]$

$$v \mapsto \frac{vr}{(r,s)} y.$$

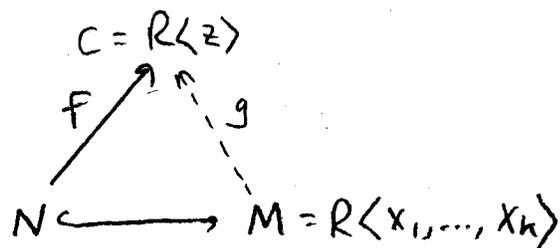
Clearly,  $\varphi$  is onto and  $\ker \varphi = \langle r, s \rangle$ . Apply FHT modules. ✓

(ii) Similar (exercise). ✓

Cor: If  $(r,s) = 1$ , then  $M[s] = 0$  and  $sM = M$ .

Prop 5.6: Suppose  $C = R\langle z \rangle$  is cyclic of order  $r_0$ ,  $M$  is a finitely generated torsion  $R$ -module whose exponent

divides  $r_0$ ,  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$ , and  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(N, C)$ . Then  $f$  extends to  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(M, C)$ .



Pf: Say  $M = R\langle x_1, \dots, x_k \rangle$ .

Put  $N_1 = N + R\langle x_1 \rangle$ ,  $N_2 = N_1 + R\langle x_2 \rangle$ , ...,  $N_k + R\langle x_k \rangle = M$ .

By induction, it suffices to show that  $f$  extends to  $g \in \text{Hom}_R(N_i, C)$ .

Let  $s = |x_i + N| \Rightarrow s(x_i + N) = N \Rightarrow sx_i \in N$

By def'n,  $r_0 x_i = 0 \Rightarrow r_0 x_i + N = N \Rightarrow s \mid r_0$  (say  $r_0 = st$ ).

Since  $r_0 x_1 = 0$ ,  $f(r_0 x_1) = f(t s x_1) = t f(s x_1) = 0 \Rightarrow |f(s, t)| \mid t$  in  $C = R\langle z \rangle$ .

Say that  $f(s x_1) = u z$ ,  $u \in R$ .

Then  $t f(s x_1) = t u z = 0 \Rightarrow r_0 \mid t u$

Recall that  $r_0 = s t \Rightarrow s t \mid t u \Rightarrow s \mid u$  in  $R$

So let  $u = s v$ ,  $v \in R$ .

Now,  $f(s x_1) = u z = (s v) z = s(v z)$ . Let  $z_0 = v z$ .

Summary thus far: We don't have  $x_1 \in N$ , but  $s x_1 \in N$ ,

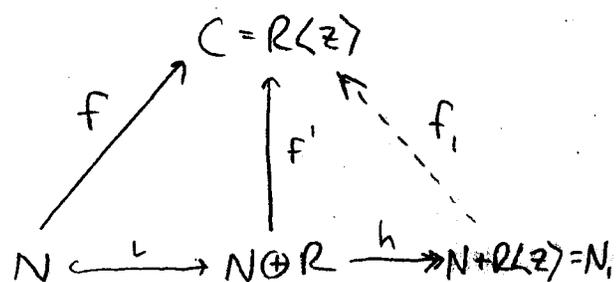
and  $f: s x_1 \mapsto s z_0$ . (Recall:  $f: N \rightarrow R\langle z \rangle$ ).

Define  $f': N \oplus R \rightarrow R\langle z \rangle = C$

$$(y, r) \mapsto f(y) + r z_0$$

Define  $h: N \oplus R \rightarrow N + R\langle z \rangle = N$ ,

$$(y, r) \mapsto y + r x_1$$



Claim:  $\ker h \subseteq \ker f'$

PF: Take  $(y, r) \in \ker h$ .

$$\Rightarrow y + r x_1 = 0 \Rightarrow r x_1 = -y \in N$$

$$\Rightarrow r x_1 \in N$$

$$\Rightarrow r(x_1 + N) = N \Rightarrow s \mid r \text{ in } R$$

Since  $s \mid r$ , say  $r = -s w$  for some  $w \in R$ .

Then  $y = -r x_1 = s w x_1 \Rightarrow (y, r) = (s w x_1, -s w)$ .

$$\text{Thus, } f'(y, r) = f'(s w x_1, -s w) = f'(s w x_1) - f'(s w)$$

$$= f'(s w x_1) - s w z_0$$

$$= f'(s w x_1) - w s z_0 = f(s w x_1) - w f(s x_1) = 0 \checkmark$$

Since  $\ker h \subseteq \ker f'$ ,  $\exists!$   $f_1: N \rightarrow C$  s.t.  $f' h = f_1$  □

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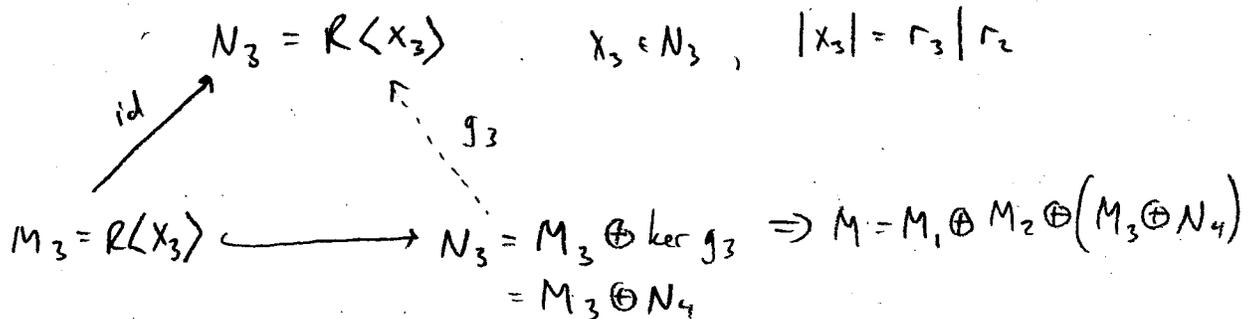
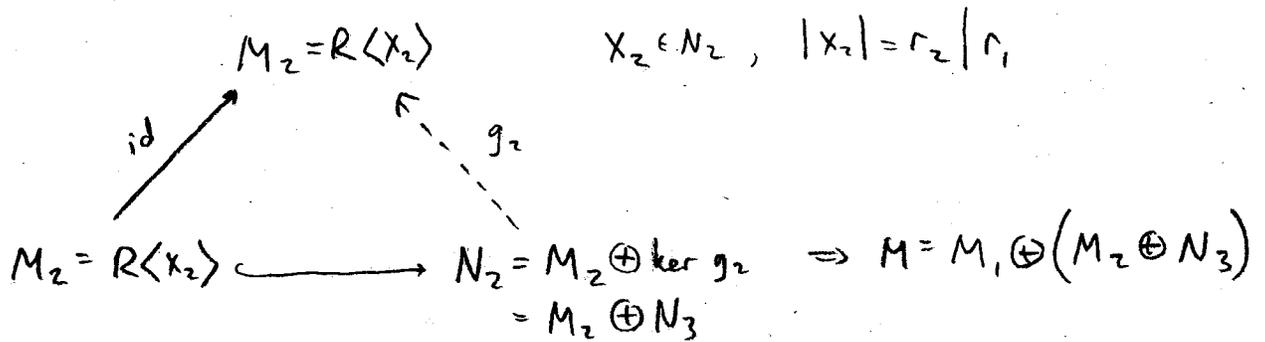
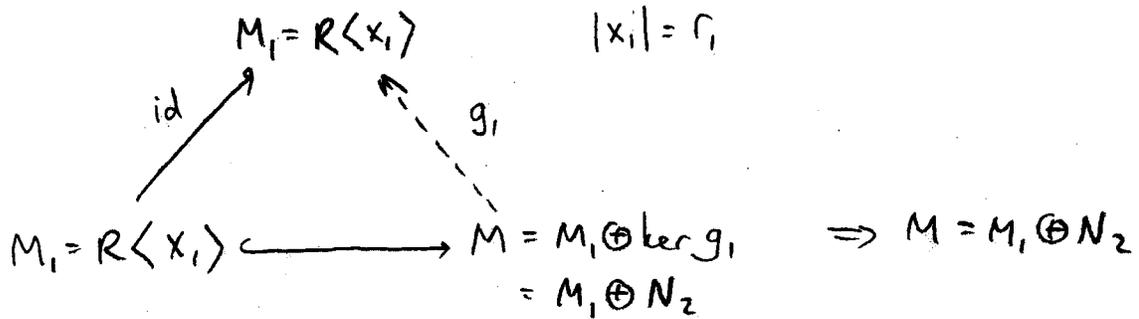
Thm 5.7: If  $M$  is a finitely generated torsion  $R$ -module, then  
 $M = M_1 \oplus M_2 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k$ , where each  $M_i$  is cyclic of order  $r_i$ ,  
 with  $r_i \mid r_{i-1}$ ,  $2 \leq i \leq k$ , and  $r_1$  is the exponent of  $M$ .

Pf: By Prop 5.4,  $\exists x_1 \in M$  with  $|x_1| = r_1$ . Set  $M_1 = R\langle x_1 \rangle$ .

By Prop 5.6,  $\text{id}: M_1 \rightarrow M_1$  extends to  $g_1: M \rightarrow M_1$ .

Set  $N_2 = \ker g_1$ .

Outline of proof in diagrams (\* we need to verify that this works):



⋮

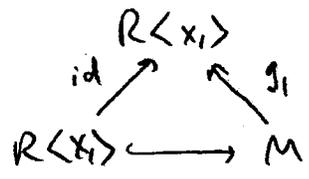
Eventually  $N_{k+1} = 1$  ( $M$  Noetherian)  $\Rightarrow M = M_1 \oplus M_2 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k$ .

Why this works:

Prop 5.6  $\Rightarrow$   $id: M_1 \rightarrow M_1$  extends to  $g_1: M \rightarrow M_1$ . Set  $N_2 = \ker g_1$ .

Claim:  $M = M_1 \oplus N_2$ .

Pf: Pick  $x \in M$ : Note:  $g_1(x) \in R\langle x_1 \rangle$  and  $g_1$  extends  $id: R\langle x_1 \rangle \rightarrow R\langle x_1 \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow g_1(g_1(x)) = g_1(x)$ .



Now,  $g_1(x - g_1(x)) = g_1(x) - g_1(x) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x - g_1(x) \in \ker g_1 = N_2$

If  $x \in M \cap N_2$  then  $x = g_1(x) = 0 \Rightarrow M = M_1 \oplus N_2$  (Thm 2.3).  $\checkmark$

Continuing, if  $N_2$  has exponent  $r_2$ , then  $(r_1) \subseteq (r_2)$  as ideals, so  $r_2 | r_1$ .

By Prop 5.4,  $\exists x_2 \in N_2$  with  $|x_2| = r_2$ . Set  $M_2 = R\langle x_2 \rangle$ .

Continue as above to conclude  $N_2 = M_2 \oplus \ker g_2 = M_2 \oplus N_3$ .

Repeat this process,  $\ddots$  it terminates because  $M$  is Noetherian, i.e., at some point  $N_{k+1} = 1$  and  $M = M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k$ .  $\square$

Cor:  $M \cong R/(r_1) \oplus R/(r_2) \oplus \dots \oplus R/(r_k)$ .

Pf: Take  $R$  and  $M_i$  as above, and consider the map

$$R \longrightarrow R\langle x_i \rangle = M_i$$

$$r \longmapsto r x_i.$$

By construction, the kernel is  $(r_i)$ , so  $M_i \cong R/(r_i)$  by FHTM.  $\square$

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Not surprisingly, this decomposition is "unique."

Thm 5.8: Suppose  $M$  is a finitely generated torsion  $R$ -module and

$$M = M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k = N_1 \oplus \dots \oplus N_m$$

with  $M_i$  cyclic of order  $r_i$ ,  $N_j$  cyclic of order  $s_j$ ,  $r_i | r_{i-1}$  and  $s_j | s_{j-1}$ , and  $r_k, s_m \notin U(R)$ . Then  $k=m$ , and  $r_i \sim s_i$  (associates in  $R$ ) and  $M_i \cong N_i$  for each  $i$ .

Pf: Assume WLOG that  $k \geq m$ .

Choose a prime  $p \in R$  s.t.  $p | r_k$  (and hence  $p | r_i$   $i=1, \dots, k$ ).

Since  $r_i, s_i$  are exponents of  $M$ ,  $r_i \sim s_i$  (Recall: an exponent is an LCM of the orders of the elements of  $M$ ; LCM's are unique up to assoc.)

Thus,  $p | s_k \Rightarrow p | s_1$ .

Claim:  $p | s_i$  for all  $i=1, \dots, k$ .

Suppose not, i.e., that  $p | s_j$   $j=1, \dots, n$  but  $p \nmid s_{n+1}$ .

Note:  $R$  is a PID and  $p$  prime  $\Rightarrow R/\langle p \rangle = K$  is a field.

Plainly,  $\langle r_i, p \rangle = \langle p \rangle$

By Prop 5.5 (i),  $M_i[p] \cong R/\langle r_i, p \rangle = R/\langle p \rangle = K$

Also, since  $p \nmid s_{n+1}$ ,  $N_i[p] \cong R/\langle s_{n+1}, p \rangle = R/\langle 1 \rangle = 1$ .

Therefore,  $M[p] = M_1[p] \oplus \dots \oplus M_k[p] \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^k K$  ( $k$ -dim'l vect. space)

Similarly,  $M[p] = N_1[p] \oplus \dots \oplus N_n[p] \oplus \dots \oplus N_m[p]$   
 $= N_1[p] \oplus \dots \oplus N_n[p] \cong \bigoplus_{j=1}^n K$  ( $n$ -dim'l vect. space)

Since  $M[p] \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^k K \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n K$ , (a  $k$ -dim'l &  $n$ -dim'l vector space, respectively,  $k=n$ . Also,  $n \leq m \leq k \Rightarrow m=k$ . ✓

Now, suppose that  $r_i \neq s_i$  for some  $i$  (and wlog,  $r_i \sim s_i$  for  $i < n$ ).

Also wlog, assume that  $s_n \nmid r_n$

Put  $M' = r_n M$ . Then  $r_n M_n = r_n M_{n+1} = \dots = 0$  but  $r_n N_n \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } M' &= r_n M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus r_n M_{n-1} \\ &= r_n N_1 \oplus \dots \oplus r_n N_{n-1} \oplus r_n N_n \quad \downarrow \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that  $r_i \sim s_i$  for all  $i$ .

Finally,  $M_i \cong R/(r_i) = R/(s_i) \cong N_i$  for each  $i$ . □

Def: If  $M = M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k$  as above (each  $M_i$  cyclic with order  $r_i$ ), then  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  are the invariant factors of  $M$ .

Example:  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ . An finitely generated  $R$ -module is an abelian group  $G$ .

Take the orders  $r_i = n_i$  to be positive integers.

By Thm 5.7,  $|G| = n_1 n_2 \dots n_k \Rightarrow G$  is finite.

Thms 5.7 & 5.8 imply that finite abelian groups are determined up to isomorphism by their invariant factors.

Example 1:  $|G| = 100 = 50 \cdot 2 = 20 \cdot 5 = 10 \cdot 10$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow G &\cong \mathbb{Z}_{100}, & \xleftrightarrow{\cong} & \mathbb{Z}_{25} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4 \\ &\mathbb{Z}_{50} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & (\mathbb{Z}_{25} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ &\mathbb{Z}_{20} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5, & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & (\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5) \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5 \\ \text{or } &\mathbb{Z}_{10} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{10} & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & (\mathbb{Z}_5 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}_5 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2) \end{aligned} \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow G &\cong \mathbb{Z}_{100}, \\ &\mathbb{Z}_{50} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, \\ &\mathbb{Z}_{20} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5, \\ \text{or } &\mathbb{Z}_{10} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{10} \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Classification} \\ \text{as described by} \\ \text{Thm 7.11} \\ \text{(Groups)} \end{array}$$

[2]

Example 2:  $|G| = 48 = 24 \cdot 2 = 12 \cdot 4 = 12 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 6 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$

$$\Rightarrow G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{48} \quad \xleftrightarrow{\cong} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{16}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{24} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, \quad \xleftrightarrow{\quad} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{12} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4, \quad \xleftrightarrow{\quad} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_{12} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2, \quad \xleftrightarrow{\quad} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\text{or } \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \quad \xleftrightarrow{\quad} \quad \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$$

Classification by Thms 4.7 & 4.8  
(by invariant factors)

Classification by Thm 7.11 Groups  
(by cyclic  $p_i$ -subgroups)

Thms 5.3, 5.7, & 5.8 can be combined for a complete description of the structure of finitely generated modules over a PID. (i.e., not necessarily torsion modules).

Thm 5.9: If  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module, then

$\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  and  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in R \setminus U(R)$  with  $r_i \mid r_{i-1}$  ( $i=2, \dots, k$ )

such that  $M = M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k \oplus F$ , where  $M_i$  is cyclic of order  $r_i$ , and  $F$  is free of rank  $m$ . Equivalently,

$$M \cong R/(r_1) \oplus \dots \oplus R/(r_k) \oplus R^m,$$

and this is uniquely determined (up to  $R$ -isomorphism) by  $m$  &  $r_1, \dots, r_k$ .

Cor: If  $G$  is a finitely generated abelian group, then  $\exists m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$

and  $1 \mid n_1 \mid n_2 \mid \dots \mid n_k$  such that  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{n_k} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^m$ .

$G$  is determined up to isomorphism by the sequence  $n_1, \dots, n_k$  of invariant factors, and rank  $m$ . The order of the torsion subgroup of  $G$  is  $n_1 n_2 \dots n_k$ .

Def: A torsion  $R$ -module  $M$  is primary or  $p$ -primary, if its exponent is  $p^d$  for some prime  $p \in R$ .

Prop 5.10: Suppose  $M$  is a torsion module with exponent  $r \in R$ .

If  $r = p_1^{d_1} p_2^{d_2} \dots p_k^{d_k}$  for distinct primes  $p_i \in R$ , then

$M = M[p_1^{d_1}] \oplus \dots \oplus M[p_k^{d_k}]$ , a direct sum of primary submodules.

Pf: It suffices to show that if  $r = st$ ,  $(s, t) = 1$ , then

$M = M[s] \oplus M[t]$  (the full result will then follow by induction).

Write  $1 = as + bt$  for some  $a, b \in R$ . (See Prop 3.2 Rings).

For any  $x \in M$ ,  $x = t \cdot bx + s \cdot ax \in M[s] + M[t]$ .

If  $x \in M[s] \cap M[t]$ , then  $sx = 0$  and  $tx = 0$ , so

$x = asx + btx = 0$ . By Thm 2.3,  $M = M[s] \oplus M[t]$ . □

Remark: The primary submodules  $M[p_i^{d_i}]$  above are unique because  $M[p_i^{d_i}]$  consists precisely of the elements of  $M$  having order a prime power  $p_i^{d_i}$ , where  $p_i \mid r$  (the exponent).

The Invariant Factor Theorem (5.7) said that a finitely generated torsion  $R$ -module  $M$  can be decomposed into cyclic  $R$ -modules  $M = M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k$  of order  $r_i \mid r_{i-1}$ . Applying this to each cyclic  $R$ -module  $M_i$  yields the following theorem:

(14)

Thm 5.11: Suppose  $M$  is a finitely generated torsion  $R$ -module of exponent  $r = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{d_i}$  ( $p_i$ 's distinct primes,  $d_i > 0$ ). Then

$$M = M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_k, \text{ where } M_i \text{ is } p_i\text{-primary, and}$$

$$M_i = M_{i1} \oplus \dots \oplus M_{ik_i}, \text{ where } M_{ij} \text{ is cyclic of order } p_i^{d_{ij}} \text{ with } 1 \leq e_{ij} \leq e_{i(j-1)} \leq e_i \quad \forall i, j.$$

Moreover,  $M$  is determined up to isomorphism by the set  $\{p_i^{d_{ij}} : 1 \leq j \leq k_i, 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ , called the elementary divisors of  $M$ .

Application: Classification of abelian groups of order  $72 = 2^3 \cdot 3^2$ .

Let  $p_1 = 2, p_2 = 3$ . Then  $\sum_j e_{1j} = 3$  and  $\sum_j e_{2j} = 2$ .

We have 6 possible sets of elementary divisors:

Elementary divisors      Invariant factors

$$\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9 \longleftrightarrow \{2^3, 3^2\} \longleftrightarrow 72 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{72}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_8 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \longleftrightarrow \{2^3, 3, 3\} \longleftrightarrow 24 \cdot 3 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{24} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9 \longleftrightarrow \{2^2, 2, 3^2\} \longleftrightarrow 36 \cdot 2 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{36} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_4 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \longleftrightarrow \{2^2, 2, 3, 3\} \longleftrightarrow 12 \cdot 6 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{12} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_6$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9 \longleftrightarrow \{2, 2, 2, 3^2\} \longleftrightarrow 18 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{18} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \longleftrightarrow \{2, 2, 2, 3, 3\} \longleftrightarrow 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 2 \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$$