

## Lecture 10 Some left and right module structures

Defn Given a ring  $D$ , a right  $D$ -module is an abelian group  $(M, +)$  together with a map

$$\begin{aligned} M \times D &\longrightarrow M \\ (x, a) &\longmapsto x \cdot a \end{aligned}$$

s.t.  $\forall x, y \in M$  and  $a, b \in D$ :

$$(x \cdot a) \cdot b = x \cdot (a b), \quad x \cdot 1_D = x;$$

$$(x + y) \cdot a = x \cdot a + y \cdot a, \quad x \cdot (a + b) = x \cdot a + x \cdot b.$$



We'll denote  $M_D$  a right  $D$ -module. Given right  $D$ -modules  $M_D$  and  $N_D$ , a right  $D$ -module homomorphism is a map  $M_D \xrightarrow{f} N_D$  s.t.  $\forall m_1, m_2 \in M_D$  and  $\forall a, b \in D$ :

$$f(m_1 \cdot a + m_2 \cdot b) = f(m_1) \cdot a + f(m_2) \cdot b \quad (\star)$$

We'll denote  $\text{End}(M_D)$  the set of right  $D$ -linear maps

$M_D \xrightarrow{f} M_D$ . Component-wise addition and composition of maps

turn  $\text{End}(M_D)$  into a ring.



Note that  $M_D$ , above, has also a natural structure of a left  $R$ -module, where  $R := \text{End}(M_D)$ . Indeed, we may define

$$\begin{aligned} R \times M_D &\longrightarrow M \\ (r, m) &\longmapsto r \cdot m := r(m) \end{aligned}$$

In particular, Eqn  $(\star)$  says that  $\forall m \in M_D, r \in R, a \in D$ :  
 $r(m \cdot a) = r(m) \cdot a$ , which we may state as

$$r \cdot (m \cdot a) = (r \cdot m) \cdot a \quad \star^1$$

Property  $(\star^1)$  says that  $M$  is a  $(D, R)$ -bimodule.



Prop'n 2 We have a direct sum decomposition  $R := M_n(D) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \Omega_i$ ,

where for  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

$$\Omega_i := R e_{ii} = \left\{ A e_{ii} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{1i} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{2i} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{ni} & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mid A \in R \right\}$$

is a *simple* left  $R$ -module and a right  $e_{ii} R e_{ii} =: D_i$ -module

with  $1_{D_i} = e_{ii}$  and  $D_i \cong D$  s.t.  $\forall r \in R, x \in D_i, m \in \Omega_i$

$$(r \cdot m) \cdot x = r \cdot (m \cdot x). \quad *^2$$



Remark If  $D$  is a division ring and  $M$  is a finitely generated left / right  $D$ -module,  $\exists$  finite basis  $\mathcal{B}$  for  $M$  over  $D$ , so

$$M \xrightarrow{\sim} D^n$$
$$a_1 \beta_1 + \dots + a_n \beta_n = v \longmapsto (a_1, \dots, a_n)$$

where  $\mathcal{B} = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n\}$  and thus

$$\text{End}(M) \xrightarrow{\sim} M_n(D),$$
$$L \longmapsto [L]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Indeed, the latter map is bijective and such that  $[1]_{\mathcal{B}} = I_n$  and

$$[L_1 + L_2]_{\mathcal{B}} = [L_1]_{\mathcal{B}} + [L_2]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

$$[L_1 \circ L_2]_{\mathcal{B}} = [L_1]_{\mathcal{B}} [L_2]_{\mathcal{B}}$$



Theorem (Wedderburn) If  $R$  is a simple ring that contains a simple

left  $R$ -submodule then  $\exists n \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  s.t.

$$R \cong M_n(D),$$

as rings, for some division ring  $D$ .

We'll prove this theorem by identifying in this context the objects predicted by Prop'n 2 and the Remark.