

§ 5. Wedderburn's Thm. and Splitting Fields for Groups.

Def Let k be a commutative ring and A a k -algebra. A is called simple if it has no two-sided ideals other than $\{0\}$ and itself. A is called semi-simple if A is semi-simple as left A -module ($\Leftrightarrow A \cong \bigoplus$ simples).

Thm 1 (Artinian Algebras)

An Artinian k -algebra A is simple if and only if $A \cong M_n(D)$, the algebra of $n \times n$ matrices over some division algebra D . Moreover:

- (i) A has a unique simple module S up to isom (the columns of $M_n(D)$). Also $A \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n S$ so A is semi-simple.
- (ii) We have $D \cong \text{End}_A(S)^{\text{op}}$. Hence n, D are uniquely determined by the structure of A .

Proof

1. $M_n(D)$ is simple: sup $0 \neq C \in M_n(D)$ then $\exists e_{ij} \neq 0 \rightsquigarrow E_{kj} \circ C \in e_{ie} =$ matrix with e_{ij} in position ke and 0 elsewhere. These matrices generate $M_n(D)$ as A -module.

As Δ -module $M_n(\Delta) \cong \Delta^{n^2}$ is free of rank n^2 . Now Δ is Artinian as it is a division algebra (any submod is 0 or Δ) hence so is $M_n(\Delta)$.

Conversely supp. A is Artinian, simple. Then A has a simple module S .

S exists as A is Artinian: Suppose not. Pick a submodule U_0 of A that is non-trivial. If U_0 is not simple then it has a proper, non-trivial submodule U_1 . Continuing this procedure one gets a chain $U_0 \supsetneq U_1 \supsetneq U_2 \supsetneq \dots$ which is a contradiction to A being Artinian.

Now Sa is also an A -module $\forall a \in A$

$\varphi_a: S \rightarrow Sa$ is an A -homomorphism

$$s \mapsto sa$$

φ_a is surjective so either $Sa = \{0\}$ or $Sa \cong S$.

S is a left A -module but not necessarily right A -module, but $\sum_{a \in A} Sa$ is an A - A -bimodule so an ideal of A . As A is simple one gets:

$$\sum_{a \in A} Sa = A$$

A is Artinian $\Rightarrow A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n S$ (inters between \Rightarrow simple mod is S)

Now every simple module of A is a quotient of A , thus isomorphic to S .

By general facts about algebras,
 ↙ by sending $a \mapsto [b \mapsto ba]$

$$A \cong \text{End}_A(A)^{\text{op}} \cong \text{End}_A(S^n)^{\text{op}} \cong M_n(\text{End}_A(S))^{\text{op}} \cong M_n(\Delta)^{\text{op}} \text{ where } \Delta \cong (\text{End}_A(S))^{\text{op}}$$

$M_n(\text{End}_A(S))^{\text{op}} \cong M_n((\text{End}_A(S))^{\text{op}})$ by sending a matrix to its transpose. \square

Theorem (Wedderburn) Let A be a finite dimensional semi-simple algebra over a field k .

Let $\{S_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ be the set of reps of simple A -modules. Set $\Delta_i = \text{End}_A(S_i)$ and n_i be such $A = \bigoplus (S_i)^{n_i}$.

Then $A \cong \prod M_{n_i}(\Delta_i^{\text{op}})$

Proof: $\text{End}_A(A) \cong A^{\text{op}}$ is an algebra homomorphism: $\psi(\psi(a)) = \psi(a) \cdot \psi(a)$.

$$[b \mapsto ba] \longleftarrow a$$

Schur

$$\text{End}_A(A) = \text{End}_A\left(\bigoplus (S_i)^{n_i}\right) \begin{matrix} \cong \prod \text{End}_A((S_i)^{n_i}) \\ \cong \prod M_{n_i}(\Delta_i) \end{matrix}$$

where $\Delta_i = \text{End}_A(S_i)$

\square

Rem Given any finite-dimensional k -algebra A , we can apply Wedderburn's Theorem to $A/\mathcal{J}(A)$

- Wedderburn's Thm gives a bijection between simple left and right modules.
- Also there is a bijection between simple A -modules and simple $A/\mathcal{J}(A)$ -modules.

Hence there is a bijection between the isom. classes of left and right simple A -modules, for any algebra A .

Remember, if k is algebraically closed then $\text{End}_k(S) \cong k$. So $\Delta_i = k \neq i$.

Def k - a field

A - fin. dim k -algebra

- A is split if $A/\mathcal{J}(A) \cong \prod_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(k)$.
- An extension k' of k is a splitting field for A if $k' \otimes A$ is split.
- k is a splitting field for $\mathbb{Z}[G]$, G a group, if kG is split.

Thm 3 Let G be a finite grp and k a field. There is a finite field extension k'/k that is a splitting field for G .

Proof: (Schur's Lemma revisited)

Let \bar{k} be the alg. closure of k .
We have now $\bar{k}G$ is split.

$$\Rightarrow \bar{k}G = \prod M_{n_i}(\bar{k})$$

Let S be a simple $\bar{k}G$ -module and
 $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$ a \bar{k} -basis for S .

The action of $x \in G$ is given by
a matrix $(\bar{v}_{ij}^x)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \in M_n(\bar{k})$.

Let $k' = k(\bar{v}_{ij}^x, \forall i, \forall j, \forall x)$. Then
 k is a finite extension $k \subseteq k' \subseteq \bar{k}$

Let S' such that $S = \bar{k} \otimes_{k'} S'$
(in fact $S' = \sum k' s'_i$).

Given that all the coeff. of the action
of $x \in G$ on S' are in k' we have
that S' is a $k'G$ -module.

Moreover S' is simple as if $S' = V' \oplus U'$
then $S = (\bar{k} \otimes_{k'} V') \oplus (\bar{k} \otimes_{k'} U')$,

We want to prove $\text{End}_{k'G}(S') \cong k'$
Let $\varphi \in \text{End}_{k'G}(S')$. Then $\text{Id}_{\bar{k}} \otimes_{k'} \varphi$
belongs to $\text{End}_{\bar{k}G}(S) \cong \bar{k}$. Thus
there exists $\lambda \in \bar{k}$, $\text{Id}_{\bar{k}} \otimes_{k'} \varphi = \lambda \text{Id}_S$
But then $\lambda S' \subseteq S'$ (elementwise)
 $\Rightarrow \lambda \in k' \Rightarrow \text{End}_{k'G}(S') \cong k'$ \square

Examples:

- (1) Let P be a finite p -group, and k a field of characteristic p .
Then $J(kP) = I(kP)$ and

$$kP/J(kP) \cong k \Rightarrow k \text{ is a splitting field for } P$$

- (2) Consider the cyclic group C_3 .

i) $k = \mathbb{F}_2$ $kC_3 \cong k \oplus M \leftarrow \text{as } kC_3\text{-mod}$
 \uparrow
 $\dim 2$

$$kC_3 \cong k \times \mathbb{F}_4 \leftarrow \text{as algebra}$$

ii) $k = \mathbb{F}_4$ $kC_3 \cong k \oplus k \oplus k \leftarrow \text{as } kC_3\text{-mod}$
 $\cong k \times k \times k \leftarrow \text{as alg.}$

Def: the structural morphism:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_M: A &\longrightarrow \text{End}_k(M) \\ a &\longmapsto (m \mapsto am) \end{aligned}$$

(in general this is neither injective nor surjective)

Let A be a split, fin. dim alg over k .

Thm 4: The structural morphism

$$\theta_S: A \rightarrow \text{End}_k(S)$$

is surjective if and only if S is simple.

Proof: Suppose $S = U \oplus V$ not simple.
Let $\psi \in \text{End}_k(S)$, $\psi(U) \not\subseteq U$. Then

φ is not in the image of Θ_S , as all Θ_S .
• Suppose S is simple.

Let I_S be the annihilator of S .

In particular $I_S = J(A) \cdot \prod_{S_i \neq S} M_{n_i}(\text{End}_{A/J(A)}(S_i))$

$$A/I_S \cong M_{n_0}(\text{End}_{A/J(A)}(S)) \cong k.$$

$$\cong M_{n_0}(k) \cong \text{End}_k(S)$$

↑ the k -dimension of S . \square

Definition (socle/radical)

A an algebra over a commutative ring k .
 M an A -module.

• The socle of M $\text{soc}(M) = \sum_{\substack{S\text{-simple} \\ S \subseteq M}} S$

$\text{soc}(M) = \{0\}$ if there are no simple mod of M .

• The radical of M $\text{rad}(M) = \bigcap_{\substack{m\text{-maximal} \\ m \subseteq M}} m$

$\text{rad}(M) = M$ if M has no max submodule.

Rem • $\text{soc}(M)$ = largest semi-simple submodule of M

• $\text{rad}(M)$ = smallest submodule of M such that $M/\text{rad}(M)$ is semi-simple.

- if A is fin-dim over a field k and M is fin. generated then
 - $\rightarrow \text{soc}(M)$ is the largest \mathfrak{o} -mod of M annihilated by $\mathfrak{J}(A)$
 - $\rightarrow \text{rad}(M) = \mathfrak{J}(A)M$.

- radical series

$$M \supseteq \mathfrak{J}(A)M \supseteq \mathfrak{J}(A)^2 M \supseteq \dots$$

- socle series

$$\{0\} \subseteq \text{soc}^1(M) \subseteq \text{soc}^2(M) \subseteq \dots$$

where $\text{soc}^{n+1}(M) = \pi_n^{-1}(\text{soc}(M/\text{soc}^n(M)))$
 $\pi_n: M \rightarrow M/\text{soc}^n(M)$ the canonical projection.

Rem For both series the quotients between successive terms are semi-simple A -modules.