

Representation Theory Exercises — Sheet 4

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Throughout, A is an algebra over a commutative ring and all modules are assumed to be left modules.

Exercise 12: Let R be an arbitrary ring. Prove that $\text{End}_R(R) \cong R^{\text{op}}$, where R^{op} is obtained from R by replacing the multiplication \cdot of R with the operation $*$ defined by

$$a * b := b \cdot a.$$

Exercise 13: Two idempotents $e, f \in A$ are called *orthogonal* if $ef = fe = 0$. An idempotent is *primitive* if it cannot be written as the sum of two orthogonal idempotents. Show that the following are equivalent:

- (i) e is primitive,
- (ii) Ae is an indecomposable A -module,
- (iii) e is the unique idempotent of eAe .

Exercise 14: We say that the A -module U is *injective* if every short exact sequence of A -modules

$$0 \rightarrow U \rightarrow V \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$$

splits. Show that the following assertions are equivalent.

- (a) U is injective,
- (b) for every A -module V such that $U \leq V$, there exists an A -module $W \leq V$ such that $V = U \oplus W$,
- (c) if $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ is an injective morphism of A -modules, and $\psi : M \rightarrow U$ is a morphism of A -modules, then there exists a morphism of A -modules $\rho : N \rightarrow U$ such that $\rho\varphi = \psi$.

Exercise 15: Let K be a field and A the (associative) K -algebra with basis $\{1, i, j, k\}$ and multiplication $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1$, $ij = -ji = k$, $jk = -kj = i$, $ki = -ik = j$.

- (a) Show that A is a skew field if and only if $X^2 + Y^2 + Z^2 + 1 = 0$ has no solutions over K .
- (b) Construct the left regular representation $V := A^\circ$ for A acting on itself by determining matrices for $1, i, j, k$.
- (c) Determine $\text{End}_A(V)$ and $Z(A)$. Under which conditions is V irreducible?