

Commutative Algebra: Tensor Products

Dr. Zvi Rosen

Department of Mathematical Sciences,
Florida Atlantic University



Outline

First steps

— $\otimes_A M$ as a Functor

Exactness of — $\otimes_A M$

Tensor Products of Algebras

Tensor Product as Quotient

Let A be a ring, M, N be A -modules.

- Take A -linear combinations of pairs in $M \times N$. Typical element:

$$\sum_{i \in I} a_i (m_i, n_i), \quad =: A^{(M \times N)}$$

- Let D be the submodule of $A^{(M \times N)}$

generated by: 1) $a(m, n) - (am, n)$.

2) $a(m, n) - (m, an)$. 3) $(m_1 + m_2, n) - (m_1, n) - (m_2, n)$

4) $(m, n_1 + n_2) - (m, n_1) - (m, n_2)$.

Tensor Product as Quotient

$$M \otimes N := A^{(M \times N)} / \mathcal{D}.$$

$\forall (x, y) \in A^{(M \times N)} \rightsquigarrow$ image in $M \otimes N$
is written as $x \otimes y$.

$$ax \otimes y = x \otimes (ay) = a(x \otimes y)$$

$$x_1 + x_2 \otimes y = x_1 \otimes y + x_2 \otimes y$$

$$x \otimes (y_1 + y_2) = x \otimes y_1 + x \otimes y_2.$$

Tensor Product by Universal Property

For M, N A -modules, there exists an A -module $M \otimes N$ and an A -bilinear map $g: M \times N \rightarrow M \otimes N$ with following property:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & & \\ \downarrow g & \searrow f & \\ M \otimes N & \xrightarrow{\exists! f'} & P \end{array}$$

For any A -module P , A -bilinear map $f: M \times N \rightarrow P$, there is a unique A -mod homom $f': M \otimes N \rightarrow P$ s.t. $f' \circ g = f$.

Tensor Product by Universal Property

Suppose $M \otimes N$ satisfies
the same property:

the property forces
a unique A -module
isomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & & \\ \downarrow g & \searrow f & \\ M \otimes N & \xrightarrow{\exists! f'} & P \end{array}$$

$M \otimes N$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & & \\ g' \downarrow & \searrow g & \\ M \otimes N & \xrightarrow{\exists!} & M \otimes N \end{array}$$

Multi-linear Tensor Product

Differences:

① A -linear in each factor.

② In the existence proof, the free module and its submodule look diff.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_1 \times \cdots \times M_r & & \\ \downarrow g & \searrow f & \\ M_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes M_r & \xrightarrow{\exists! f'} & P \end{array}$$

Some Quick Isomorphisms (Prop 2.14)

$$(M \otimes N) \cong (N \otimes M)$$

$$x \otimes y \mapsto y \otimes x$$

$$(M \otimes N) \otimes P \cong M \otimes (N \otimes P) \cong M \otimes N \otimes P$$

$$(x \otimes y) \otimes z \mapsto x \otimes (y \otimes z) \mapsto (x \otimes y) \otimes z$$

$$(M \oplus N) \otimes P \cong (M \otimes P) \oplus (N \otimes P)$$

$$(x, y) \otimes z \mapsto x \otimes z, y \otimes z$$

$$A \otimes M \cong M$$

$$a \otimes m \mapsto am.$$

$$M \otimes (N \otimes P) \cong M \otimes N \otimes P$$

Fix $x \in M$. $f_x: N \times P \rightarrow M \otimes N \otimes P$
 $(y, z) \mapsto x \otimes y \otimes z$

This is A -bilinear $\Rightarrow \exists! f'_x: N \otimes P \rightarrow M \otimes N \otimes P$.

Now let $f: M \times (N \otimes P) \rightarrow M \otimes N \otimes P$
 $(x, t) \mapsto f'_x(t)$

This is A -bilinear $\Rightarrow \exists! f': M \otimes (N \otimes P) \rightarrow M \otimes N \otimes P$
 $x \otimes (y \otimes z) \mapsto x \otimes y \otimes z$

$g: M \times N \times P \rightarrow M \otimes (N \otimes P)$ A -trilinear
 $(x, y, z) \mapsto x \otimes (y \otimes z) \Rightarrow \exists! g': M \otimes N \otimes P \rightarrow M \otimes (N \otimes P)$

$$(M \oplus N) \otimes P \cong (M \otimes P) \oplus (N \otimes P)$$

Exercise!

Restriction & Extension of Scalars

Let A, B be rings. Take $f: A \rightarrow B$
a ring homomorphism.

1) If M is a B -module, it has
an A -module structure via $ax = f(a)x$.
 $a \in A, x \in M$.

2) If M is an A -module

take $B \otimes_A M \leftarrow$ this has a B -module
structure. $b(b' \otimes_A x) = bb' \otimes_A x$.

$$b \otimes ax = a(b \otimes x) = (f(a)b) \otimes x.$$

Claim: $- \otimes_A M$ is a Functor $A\text{-Mod} \rightarrow A\text{-Mod}$

Fix an A -module M .

Objects: $N \rightarrow N \otimes_A M$

Morphisms: $f: N \rightarrow P$ A -module
homomorphism

$$f': N \otimes_A M \rightarrow P \otimes_A M$$

$$n \otimes m \mapsto f(n) \otimes m.$$

In other words $f' = f \otimes 1_M$.

"Defn": Adjoint Functors

Kinda like an inverse functor.

$$F: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D} . \quad G: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

For $X \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{C})$, $Y \in \text{Obj}(\mathcal{D})$

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, GY) \leftrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(FX, Y).$$

in a natural way.

— $\otimes M$ and $\text{Hom}(M, \cdot)$ are Adjoints

Given N, P in category of A -modules
there is a natural bijection

$$\text{Hom}(N \otimes M, P) \longleftrightarrow \text{Hom}(N, \text{Hom}(M, P))$$

Given $f: N \otimes M \rightarrow P \rightsquigarrow f': N \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, P)$.

Fix $n \in N$. What results is $f_n: M \rightarrow P$.

Given $f': N \rightarrow \text{Hom}(M, P) \overset{?}{\rightsquigarrow} f: N \otimes M \rightarrow P$
 $f(n \otimes m) = f'(n)(m) \in P$.

— $\otimes M$ is a right-exact functor

Since $- \otimes M$ is a left adjoint,
it is right exact, i.e. given

$$N' \rightarrow N \rightarrow N'' \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{exact}$$

$$\Rightarrow N' \otimes M \rightarrow N \otimes M \rightarrow N'' \otimes M \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{exact.}$$

$- \otimes M$ preserves cokernels.

— $\otimes M$ is a right-exact functor

$$N' \rightarrow N \rightarrow N'' \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{exact}$$

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(N'', P) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(N, P) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(N', P) \quad \text{exact.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(N'', \text{Hom}(M, P')) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}(N, \text{Hom}(M, P')) \\ &\rightarrow \text{Hom}(N', \text{Hom}(M, P')) \quad \text{exact.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(N'' \otimes M, P') &\rightarrow \text{Hom}(N \otimes M, P') \\ &\rightarrow \text{Hom}(N' \otimes M, P') \quad \text{exact.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow N' \otimes M \rightarrow N \otimes M \rightarrow N'' \otimes M \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{exact.}$$

— $\otimes M$ is NOT left-exact

$A = \mathbb{Z}$. Category: \mathbb{Z} -mod.

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\times 2} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \quad \downarrow$$

$$0 \rightarrow \underbrace{\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2}_{\text{not exact}} \xrightarrow{(\times 2, \otimes 1)} \mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\text{Im}(0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2) = 0 \neq \text{Ker}(\mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2)$$

$$n \otimes x \mapsto 2n \otimes x \equiv n \otimes 2x \equiv 0$$