

1 Algebras

Definition 1.1. Let A be a ring. A **left module** over A is an abelian group M with an operation of A on M with the following properties for all $a, b \in A$ and $x, y \in M$:

$$i) (a + b)x = ax + bx$$

$$ii) a(x + y) = ax + ay$$

$$iii) (ab)x = a(bx)$$

Definition 1.2. Let A be a commutative ring and M an A -module equipped with an additional binary operation from $M \times M$ to M denoted by \circ . Then M is an **algebra over A** if \circ satisfies the following conditions for all $x, y, z \in M$ and for all $a, b \in A$:

$$i) (x + y) \circ z = x \circ z + y \circ z$$

$$ii) x \circ (y + z) = x \circ y + x \circ z$$

$$iii) (ax) \circ (by) = (ab)(x \circ y)$$

i.e. if \circ is bilinear. If we furthermore have $(x \circ y) \circ z = x \circ (y \circ z)$ we call M **associative** and if there is an element $U \in M$ such that $U \circ x = x = x \circ U$ we call U **unit** and M **unital**. If we have a field K instead of the ring A , we call M an **algebra over the field K** .

From now on we shall only consider unital associative Algebras over fields.

Example 1.3. i) The $n \times n$ matrices over a field K form a unital associative K -algebra because matrix multiplication is distributive, associative and compatible with scalar multiplication. The unit is given by the identity matrix.

ii) The **group algebra of a group G over a field K** is the K -vector space with basis G i.e. it is composed of all finite sums of the type $\sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g g, g \in G, \alpha_g \in K$. The operations are defined as follows:

$$\sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g g + \sum_{g \in G} \beta_g g = \sum_{g \in G} (\alpha_g + \beta_g) g$$

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} \alpha_g g \right) \left(\sum_{g \in G} \beta_g g \right) = \sum_{h \in G} \left(\sum_{\substack{xy=h \\ x, y \in G}} (\alpha_x \beta_y) \right) h.$$

The sum on the right side of the second formula is also finite. It remains to check that this is associative, distributive, compatible with scalar multiplication and that there is a unit.

iii) Let S be a set then the set $\text{Fun}(S, K)$ of functions from S to K form a unital associative K -algebra by pointwise addition and multiplication. The unit is given by the function mapping all of S to $1 \in K$.

iv) **Sweedler's 4-dimensional Hopf algebra:**

Consider a field K with $\text{char}(K) \neq 2$. Let H be the algebra given by generators and relations as follows. H is generated as a K -algebra by c and x satisfying the relations

$$c^2 = 1, \quad x^2 = 0, \quad xc = -cx.$$

Then H has dimension 4 as a K -vector space, with basis $\{1, c, x, cx\}$. Additional Properties of this algebra will be discussed in later talks.

Definition 1.4. A map $f : A \rightarrow B$ between two unital associative Algebras A, B over the same field K is called **algebra homomorphism**, if the following holds for all $k \in K$ and $x, y \in A$

$$\begin{aligned} f(kx) &= kf(x) \\ f(x + y) &= f(x) + f(y) \\ f(xy) &= f(x)f(y) \\ f(1_A) &= 1_B, \end{aligned}$$

where 1_A and 1_B are the units of A and B respectively.

Definition 1.5. For K -vector spaces V and W the **tensorproduct** $V \otimes W$ is a vector space with a bilinear map $\phi : V \times W \rightarrow V \otimes W$ defined by the following universal property

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \times W & \xrightarrow{\phi} & V \otimes W \\ & \searrow f & \swarrow \exists! \tilde{f} \\ & A & \end{array}$$

i.e. for every bilinear f from $V \times W$ to a K -vector space A there is exactly one linear \tilde{f} such that $f = \tilde{f} \circ \phi$.

Remark 1.6. i) The tensorproduct exists and is unique up to isomorphism.

ii) If $\{v_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq n}$ is a basis of the K -vector space V and $\{w_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq k}$ is a basis of the K -vector space W then $\{v_j \otimes w_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq n}$ is a basis of $V \otimes W$.

Definition 1.7. Let K be a field and let E be a K -module. For each integer $r \geq 0$ we define:

$$T^r(E) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^r E \text{ and } T^0(E) = K.$$

From the associativity of the tensor product, we obtain a bilinear map:

$$T^r(E) \times T^s(E) \rightarrow T^{r+s}(E),$$

which is associative. By means of this bilinear map, we can define an algebra structure on the direct sum

$$T(E) = \bigoplus_{r=0}^{\infty} T^r(E).$$

We define $T(E)$ as the **tensor algebra** of E over K .

Theorem 1.8. Let A be a unital associative K -algebra and $f : E \rightarrow A$ be a linear map, then the tensor algebra has the universal property that there is exactly one algebra homomorphism $\tilde{f} : T(E) \rightarrow A$ such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{i} & T(E) \\ & \searrow f & \swarrow \tilde{f} \\ & & A \end{array}$$

Remark 1.9. Let V be a vector space of dimension n over K and $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be a basis of V over K . Then the elements

$$M_i(v) = \underbrace{v_{i_1} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_r}}_{r\text{-times}}, \quad 1 \leq i_v \leq n$$

form a basis of $T^r(V)$ and every element of $T(V)$ has a unique expression as a finite sum

$$\sum_{(i)} a_{(i)} M_{(i)}(v), \quad a_{(i)} \in K$$

with almost all $a_{(i)}$ equal to 0.

Definition 1.10. Given two algebras A and B we define an algebra structure on the tensor product $A \otimes B$ by

$$(a \otimes b) \circ (a' \otimes b') = aa' \otimes bb'$$

this is called **ordinary tensor product** of A and B .

Lemma 1.11. The ordinary tensor product actually satisfies the conditions of an algebra.

Definition 1.12. A **left-ideal** of a K -algebra is a linear subspace L with the following properties for all $x, y \in L$, $z \in A$ and $c \in K$

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &\in L \\ cx &\in L \\ z \circ x &\in L. \end{aligned}$$

With $x \circ z \in L$ we get a **right-ideal**. With both properties L is a **two-sided ideal**.

Theorem 1.13. Suppose that A and B are K -algebras and that $f : A \rightarrow B$ is an algebra homomorphism. Let I be an ideal such that $I \subset \ker(f)$ then there exists a unique algebra homomorphism \tilde{f} such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\pi} & A/I \\ & \searrow f & \swarrow \tilde{f} \\ & & B \end{array}$$