

Def<sup>n</sup>: Let  $M$  and  $N$  be  $R$ -modules. A direct sum of  $M$  and  $N$ ,  $M \oplus N$ , is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{i_1} & M \oplus N \\ & \downarrow i_2 & \end{array}$$

s.t. given any  $R$ -module  $P$  and  $R$ -homo's  $\alpha, \beta$  with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & P \\ N & \xrightarrow{\beta} & \end{array}$$

$\exists!$   $\gamma: M \oplus N \rightarrow P$ ,  $R$ -mod. homo. s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{i_1} & M \oplus N \\ & \downarrow i_2 & \xrightarrow{\exists! \gamma} P \\ N & & \xrightarrow{\beta} \end{array}$$

commutes.

Thm 1. There exists a direct sum of  $M$  and  $N$ , and it is unique up to isomorphism.

$\hookrightarrow$  I.e. all models of  $M \oplus N$  are isomorphic.

Thm 2.  $i_1, i_2$  in the defn of  $M \oplus N$  are injective.

Proof of Thm 1. Let  $M \oplus N$  be defined as the set  $(m, n) \in M \times N$  w + and given by  $(m_1, n_1) + (m_2, n_2) := (m_1 + m_2, n_1 + n_2)$ ;  $\forall r \in R, r(m, n) := (rm, rn)$ . It's clear this defines an  $R$ -module.

Let  $i_1: M \rightarrow M \oplus N$ ;  $i_2: N \rightarrow M \oplus N$  (Note: this is the standard model of a direct sum of  $M \oplus N$ .)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{i_1} & M \oplus N \\ N & \xrightarrow{i_2} & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & P \\ N & \xrightarrow{\beta} & \end{array}$$

So,  $\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{i_1} & M \oplus N \\ N & \xrightarrow{i_2} & \end{array} \xrightarrow{\exists! \gamma} P$ . We show that there exists a unique  $R$ -mod. morphism  $\gamma$  s.t. this diagram commutes. Indeed, define  $\gamma$  by  $\gamma(m, n) := \alpha(m) + \beta(n)$ .

NTS:  $\alpha = \gamma \circ i_1, \beta = \gamma \circ i_2$ . But  $\gamma(m) = \gamma(i_1(m)) = \gamma(m, 0) := \alpha(m) + \beta(0) = \alpha(m)$ . Sim.,

$\beta(n) = \gamma(i_2(n)) = \gamma(0, n) = \alpha(0) + \beta(n) = \beta(n)$ .

Now,  $\gamma(m_1, n_1) + \gamma(m_2, n_2) = \alpha(m_1) + \beta(n_1) + \alpha(m_2) + \beta(n_2) = \alpha(m_1 + m_2) + \beta(n_1 + n_2) = \gamma(m_1 + m_2, n_1 + n_2)$

and  $r\gamma(m, n) = r[\alpha(m) + \beta(n)] = r\alpha(m) + r\beta(n) = \alpha(rm) + \beta(rn) = \gamma(rm, rn) = \gamma(r(m, n))$ .

$\therefore \gamma$  is an  $R$ -mod. morphism.

Next we show that  $\gamma$  is unique. Suppose  $\gamma'$  is an  $R$ -mod. morphism s.t.  $\alpha = \gamma' \circ i_1, \beta = \gamma' \circ i_2$ .

Then,  $\alpha(m) = \gamma'(i_1(m)) = \gamma'(m, 0) = \gamma'(0, n)$ ;  $\beta(n) = \gamma'(i_2(n)) = \gamma'(0, n)$ . But  $\gamma'(m, n) = \gamma'(m, 0) + \gamma'(0, n)$

$= \alpha(m) + \beta(n) = \gamma(m, n)$ .  $\therefore \gamma' = \gamma$ . So, this model of a direct sum is indeed an  $M \oplus N$ .

Next, we show that all models of  $M \oplus N$  are isomorphic. For this, it suffices to show that all