

# Math 6000, Fall 2020 (Prof. Kinser), Homework 2

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**Source** Discussed solutions with Zach after thinking about the hw myself and then did proof analysis of each other's paper after we had written our own initial drafts.

**Problem 1.** *Skills developed: Interpreting and testing an abstract definition in familiar settings.*

In each category below, decide whether there exists a free object on arbitrary set  $X$ . If so, prove it by constructing the free object and demonstrating the definition holds. If not, choose a specific set  $X$  and prove that no free object on  $X$  can exist.

*Each category below is a familiar concrete category. So just treat the objects as having underlying sets as you usually would, without writing  $U$  for the "underlying set" functor*

- (a) The category **Sets** of all sets.
  - (b) The category **Fields** of all fields.
  - (c) The category **Rings** of comm. rings with  $1 (\neq 0)$  and homomorphisms which preserve 1.
  - (d) The category **Top** of topological spaces and continuous functions.
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**Defs/Theorems 1.** Given a set  $X$ , object  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  and morphisms of sets  $i : X \rightarrow A$ . We say that  $A$  is a **free object** on  $X$  (and  $X$  is a basis of  $A$ ) if it satisfies the following **universal property**:

- 1a.** Given any map of sets  $g : X \rightarrow B$  where  $B \in \mathcal{C}$ , there exists unique morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  such that diagram commutes (i.e.  $\exists! f$  such that  $g = f \circ i$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xleftarrow{\quad f \quad} & A \\ & \swarrow g & \uparrow i \\ & & X \end{array}$$

- 2.** The discrete topology is the finest topology that can be given on a set, i.e., it defines all the subsets as open sets. In particular, each singleton is an open set in the discrete topology.
  - 3.** A field homomorphism  $\phi : F \rightarrow F'$  is identically 0 or injective.
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- 3b.** If there is a homomorphism between two fields, then they have the same characteristic.

(a) Yes, there does exist a free object on arbitrary set  $X$  in the category of **Sets**.

Since every object in a category has an identity morphism,  $X \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{Sets})$  has an identity morphism, namely  $1_X \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(X, X)$ .

Let  $A$  be an object in **Sets**. Consider  $A = X$ . Then,  $i : X \rightarrow A$  is precisely the identity morphism  $1_X : X \rightarrow X$ .

Hence, given  $g : X \rightarrow B \in \mathbf{Sets}$ , there exists a unique morphism  $f : X \rightarrow B$  such that  $g = f \circ 1_X$  (since the identity is unique,  $f$  has to be unique).

$\therefore$ , in **Sets**,  $A = X$  is the free object on  $X$  and  $f = g$  is the unique morphism from  $A$  to  $B$ .

Here is the corresponding commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B & \xleftarrow{\quad} & A = X \\
 \swarrow f & & \uparrow 1_X \\
 & & X \\
 \nwarrow g=f & & 
 \end{array}$$

(b) **Claim:** Free object on  $X \neq \emptyset$  does not exist in a category of **Fields**.

By way of contradiction, suppose we have  $i : X \rightarrow A$  with  $A$  free on  $X$ . Let  $A$  be a field of characteristic  $p$ .

Let  $g : X \rightarrow B$ , be the given morphism, where  $B$  is a field of characteristic  $q \neq p$ .

Then, there should be a unique morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  such that  $g = f \circ i$ . This is precisely the contradiction since  $f$  is a homomorphism between fields, and  $A$  and  $B$  have different characteristic.

(Note, if the category is a field of a fixed characteristic, there may be a free object if the arbitrary set  $X = \emptyset$ , but this is not true generally).

(c) Yes, there does exist a free object on arbitrary set  $X$  in the category of **Rings**.

Consider the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ . By definition, it is the set of all formal sums  $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$  with  $n \geq 0$  and each  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $X$  be any arbitrary set and let  $i : X \rightarrow A$ . Given a  $g : X \rightarrow B$ , we want to show there is a unique morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$ .

Since  $A$  and  $B$  are both rings and we assume that homomorphism preserves 1,  $f(1) = 1$ . Hence,  $g = f \circ i$  exists.

Now, suppose there is another such ring homomorphism  $\hat{f} : A \rightarrow B$ . Then, we have  $f \circ i = g = \hat{f} \circ i \Rightarrow f \circ i = \hat{f} \circ i \Rightarrow f = \hat{f}$ . Hence,  $f$  is a unique morphism.

(Credit: The motivation for this problem came entirely from discussion with Zach).

Here is the corresponding commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 B & \xleftarrow{\quad} & A = \mathbb{Z}[x] \\
 \swarrow f & & \uparrow i \\
 & & X \\
 \nwarrow g & & 
 \end{array}$$

(d) Yes, there does exist a free object on arbitrary set  $X$  in the category of **Top**.

Suppose  $A = (X, \tau)$  is endowed with the discrete topology. Let  $(B, \tau_2) \in \text{Ob}(\mathbf{Top})$ .

We assert that  $A$  is a free object. Suppose  $V \subset B$  is an open set. Consider  $f^{-1}(V) \subset A$ . Since every subset of  $A$  is open,  $f^{-1}(V) \subset A$  is open.

Since the preimage of an open set is open,  $f$  is continuous. In particular,  $g = f \circ i$ .

Now, suppose there exists another map  $\bar{f}$  such that  $g = \bar{f} \circ i$ .

Then  $f \circ i = \bar{f} \circ i \Rightarrow f = \bar{f}$ .

Here is the corresponding commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (B, \tau_2) & \xleftarrow{\quad f \quad} & A = (X, \tau) \\
 & \swarrow \quad g \quad & \uparrow \quad i \\
 & & X
 \end{array}$$


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**Problem 2.** *Skills developed: Construction of a categorical equivalence, and practice with matrix rings and modules.*

Let  $K$  be a field, and  $K\text{-Mod}$  the category of  $K$ -modules (i.e. vector spaces). Let  $R = \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(K)$  be the ring of  $2 \times 2$  matrices over  $K$ , and  $R\text{-Mod}$  the category of left  $R$ -modules. We will show that  $K\text{-Mod}$  and  $R\text{-Mod}$  are equivalent categories, despite that fact that  $K$  and  $R$  are clearly not isomorphic rings.

- (a) Define a map on objects  $F : K\text{-Mod} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$  by sending a vector space  $V$  to the  $R$ -modules  $V \oplus V$ , where  $R$  acts on  $(v_1, v_2) \in V \oplus V$  by the standard matrix multiplication formula:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} av_1 + bv_2 \\ cv_1 + dv_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Show how to make  $F$  a functor in the most natural way.

- (b) Let  $e$  be the primitive idempotent in  $R$ , for concreteness let's take  $e = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Check (but don't turn in) that the ring  $eRe$  is isomorphic to the field  $K$ , where  $a \in K$  is identified with the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Also check that  $eM$  is a left  $eRe$ -module, and thus can be considered as a  $K$ -vector space. Therefore, we can define a map on objects  $G : R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow K\text{-Mod}$  by sending an  $R$ -module  $M$  to  $eM$ . Show how to make  $G$  a functor in the most natural way.
- (c) It is easy to see that  $GF$  is isomorphic to the identity functor on  $K\text{-Mod}$ . (Check this but don't turn it in.) On the other hand,  $FG$  is not exactly the identity functor, but  $FG(M) \simeq M$  for all  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$ . Show that the functor  $FG$  is isomorphic to the identity functor on  $R\text{-mod}$ . This shows that  $R\text{-mod}$  and  $K\text{-mod}$  are equivalent categories.

*This generalizes to  $n \times n$  matrices over arbitrary rings with essentially the same proof. In general, two rings  $S_1, S_2$  such that the categories  $S_1\text{-mod}$  and  $S_2\text{-mod}$  are equivalent are said to be "Morita equivalent" rings.*

**Defs/Theorems 1.** Let  $R$  be a ring (not necessarily commutative nor with 1). A left  $R$ -module or a left-module over  $R$  is a set  $M$  together with

- (1) a binary operation  $+$  on  $M$  under which  $M$  is an abelian group, and  
 (2) an action of  $R$  on  $M$  (that is, a map  $R \times M \rightarrow M$ ) denoted by  $rm$ , for all  $r \in R$  and for all  $m \in M$  which satisfies:

- (a)  $(r + s)m = rm + sm$ , for all  $r, s \in R, m \in M$ .  
 (b)  $(rs)m = r(sm)$ , for all  $r, s \in R, m \in M$ , and  
 (c)  $r(m + n) = rm + rn$ , for all  $r \in R, m, n \in M$ .

If the ring  $R$  has a 1 we impose the additional axiom:

- (d)  $1m = m$ , for all  $m \in M$ .

2. Suppose  $V$  and  $W$  are vector spaces over the field  $K$ . The cartesian product  $V \times W$  can be given the structure of a vector space over  $K$  by defining the operations componentwise:

$$(i) (v_1, w_1) + (v_2, w_2) = (v_1 + v_2, w_1 + w_2)$$

$$(ii) \alpha(v, w) = (\alpha v, \alpha w).$$

for  $v, v_1, v_2 \in V, w, w_1, w_2 \in W$ , and  $\alpha \in K$ .

The resulting vector space is called the **direct sum** of  $V$  and  $W$  and is usually denoted by  $V \oplus W$ .

3. (Pg. 327, Prop 10.2.2 D and F) Let  $M, N$ , and  $L$  be  $R$ -modules.

(1) A map  $\phi : M \rightarrow N$  is an  $R$ -module homomorphism iff  $\phi(rx + y) = r\phi(x) + \phi(y)$  for all  $x, y \in M$  and all  $r \in R$ .

(2) Let  $\phi, \psi$  be elements of  $Hom_R(M, n)$ . Define  $\phi + \psi$  by

$$(\phi + \psi)(m) = \phi(m) + \psi(m) \text{ for all } m \in M$$

Then  $\phi + \psi \in Hom_R(M, N)$  and with this operation  $Hom_R(M, n)$  is an abelian group. If  $R$  is a commutative ring then for  $r \in R$  define  $r\phi$  by

$$(r\phi)(m) = r(\phi(m)) \text{ for all } m \in M$$

**Proof (a)**

**Show** Show that  $F$  is a functor, i.e.

$$(1) \forall V \in Ob(K - \text{Mod}), F(R) \in Ob(R - \text{Mod})$$

$$(2) \forall \phi \in Hom_{K-\text{Mod}}(V_1, V_2), F(\phi) \in Hom_{R-\text{Mod}}(F(V_1), F(V_2)) \text{ such that } F(1_{V_1}) = 1_{F(V_1)}.$$

$$(3) F(\phi_2 \circ \phi_1) = F(\phi_2) \circ F(\phi_1) \text{ for all } \phi_2, \phi_1 \text{ composable in } K - \text{Mod}.$$

**(a-i)** Let  $V \in Ob(K - \text{Mod})$ . Define  $F(V) = V \oplus V$  to be the direct sum. Then,  $F(V) \in Ob(R - \text{Mod})$  since it is also a vector space.

**(a-ii)** Let  $V, W \in K - \text{Mod}$  and  $T \in Hom_{K-\text{Mod}}(V, W)$  be a linear transformation.

Let  $V \oplus V$  and  $W \oplus W$  be the corresponding objects after the functor has been applied. Then,  $\phi : V \oplus V \rightarrow W \oplus W$  is a  $R$ -module homomorphism.

Let  $v_1, v_2 \in V \Rightarrow (v_1, v_2) \in V \oplus V$ . Then, define induced map as follows:

$$F(T)(v_1, v_2) = \phi(v_1, v_2) = (T(v_1), T(v_2)) \in W \oplus W$$

**Check** Verify that  $\phi$  is indeed a  $R$ -module homomorphism.

Let  $r = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in R$ , and let  $x = (v_1, v_2), y = (\overline{v_1}, \overline{v_2}) \in V \oplus V$ . Then, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi(rx + y) &= \phi\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \overline{v_1} \\ \overline{v_2} \end{bmatrix}\right) \\
 &= \phi\left(\begin{bmatrix} av_1 + bv_2 \\ cv_1 + dv_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \overline{v_1} \\ \overline{v_2} \end{bmatrix}\right) \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} T(av_1 + bv_2 + \overline{v_1}) \\ T(cv_1 + dv_2 + \overline{v_2}) \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} aT(v_1) + bT(v_2) \\ cT(v_1) + dT(v_2) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} T(\overline{v_1}) \\ T(\overline{v_2}) \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T(v_1) \\ T(v_2) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} T(\overline{v_1}) \\ T(\overline{v_2}) \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{follows from linearity of } T \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \phi\left(\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) + \phi\left(\begin{bmatrix} \overline{v_1} \\ \overline{v_2} \end{bmatrix}\right) \\
 &= r\phi(x) + \phi(y)
 \end{aligned}$$

**(a-iii)** Let  $1_V$  be the identity morphism on  $V$  (in this case, it is the identity linear transformation).

Let  $v_1, v_2 \in V$  and  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_{R\text{-Mod}}(V \oplus V, V \oplus V)$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(1_V)(v_1, v_2) &= \phi(v_1, v_2) \\
 &= (1_V(v_1), 1_V(v_2)) \\
 &= (v_1, v_2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore F(1_V) = 1_{F(V)}.$$

**(a-iv)** Here is the corresponding commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{T} & W \\
 \downarrow F & & \downarrow F \\
 F(V) = V \oplus V & \xrightarrow{\phi} & F(W) = W \oplus W
 \end{array}$$

Note, there should also be an induced morphism from  $T \dashrightarrow \phi$ .

**(a-v)** Let  $T_1 \in \text{Hom}_{K\text{-Mod}}(V, W), T_2 \in \text{Hom}_{K\text{-Mod}}(W, X)$ . Let  $\phi_1 \in \text{Hom}_{R\text{-Mod}}(V \oplus V, W \oplus W), \phi_2 \in \text{Hom}_{R\text{-Mod}}(W \oplus W, X \oplus X)$  be the corresponding morphisms. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
F(T_2 \circ T_1)(v_1, v_2) &= (T_2(T_1(v_1)), T_2(T_1(v_2))) \\
&= F(T_2) \circ (T_1(v_1), T_1(v_2)) \\
&= F(T_2) \circ F(T_1)(v_1, v_2)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $F$  is a covariant functor.

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**(b)** Recall  $e$  in a Ring is idempotent if  $e^2 = e$ . A primitive idempotent is an idempotent  $e$  such that  $eR$  is indecomposable, i.e. we cannot have  $eR = eR_1 \oplus eR_2$  with  $eR_1, eR_2 \neq 0$ .

Let  $R - \text{Mod}$  and  $K - \text{Mod}$  be categories and  $G : R - \text{Mod} \rightarrow K - \text{Mod}$ .

**Show** Show that  $G$  is a functor i.e.

(1)  $\forall M \in \text{Ob}(R - \text{Mod}), G(M) \in \text{Ob}(K - \text{Mod})$ .

(2)  $\forall \phi \in \text{Hom}_{R - \text{Mod}}(M_1, M_2), G(\phi) \in \text{Hom}_{K - \text{Mod}}(G(M_1), G(M_2))$  such that  $G(1_{M_1}) = 1_{G(M_1)}$ .

(3)  $G(\phi_2 \circ \phi_1) = G(\phi_2) \circ G(\phi_1)$  for all  $\phi_2, \phi_1$  composable in  $R - \text{Mod}$ .

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**(b-i)** Let  $M \in R - \text{Mod}$ . Then, define  $G(M) = eM$  where  $e = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is primitive idempotent. Then,  $eM \in K - \text{Mod}$ .

**(b-ii)** Let  $M_1, M_2 \in R - \text{Mod}$  and  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_{R - \text{Mod}}(M_1, M_2)$  be a  $R$ -module homomorphism.

Note,  $G(M_1) = eM_1$  and  $G(M_2) = eM_2$  are corresponding objects.

Define  $G(\phi) = \bar{\phi}$  where  $\bar{\phi}(eM_1) = e\phi(M_1)$ .

**Check** (Note we have checked that  $eM$  is a left  $eRe$ -module and  $eRe$  is isomorphic to the field  $K$ .)

Verify that  $\bar{\phi}$  is an  $eRe$ -module homomorphism.

Let  $m_1, m_2 \in M, R_1 \in R$ . Then, we have

1.

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{\phi}(em_1 + em_2) &= \phi(em_1) + \phi(em_2) \quad \text{since } \phi \text{ is an } R\text{-module homomorphism} \\
&= e\phi(m_1) + e\phi(m_2) \\
&= \bar{m}_1 + \bar{m}_2
\end{aligned}$$

2. (Note an element in  $eRe$  looks like  $eR_1e$  for  $R_1 \in R$ ). Then, we also have

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{\phi}(eR_1e(em)) &= eR_1e(e\phi(m)) \\
&= eR_1e\bar{\phi}(em)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\bar{\phi}$  is an  $eRe$ -module homomorphism.

**(b-iii)** Let  $1_{M_1}$  be the identity morphism on  $M_1$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} G(1_{M_1})(eM_1) &= \overline{1_{M_1}}(eM_1) \\ &= e1_{M_1}(M_1) \\ &= eM_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore, G(1_{M_1}) = 1_{G(M_1)}.$$

**(b-iv)** Here is the corresponding diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_1 & \xrightarrow{\phi} & M_2 \\ \downarrow G & & \downarrow G \\ G(M_1) = eM_1 & \xrightarrow{\overline{\phi}} & G(M_2) = eM_2 \end{array}$$

Note, there should also be an induced morphism  $\phi \dashrightarrow \overline{\phi}$ .

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**(b-v)** Let  $\phi_1 \in \text{Hom}_{R\text{-Mod}}(M_1, M_2)$ ,  $\phi_2 \in \text{Hom}_{R\text{-Mod}}(M_2, M_3)$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} G(\phi_2 \circ \phi_1)(eM_1) &= \overline{\phi_2 \circ \phi_1}(eM_1) \\ &= e(\phi_2(\phi_1(M_1))) \\ &= \overline{\phi_2}(e\phi_1(M_1)) \\ &= \overline{\phi_2} \circ \overline{\phi_1}(eM_1) \\ &= G(\phi_2) \circ G(\phi_1)(eM_1) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $G$  is a covariant functor.

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**(c)** Recall that  $F : K\text{-Mod} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$  and  $G : R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow K\text{-Mod}$ .

Then,  $FG : R\text{-Mod} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$ . We need to show that  $FG$  is isomorphic to the identity functor on  $R\text{-Mod}$ .

Consider a natural transformation  $\eta : FG \rightarrow 1_{R\text{-Mod}}$

**From Class** One can check that a morphism  $\eta : FG \rightarrow 1_{R\text{-Mod}}$  is an isomorphism  $\iff$

$$\eta_M : FG(M) \rightarrow 1_{R\text{-Mod}}(M)$$

is an isomorphism for all  $M \in \text{Ob}(R\text{-Mod})$ .

Let  $M \in R\text{-Mod}$ . Then, we have the following:



$$\begin{aligned}
G(M) &= eM \\
F(G(M)) &= F(eM) \\
&= eM \oplus eM \\
&= e(M \oplus M)
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,  $1_{R\text{-Mod}}(M) = M$ .

**Show** Show that  $e(M \oplus M) \cong M$ . Consider  $\phi : e(M \oplus M) \rightarrow M$  by  $\psi(e(m_1, m_2)) = m$ , where  $e = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Show that  $\psi$  is (i) 1-1, (ii) onto, and (iii) preserves homomorphisms.

(i)

$$\begin{aligned}
\psi(e(m_1, m_2)) &= \psi(e(\overline{m}_1, \overline{m}_2)) \\
\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \overline{m}_1 \\ \overline{m}_2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&\Rightarrow m_1 = \overline{m}_1
\end{aligned}$$

(Note, we also have  $0m_2 = 0\overline{m}_2 = 0$ ). Hence,  $\psi$  is 1-1.

(ii) Let  $c$  be an arbitrary element of  $M$ . Then, we can find elements  $c, \bar{c} \in M \oplus M$  such that  $\psi(e(c, \bar{c})) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} c \\ \bar{c} \end{bmatrix} = c$ .

Since  $c$  was arbitrary, we have shown that  $\psi$  is onto.

(iii) Show that  $\psi$  is a homomorphism.

1. Let  $(x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2) \in M \oplus M$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
\psi(e((x_1, x_2) + (y_1, y_2))) &= \psi(e(x_1 + y_1, x_2 + y_2)) \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ x_2 + y_2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= x_1 + y_1 \\
&= \psi(e(x_1, x_2)) + \psi(e(y_1, y_2))
\end{aligned}$$

2. Let  $r = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ . Then,

$$\psi(r \cdot e(x_1, x_2)) = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = ax_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \psi(e(x_1, x_2))$$

**Conclude**  $\therefore, \psi$  is a  $R - \text{Mod}$  homomorphism and we have shown that  $e(M \oplus M) \cong M$ .

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