

Chapter four (Noetherian and Artinian modules)

Ascending and Descending chain condition

Definition. An R -module M is said to be satisfy the ascending chain condition (resp. descending chain condition) if for every ascending (resp. descending) chain of submodules

$$M_1 \leq M_2 \leq M_3 \leq \dots \leq M_n \leq \dots$$

$$(\text{resp. } M_1 \geq M_2 \geq M_3 \geq \dots \geq M_n \geq \dots)$$

there exists $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ such that $M_n = M_m$ whenever $n \geq m$.

Definition. A module which satisfies the ascending chain condition is said to be **Noetherian**.

Definition. A module which satisfies the descending chain condition is said to be **Artinian**.

Remark. A ring R is said to be **Noetherian** (**Artinian**) if it is **Noetherian** (**Artinian**) as an R -module. i.e., if it satisfies a.c.c. (d.c.c.) on ideals.

Example. Every simple module is both Noetherian and Artinian.

Theorem 1. Let M be an R -module. Then the following statements are equivalent:

1. M satisfies the ascending (descending) chain condition.
2. For any nonempty family $\{M_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ of submodules of M , there exist a maximal (minimal) element M_0 satisfies the maximal condition (resp. minimal condition)
(i.e. $\exists M_0 \in \{M_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ such that whenever $M_0 \leq M_\beta$, then $M_0 = M_\beta$)
(resp. i.e. $\exists M_0 \in \{M_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ such that whenever $M_\beta \leq M_0$, then $M_0 = M_\beta$)

Proof. (1 \rightarrow 2) consider the set

$$\mathcal{F} = \{M_i \mid M_i \leq M\}$$

$\mathcal{F} \neq \varnothing$

Suppose \mathcal{F} has no maximal element.

Let $M_1 \in \mathcal{F}$ implies M_1 is not maximal element.

$\exists M_2 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $M_1 \leq M_2$. Since M_2 is not max. element, then there is $M_3 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $M_2 \leq M_3$.

Continuing in this way, we get

$$M_1 \leq M_2 \leq M_3 \leq \dots$$

A chain of submodules of M . if this sequence is an infinite, then it does not satisfy the ACC. C!

$\therefore \mathcal{F}$ has maximal element

(2 \rightarrow 1) suppose M satisfies the maximal condition for submodules, and let

$$M_1 \leq M_2 \leq M_3 \leq \dots$$

be ascending chain of submodules of M .

Let $\mathcal{H} = \{M_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ be a family of the submodules of M . Then $\mathcal{H} \neq \varnothing$ and has maximal element M_m . implies whenever $n \geq m$, $M_m = M_n$.

$\therefore \mathcal{H}$ satisfies the ascending chain condition.

Theorem 2. Let M be an R -module. Then the following statements are equivalent:

1. M is Noetherian.
2. Every submodule of M is finitely generated.

Proof. (1 \rightarrow 2) suppose M is Noetherian module and K be submodule of M . Let $\mathcal{F} = \{A \mid A \text{ is finitely generated submodule of } K\}$

$\mathcal{F} \neq \varnothing$ (the zero submodule of A is in \mathcal{F})

Since M is Noetherian module, so \mathcal{F} has maximal element say K_0 .

Hence K_0 is finitely generated submodule of K

$$\text{i.e } K_0 = Rk_1 + Rk_2 + \dots + Rk_n$$

Suppose $K_0 \neq K \rightarrow \exists a \in K$ and $a \notin K_0$ and so

$$K_0 + Ra = K_0 = Rk_1 + Rk_2 + \dots + Rk_n + Ra$$

$\therefore K_0 + Ra$ is a finitely generated submodule of K , then $K_0 + Ra \in \mathcal{F}$ is a contradiction with the maximalist of K_0 . Hence $K_0 = K$

$\therefore K$ is a finitely generated

(2 \rightarrow 1) suppose that every submodule of M is finitely generated.

Let $K_1 \leq K_2 \leq K_3 \leq \dots$ be an ascending chain of submodules of M .

Put $K = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} K_i \rightarrow K$ is submodule of M .

$\rightarrow K$ is a finitely generated submodule of M

$\rightarrow K = Rk_1 + Rk_2 + \dots + Rk_n$

\rightarrow each K_j is in K_i 's

$\rightarrow \exists m$ such that $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r \in K_m \quad \forall n \geq m$

$\therefore M$ is Noetherian module.

Examples.

1. The \mathbb{Z} - module \mathbb{Z} is Noetherian module (every submodule of the \mathbb{Z} - module \mathbb{Z} ($= n\mathbb{Z}$ cyclic) is finitely generated) which is not Artinian ($2\mathbb{Z} > 4\mathbb{Z} > 8\mathbb{Z} > \dots > 2^n \mathbb{Z} > \dots$ is a chain of ideals of \mathbb{Z} that does not terminate)
2. The ring of integers \mathbb{Z} is Noetherian (every principal ideal ring is Noetherian).

3. Q is not Noetherian module (since the \mathbb{Z} - module Q is not finitely generated).
4. A division ring D is Artinian and Noetherian since the only right or left ideals of D are 0 and D .
5. Every finite module is an Artinian module.

Remark. Every nonzero Artinian module contains a simple submodule.

Proof. let $0 \neq M$ be an Artinian module.

If M is a simple module, then we are done.

If not, $\exists 0 \neq M_1$ submodule of M . If M_1 is a simple, then we are done.

If not, $\exists 0 \neq M_2$ submodule of M_1 . If M_2 is a simple, then we are done.

If not, $\exists 0 \neq M_3$ submodule of M_2 . If M_3 is a simple, then we are done.

So there is a descending chain

$$M \geq M_1 \geq M_2 \geq M_3 \geq \dots$$

of submodules of M . Since M is an Artinian module, then the family $\{M_i\}_{i \in I}$ of the chain has minimal element and this element is the simple submodule.

Proposition. Let $0 \rightarrow N \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{\pi} \frac{M}{N} \rightarrow 0$ be a short exact sequence of R -modules and module homomorphism. Then M is Noetherian (resp. Artinian) iff both N (Artinian) and $\frac{M}{N}$ are Noetherian (Artinian) (resp. Artinian).

Proof. \rightarrow) Suppose that M is a Noetherian module and N submodule of M . So every submodule of N is a submodule of M . so N is Noetherian. Let

$$\frac{M_1}{N} \leq \frac{M_2}{N} \leq \frac{M_3}{N} \leq \dots$$

be an ascending chain of submodules of $\frac{M}{N}$, where

$$M_1 \leq M_2 \leq M_3 \leq \dots$$

is an ascending chain of submodules of M which contain N . But M Noetherian, $\exists m$ such that $M_n = M_m$ for all $n \geq m$.

$\therefore \frac{M}{N}$ is Noetherian module.

\leftarrow) Suppose that N and $\frac{M}{N}$ are Noetherian modules. Let

$$M_1 \leq M_2 \leq M_3 \leq \dots$$

be an ascending chain of submodules of M . Then

$$M_1 \cap N \leq M_2 \cap N \leq M_3 \cap N \leq \dots$$

is an ascending chain of submodules of N , so there is an integer $m_1 \geq 1$ such that $M_n \cap N = M_{m_1} \cap N$ for all $n \geq m_1$. Also,

$$\frac{M_1+N}{N} \leq \frac{M_2+N}{N} \leq \frac{M_3+N}{N} \leq \dots$$

is an ascending chain of submodules of $\frac{M}{N}$ and there is an integer $m_2 \geq 1$ such that $\frac{M_n+N}{N} = \frac{M_{m_2+N}}{N}$ for all $n \geq m_2$. Let $m = \max. \{m_1, m_2\}$. Then for all $n \geq m$,

$$M_n \cap N = M_m \cap N \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{M_n+N}{N} = \frac{M_m+N}{N}$$

If $n \geq m$ and $x \in M_n$, then $x + N \in \frac{M_n+N}{N} = \frac{M_m+N}{N}$, so there is a $y \in M_m$ such that $x + N = y + N$ implies that $x - y \in N$ and since $M_m \leq M_n$ we have $x - y \in M_n \cap N = M_m \cap N$ when $n \geq m$. If $x - y = z \in M_m \cap N$, then $x = y + z \in M_m$, so $M_n \leq M_m$. Hence, $M_n = M_m$ whenever $n \geq m$, so M is Noetherian.

Remark. In general, if the sequence $0 \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \rightarrow 0$ is a short exact, then B is Noetherian (Artinian) if and only if each of A and C is Noetherian (Artinian).

Example. Let M_1 and M_2 be R -modules. Then $M_1 \oplus M_2$ is Noetherian (Artinian) iff each of M_1 and M_2 is Noetherian (Artinian). (i.e every finite direct sum of Noetherian (Artinian) is Noetherian (Artinian))

(The proof is done using the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M_1 \xrightarrow{J_1} M_1 \oplus M_2 \xrightarrow{\rho_2} M_2 \rightarrow 0)$$

Theorem. Let $\alpha : M \rightarrow \hat{M}$ be an epimorphism. If M is Noetherian (Artinian), then so is \hat{M} .

Proof. Since $\ker \alpha$ is a submodule of M , then the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \ker \alpha \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{\pi} \frac{M}{\ker \alpha} \rightarrow 0$$

is a short exact sequence. By hypothesis, M is Noetherian, implies that $\frac{M}{\ker \alpha}$ is Noetherian. But $\frac{M}{\ker \alpha} \approx \hat{M}$ (first isomorphism theorem) and $\frac{M}{\ker \alpha}$ is Noetherian, so \hat{M} is a Noetherian.

Theorem. The following are equivalent for a ring R .

1. R is right Noetherian.
2. Every finitely generated R -module is Noetherian.

Proof. (1 \rightarrow 2) let M be a finite generated over a Noetherian ring R .

$\exists x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in M$ such that $M = Rx_1 + Rx_2 + \dots + Rx_n$. since R is Noetherian, then so is the finite direct sum of copies of R . Define

$$\alpha : R^{(n)} \rightarrow M \text{ by } : \alpha(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n) = r_1x_1 + r_2x_2 + \dots + r_nx_n.$$

It's clear that α is a well-define, homomorphism and onto. So, $\text{Im} \alpha = M$ is Noetherian.

(2 \rightarrow 1) Since $R = \langle 1 \rangle$, so R is finitely generated and hence R is Noetherian.

References

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