

Do the following exercises from Chapter 3 of the text (Pages 174–181): 8, 9, 17, 29, 43, 47

8. Show that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a torsion-free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module that is not free.

► **Solution.**  $\mathbb{Q}$  is torsion free as a  $\mathbb{Z}$  module since  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a field that contains  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a submodule. Specifically, if  $m \neq 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $mr = 0$ , then  $m \neq 0$  as an element of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $r = (1/m)(mr) = 0$ . Thus  $\mathbb{Q}$  is torsion-free as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

To see that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is not free as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, simply note that if  $S \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  is any subset consisting of more than one element, then  $S$  is *not*  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linearly independent. To see this, suppose that  $r/s$  and  $t/u$  are two distinct elements of  $S$ . Then

$$(st)\frac{r}{s} - (ur)\frac{t}{u} = 0$$

is a nontrivial  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear dependence relation between  $r/s$  and  $t/u$ , so  $S$  is not  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linearly independent if it contains at least 2 elements. If  $S = \{r/s\}$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{Q}$  containing exactly one element, then  $S$  does not generate  $\mathbb{Q}$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. To see this, observe that  $1/2s$  cannot be written as an integer multiple of  $r/s$ , since, if this were possible then we would have  $1/2s = m(r/s)$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  which would give the equation in integers  $1 = 2mr$ , which is not possible. ◀

9. (a) Let  $R$  be an integral domain, let  $M$  be a torsion  $R$ -module, and let  $N$  be a torsion-free  $R$ -module. Show that  $\text{Hom}_R(M, N) = \langle 0 \rangle$ .

► **Solution.** Let  $f \in \text{Hom}_R(M, N)$  and let  $m \in M$ . Since  $M$  is a torsion module, there is an  $r \neq 0 \in R$  with  $rm = 0$ . Then  $0 = f(0) = f(rm) = rf(m)$ . Since  $r \neq 0$  and  $N$  is torsion-free, this implies that  $f(m) = 0$ . Since  $m \in M$  is arbitrary, this gives  $f = 0$ , as required. ◀

(b) If  $n = km$ , then show that  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}_n}(\mathbb{Z}_m, \mathbb{Z}_n) \cong \mathbb{Z}_m$ .

► **Solution.** Define a map  $\varphi : \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}_n}(\mathbb{Z}_m, \mathbb{Z}_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  by  $\varphi(f) = f(1)$ . This is a  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ -module homomorphism from the definition of sum and scalar multiplication of functions. If  $f(1) = 0$  then  $f(r) = rf(1) = 0$  for all  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_m$  so  $\text{Ker}(\varphi) = \langle 0 \rangle$ . If  $t \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  is in the image of  $\varphi$ , then  $t = f(1)$  for some  $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}_n}(\mathbb{Z}_m, \mathbb{Z}_n)$ . Then  $mt = mf(1) = f(m) = f(0) = 0$ , so the order of  $t$  divides  $m$ . Conversely, any element of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  whose order divides  $m$  is  $f(1)$  for some  $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}_n}(\mathbb{Z}_m, \mathbb{Z}_n)$ . Thus, the image of  $\varphi$  consists of all elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  whose order divides  $m$ , i.e.,  $\text{Im}(\varphi) = \langle k \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_m$ . ◀

17. Give examples of short exact sequences of  $R$ -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow M_1 \xrightarrow{\phi} M \xrightarrow{\phi'} M_2 \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow N_1 \xrightarrow{\psi} N \xrightarrow{\psi'} N_2 \longrightarrow 0$$

such that

(a)  $M_1 \cong N_1$ ,  $M \cong N$ ,  $M_2 \not\cong N_2$ ;

► **Solution.** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , consider the short exact sequence

$$(*_n) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\phi_n} \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{Z}_n \longrightarrow 0$$

where  $\phi_n(x) = nx$  and  $\pi$  is the standard projection map. Then choosing any two natural numbers  $n \neq m$  will give two short exact sequences  $(*_n)$  and  $(*_m)$  with the first two terms equal in each sequence, the third terms  $\mathbb{Z}_n \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_m$ . ◀

(b)  $M_1 \cong N_1$ ,  $M \not\cong N$ ,  $M_2 \cong N_2$ ;

► **Solution.** For this part, you can use the two short exact sequences from Example 3.8, Page 122:

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{Z}_{pq} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Z}_{p^2} \xrightarrow{g} \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes,  $\phi(m) = qm \in \mathbb{Z}_{pq}$ ,  $f(m) = pm \in \mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$  and  $\psi$  and  $g$  are the canonical projection maps. ◀

(c)  $M_1 \not\cong N_1$ ,  $M \cong N$ ,  $M_2 \cong N_2$ .

► **Solution.** Let  $M$  be the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module consisting of sequences of elements from the field  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . That is,

$$M = \{(a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) : a_j \in \mathbb{Z}_2\}.$$

For each natural number  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  define a map  $\psi_n : M \rightarrow M$  by

$$\psi_n(a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) = (a_n, a_{n+1}, a_{n+2}, \dots).$$

It is clear that  $\psi_n$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module homomorphism and that it is surjective. Moreover, if  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\text{Ker}(\psi_n) = \{(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, 0, \dots) : a_j \in \mathbb{Z}_2\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^n.$$

Thus, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a short exact sequence

$$(*_n) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^n \xrightarrow{\phi_n} M \xrightarrow{\psi_n} M \longrightarrow 0$$

where

$$\phi_n(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}) = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, 0, \dots).$$

Since  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_2^m$  if  $m \neq n$ , the short exact sequences  $(*_n)$  and  $(*_m)$  for  $m \neq n$  give the required example. ◀

29. Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}_{30}$  and let  $A \in M_{2,3}(R)$  be the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Show that the two rows of  $A$  are linearly independent over  $R$ , but that any two of the three columns are linearly dependent over  $R$ .

► **Solution.** As far as the rows are concerned, suppose there is an  $R$ -linear dependence relation

$$r [1 \ 1 \ -1] + s [0 \ 2 \ 3] = [0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

This implies that  $r = 0$  which then says that  $2s = 0$  and  $3s = 0$  so that  $s = 3s - 2s = 0$ . Thus the rows are linearly independent over  $R$ . As for the columns, note that

$$15 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 15 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad 10 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 10 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \text{and } 6 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 6 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, any two of the three columns are  $R$ -linearly dependent. ◀

43. Suppose  $R$  is a PID and  $M = R\langle x \rangle$  is a cyclic  $R$ -module with  $\text{Ann}(x) = \langle a \rangle \neq \langle 0 \rangle$ . Show that if  $N$  is a submodule of  $M$ , then  $N$  is cyclic with  $\text{Ann } N = \langle b \rangle$  where  $b$  is a divisor of  $a$ . Conversely, show that  $M$  has a unique submodule  $N$  with annihilator  $\langle b \rangle$  for each divisor  $b$  of  $a$ .

► **Solution.** Define an  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\varphi : R \rightarrow M$  by  $\varphi(r) = rx$ . Since  $M$  is cyclic with generator  $x$ ,  $\varphi$  is surjective and  $\text{Ker}(\varphi) = \text{Ann}(x) = \langle a \rangle$ . By the first isomorphism theorem for  $R$ -modules, there is an isomorphism  $\bar{\varphi} : R/\langle a \rangle \rightarrow M$ , and by the correspondence theorem,  $\varphi$  provides a one-to-one correspondence between the submodules of  $M$  and the submodules of  $R$  containing  $\langle a \rangle$ , with the submodule  $N$  corresponding to  $\varphi^{-1}(N)$ . But  $R$  is a PID so  $R$ -submodules of  $R$  are just principal ideals. Thus  $\varphi^{-1}(N) = \langle c \rangle \supseteq \langle a \rangle$ , so that  $N = \varphi(\langle c \rangle) = \{r(cx) : r \in R\}$ . Then the annihilator of  $N$  is

$$\text{Ann}(N) = \{r \in R : r(cx) = 0\} = \{r \in R : a|rc\} = \left\langle \frac{a}{c} \right\rangle.$$

Thus, the annihilator of  $N$  is generated by the divisor  $b = a/c$  of  $a$ . Conversely, if  $b$  is any divisor of  $a$ , then the submodule  $N = \langle (a/b)x \rangle \subset M$  is a submodule with  $\text{Ann}(N) = \langle b \rangle$ . Therefore, the pairing  $b \longleftrightarrow \langle (a/b)x \rangle$  sets up a one-to-one correspondence between divisors of  $a$  and submodules of  $N$ . ◀

47. Let  $u = (a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ .

(a) Show that there is a basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  containing  $u$  if and only if  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime.

► **Solution.** Suppose that  $v = (c, d)$  and that the two vectors  $u$  and  $v$  form a basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ . Then there are integers  $k, l, m$  and  $n$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} ku + lv &= (1, 0) \\ mu + nv &= (0, 1), \end{aligned}$$

which gives the matrix equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k & m \\ l & n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Taking determinants then gives  $(ad - bc)(kn - ml) = 1$ . Since this is an equation in integers, it follows that  $ad - bc = \pm 1$  so that  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime.

Conversely, if  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime, then we can write  $ra + sb = 1$  and we claim that  $u = (a, b)$  and  $v = (-s, r)$  form a basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ . Consider the linear equation

$$xu + yv = (\alpha, \beta)$$

in integers. This is equivalent to the matrix equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & -s \\ b & r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}.$$

Multiplying this equation on the left by the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} r & s \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix}$  gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r & s \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r\alpha + s\beta \\ -b\alpha + a\beta \end{bmatrix}.$$

This equation shows that  $u$  and  $v$  is a linearly independent generating set for  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ , i.e., a basis. ◀

(b) Suppose that  $u = (5, 12)$ . Find a  $v \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  such that  $\{u, v\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ .

► **Solution.** Since  $5 \cdot 5 + (-2) \cdot 12 = 1$ , the calculation done in part (a) shows that we can take  $v = (2, 5)$ . ◀