1 Homework 4.

1. Suppose A is an integral domain and M is an A-module. Let

$$\mathrm{Tor}(M) := \{m \in M \mid \exists a \in A \setminus \{0\}, am = 0\}.$$

   (a) Prove that $\mathrm{Tor}(M)$ is a submodule of M.

   (b) Prove that $\mathrm{Tor}(M/\mathrm{Tor}(M)) = 0$; we say $M/\mathrm{Tor}(M)$ is torsion-free.

2. In this problem, you will need basic properties of the determinant function that I summarize here. For $[a_{ij}] \in \mathrm{M}_n(A)$, let

$$\det[a_{ij}] := \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \mathrm{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)},$$

where S_n is the symmetric group and $\mathrm{sgn} : S_n \to \{\pm 1\}$ is the sign function. The (ℓ, k)-*minor* of $x := [a_{ij}]$ is the determinant of the $(n-1)$-by-$(n-1)$ matrix $x(\ell, k)$ obtained after removing the ℓ-th row and the k-th column of x. Let

$$\mathrm{adj}(x) := [(-1)^{i+j} \det x(j, i)] \in \mathrm{M}_n(A);$$

this is called the *adjugate* of A. Here are the main properties of det and adj.

   (a) det is multi-linear with respect to the columns and rows.

   (b) $\det(I) = 1$.

   (c) If x has two identical columns or rows, then $\det x = 0$.

   (d) For all $x, y \in \mathrm{M}_n(A)$, $\det(xy) = \det(x)\det(y)$.

   (e) $\mathrm{adj}(x)x = x\,\mathrm{adj}(x) = \det(x)I$.

For every A-module homomorphism $\phi : A^n \to A^n$, similar to linear maps, we can associate a matrix $x_\phi \in \mathrm{M}_n(A)$; the i-th column of x_ϕ is given by the vector $\phi(e_i)$, where e_i has 1 at the i-th component and 0 at the other components. In this setting, ϕ is an A-module isomorphism if and only if x_ϕ is a unit in $\mathrm{M}_n(A)$.

   (a) Prove that x is a unit in $\mathrm{M}_n(A)$ if and only if $\det x \in A^\times$.

(b) Suppose $\phi : A^n \to A^n$ is an A-module. Prove that the following statements are equivalent.

i. ϕ is surjective.

ii. For all maximal ideals $\mathfrak{m}$ of A, the induced $A/\mathfrak{m}$-linear map

$$\overline{\phi} : (A/\mathfrak{m})^n \to (A/\mathfrak{m})^n, \quad \overline{\phi}(x + \mathfrak{m}^n) := \phi(x) + \mathfrak{m}^n$$

is a well-defined bijection.

iii. ϕ is bijective.

(**Hint**. For linear maps from a vector space to itself, we know that surjectivity implies injectivity. So the first part implies the second part. To show the third part, suppose $\det(x_\phi)$ is not a unit, and deduce that there exists a maximal ideal such that x_ϕ modulo $\mathfrak{m}$ is not invertible.)

3. Suppose A is a unital commutative ring and $\phi : A^n \to A^m$ is a surjective A-module homomorphism. Prove that $n \geq m$.

(**Hint**. Think about $\overline{\phi} : (A/\mathfrak{m})^n \to (A/\mathfrak{m})^m$.)

4. An A-module M is called Noetherian if the following equivalent statements hold.

(a) Every chain $\{N_i\}_{i \in I}$ of submodules of M has a maximum.

(b) Every non-empty family of submodules of M has a maximal element.

(c) The ascending chain condition holds in M; that means if

$$N_1 \subseteq N_2 \subseteq \cdots$$

are submodules of M, then there exists i_0 such that

$$N_{i_0} = N_{i_0+1} = \cdots .$$

(d) All the submodules of M are finitely generated.

Use a similar argument as in the case for rings and show that the above statements are equivalent; you do not need to submit this as part of your HW assignment. Notice that a ring A is Noetherian if and only if it is a Noetherian A-module.

(a) Suppose N is a submodule of M. Prove that M is Noetherian if and only if M/N and N are Noetherian.

(b) Suppose A is a Noetherian ring and M is a finitely generated A-module. Prove that M is Noetherian.

5. Suppose A is a unital commutative ring and $\phi : A^n \to A^m$ is an injective A-module homomorphism.

   (a) Suppose A is a Noetherian ring. Prove that $n \le m$.

   (b) Prove that $n \le m$ even if A is not Noetherian.

(**Hint**. For the first part, suppose to the contrary that $n > m$ and write A^n as $A^m \oplus A^{n-m}$. This way, you can view the image of ϕ as a submodule of A^n and

$$\phi(A^n) \oplus A^{n-m} \subseteq A^n.$$

Because ϕ is injective, we obtain that

$$\phi^2(A^n) \oplus \phi(A^{n-m}) \oplus A^{n-m} \subseteq A^n.$$

Repeating this argument, for every positive integer k, we obtain the following (internal) direct sum:

$$\phi^k(A^n) \oplus \phi^{k-1}(A^{n-m}) \oplus \cdots \oplus \phi(A^{n-m}) \oplus A^{n-m} \subseteq A^n.$$

Hence,

$$A^{n-m} \subsetneq A^{n-m} \oplus \phi(A^{n-m}) \subsetneq A^{n-m} \oplus \phi(A^{n-m}) \oplus \phi^2(A^{n-m}) \subsetneq \cdots ,$$

which is a contradiction.

For the second part, let $x_\phi \in \mathrm{M}_{m,n}(A)$ be the matrix associated with ϕ. Let A_0 be the subring of A which is generated by 1 and entries of x_ϕ. Notice that since ϕ is given by matrix multiplication by x_ϕ, its restriction to A_0^n gives us an A_0-module homomorphism from A_0^n to A_0^m. Because ϕ is injective, so is its restriction to A_0^n. Argue why A_0 is Noetherian, and deduce that $n \le m$.)

Remark. During lecture, we used field of fractions and gave a much easier proof when A is an integral domain.

6. Suppose A is a unital commutative ring and M is a finitely generated A-module. Let

$$d(M) := \text{minimum number of generators of } M,$$

and

$$\text{rank}(M) := \text{maximum number of linearly independent elements of } M.$$

Prove that $\text{rank}(M) \leq d(M)$.

(**Hint**. Suppose $d(M) = n$ and $\text{rank}(M) = m$. Then there exist a surjective A-module homomorphism

$$\phi : A^n \to M$$

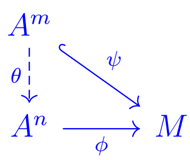
and an injective A-module homomorphism

$$\psi : A^m \to M.$$

Suppose $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^m$ is the standard A-base of A^m. Deduce that there exist $v_i \in A^n$ such that

$$\phi(v_i) = \psi(e_i)$$

for all i. Let $\theta : A^m \to A^n$ be the A-module homomorphism given by $\theta(e_i) = v_i$ for all i. Then the following diagram commutes.



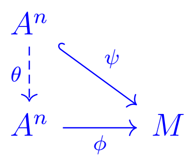
Deduce that θ is injective.)

7. Suppose A is a unital commutative ring and M is a finitely generated A-module. Suppose $d(M) = \text{rank}(M) = n$.

   (a) Suppose A is Noetherian. Prove that $M \simeq A^n$.

   (b) Prove that $M \simeq A^n$ even if A is not Noetherian.

(**Hint**. Similar to the previous problem, get a commutative diagram



where ψ is injective and ϕ is surjective, and obtain that θ is injective. Use injectivity of ψ and deduce that the following is an internal direct sum

$$\theta(A^n) \oplus \ker \phi \subseteq A^n.$$

Use an argument similar to problem 5(a) to deal with the Noetherian case; show that if $\ker \phi \neq 0$, we get a contradiction.

To show the general case, again suppose to the contrary that there exists $\mathbf{x} := (x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in \ker \phi \setminus \{0\}$. Let $x_\theta \in \mathrm{M}_n(A)$ be the matrix associated with θ. Let A_0 be the subring of A which is generated by 1, x_i's, and entries of x_θ. Let $M_0 := \phi(A_0^n)$. Argue why we have the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_0^n & & \\ {\scriptstyle\theta}\big\downarrow & \overset{\psi}{\searrow} & \\ A_0^n & \xrightarrow[\phi]{} & M_0 \end{array}$$

and θ and ψ are injective, and $\mathbf{x} \in \ker \phi$. Discuss why A_0 is Noetherian, and obtain a contradiction.)

Remark. There is a much easier argument when A is an integral domain. Think about that case.