

From last time:

- The FI category is the one with objects finite sets and morphisms injective maps.
- The full subcategory of FI of finite sets of the form $[n]$ is equivalent to FI and is a skeleton of FI.
- Let R comm. ring. An FI-mod V over R is a functor from $\text{FI} \rightarrow R\text{-mods}$.

Last time, we also saw that

- $\text{End}_{\text{FI}}([n]) \cong S_n$.

Def. $\iota_{n,n+1}: [n] \hookrightarrow [n+1]$ is the canonical inclusion that sends i to i .

Prop. The morphisms in this category are generated by the endomorphisms S_n and the canonical inclusions $\iota_{n,n+1}$

Proof. Let $f: [m] \hookrightarrow [n]$, then

$$\begin{array}{c}
 [m] \xrightarrow{\iota_{m,m+1}} [m+1] \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow [n] \\
 \searrow f \qquad \qquad \qquad \swarrow \sigma \\
 [n]
 \end{array}
 \quad \square$$

Now, a theorem about the set $\text{Hom}_{\text{FI}}([m], [n])$.

Thm. $\text{Hom}_{\text{FI}}([m], [n]) \cong S_n / S_{n-m}$ as $\underbrace{S_n\text{-set}}_{\text{set with an } S_n\text{-action}}$.

Def. Two G -sets X and Y are called isomorphic if there is a bijection

$\phi: X \rightarrow Y$ such that $\phi(gx) = g\phi(x)$ for all $g \in G$ and $x \in X$.

Lemma. A transitive G -set is isomorphic to G/A where A is the stabilizer of any set element.

Proof. Let $A = \text{Stab}(x)$. Let $\phi: G/A \rightarrow X$ that sends the coset $gA \mapsto g(x)$. One can check this is well-defined and is indeed an

isomorphism of G -sets. \square

Proof (of the thm) We have a natural S_n -action on $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{F}_2}([m], [n])$ on the left by postcomposition:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_2}([n]) \cong S_n \times \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{F}_2}([m], [n]) &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{F}_2}([m], [n]) \\ (\sigma, \alpha) &\mapsto \sigma \circ \alpha \end{aligned}$$

When σ is the identity, $\alpha \mapsto \alpha$; and for $\sigma, \delta \in S_n$, $(\sigma\delta)\alpha = \sigma(\delta\alpha)$.

This action is transitive. Let $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{F}_2}([m], [n])$, construct $\sigma: S_n \rightarrow S_n$ so that $\alpha(i) = \sigma(\beta(i))$, $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Define $\sigma: [n] \setminus \text{im}\beta \rightarrow [n] \setminus \text{im}\alpha$ to be injective. σ is well-defined b/c β is injective. Since α is also inj, $|\text{im}\alpha| = |\text{im}\beta|$, so σ is a permutation

Consider the point $L_{m,n} \in \text{Hom}([m], [n])$. $\text{Stab}(L_{m,n}) =$
 $\{\sigma \in S_n \mid \sigma \circ L_{m,n} = L_{m,n}\}$

So for $\sigma \in \text{Stab}(L_{m,n})$, $\sigma(i) = \begin{cases} i & \text{if } i \leq m \\ j & \text{for some } j > m \text{ if } i > m \end{cases}$

So $\text{Stab}(L_{m,n}) \cong S_{n-m}$.

Therefore, by lemma, $\text{Hom}([m], [n]) \cong S_n / S_{n-m}$. \square

Notation: Let V be an \mathbb{F}_2 -module, denote the object $V([n])$ by V_n .

Let's now consider a theorem associating an \mathbb{F}_2 -mod to S_n -representations.

Thm. Let V be an \mathbb{F}_2 -module over a ring R .

(1) For each $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, the action of S_n on the R -mod V_n gives V_n the structure of an S_n -representation;

(2) The map $(L_{m,n})_* = V(L_{m,n}): V_m \rightarrow V_n$ is S_m -equivariant w.r.t.

the action of S_m on V_m , and the action of the subgroup S_m , defined by $l_{m,n}$ in S_n , on V_n .

Proof. (1) It suffices to show that V_n is an $R[S_n]$ -module. An endomorphism $\sigma \in S_n$ on $[n]$ is mapped to an endomorphism $V(\sigma): V_n \rightarrow V_n$. For some $\sum_{i=1}^n r_i \sigma_i \in R[S_n]$ and $u \in V_n$, $(\sum r_i \sigma_i) \cdot u = \sum (r_i \cdot V(\sigma_i)(u))$.

(2) Consider the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 [m] & \xrightarrow{l_{m,n}} & [n] \\
 \sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma \in S_m \subseteq S_n \\
 [m] & \xrightarrow{l_{m,n}} & [n]
 \end{array}
 \quad \xRightarrow{\text{Apply } V} \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 V_m & \xrightarrow{(l_{m,n})^*} & V_n \\
 V(\sigma) \downarrow & & \downarrow V(\sigma) \\
 V_m & \xrightarrow{(l_{m,n})^*} & V_n
 \end{array}$$

We get another comm. diag. So for $\sigma \in S_m$ and $u \in V_m$,

$$\sigma \cdot (l_{m,n})^*(u) = (l_{m,n})^*(\sigma \cdot u).$$

This is exactly saying $(l_{m,n})^*$ is S_m -equivariant. \square

Every FI-module V determines a sequence of S_n -rep V_n along with S_n -equivariant maps $V_n \rightarrow V_{n+1}$. The converse, however, is not quite true.

Now we introduce a theorem that determines when such a sequence arises from an FI-module.

Thm (The FI-module criterion)

Suppose that $\{W_n\}$ is a sequence of S_n -rep with S_n -equivariant maps $\phi_n: W_n \rightarrow W_{n+1}$. Denote $G_n \cong S_{n-m}$ the stabilizer of $l_{n,m}$ under the action of S_n by postcomposition. Then $\{W_n\}$ can be promoted to an FI-mod with $(l_{n,n+1})^* = \phi_n$ iff

for all $m < n$, $\sigma \cdot v = v$ for all $\sigma \in G$ and $v \in \text{im}((l_{m,n})^*)$.

Proof.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 u & & v = (l_{m,n})^*(u) \\
 V_m & \xrightarrow{(l_{m,n})^*} & V_n \\
 \downarrow V(\sigma) & & \downarrow V(\sigma) \\
 V_m & \xrightarrow{(l_{m,n})^*} & V_n \quad v
 \end{array}$$

$$\sigma \in G = \text{stab}(l_{m,n})$$

$$\sigma \circ l_{m,n} = l_{m,n}$$

$$V(\sigma) \circ (l_{m,n})^* = (l_{m,n})^*$$

(\Rightarrow) Suppose $\{W_n\}$ can be promoted to an FI-mod. Since $\sigma \in G$,

$$\sigma \circ l_{m,n} = l_{m,n}, \text{ so } W(\sigma) \circ (l_{m,n})^* = (l_{m,n})^*. \text{ Let}$$

$$v = (l_{m,n})^*(u) \text{ for some } u \in W_m, \text{ then } W(\sigma) \circ (l_{m,n})^*(u) = (l_{m,n})^*(u),$$

$$\text{So } \sigma \cdot v = W(\sigma)(v) = v.$$

$$\phi_{m,n} = \phi_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ \phi_m$$

(\Leftarrow) For all $m < n$, $\sigma \cdot v = v$ for all $\sigma \in G \cong S_{n-m}$ and $v \in \text{im}(\phi_{m,n})$.

Define W to be a map $\text{FI} \rightarrow R\text{-mod}$ where $W([n]) = W_n$ and $W(l_{m,n}) = \phi_{m,n}$.

$W(\sigma) = \sigma$ for $\sigma \in \text{End}([n]) \cong S_n$ and define composition in a way that it's preserved.

Want to show the def is self-consistent. Let $\sigma \in G$.

$$W(\underbrace{\sigma \circ l_{m,n}}_{= l_{m,n}}) := W(\sigma) \circ W(l_{m,n}) = \sigma \circ \phi_{m,n} = \phi_{m,n}.$$

"
 $\phi_{m,n}$

This is enough since every mor is gen.

□

by σ and $l_{m,n}$.

Last time we saw that $V_n = \mathbb{Z}[S_n]$ with action of S_n by conjugation.

$\phi_n: V_n \rightarrow V_{n+1}$ natural inclusion. is an example of an FI-mod,

but $V_n = \mathbb{Z}[S_n]$ with action by left multiplication, ϕ_n nat. inclusion is a non-example.

$$\mathbb{Z}[S_2] \xrightarrow{\phi_{2,4}} \mathbb{Z}[S_4]$$

$$\underline{(1)(2)} \mapsto \underline{(1)(2)(3)(4)}$$

$$(34) \in G, \text{ but } (34) \underline{(1)(2)(3)(4)} = \underline{(1)(2)(34)}.$$