

# Contramodules for Algebraic Groups.

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There are two main aims of this talk:

1) Briefly introduce contramodules

2) Construct projective covers of simple  $G$ -modules  
(in the category  $k[G]$ -Contra.)

Note: This is a contra-analogy of the "Inverse limit theorem."

# Part 1: What are contramodules? A motivating definition.

Let  $A$  be an algebra over a field  $k$ . Let  $M$  be an  $A$ -module. Two natural ways to view this are:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho: A \otimes M &\longrightarrow M \\ a \otimes m &\longmapsto a \cdot m \end{aligned}$$



Reversing arrows in this defn (and replacing  $A$  algebra with  $C$  coalgebra) defines  $C$ -comodules.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau: M &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_k(A, M) \\ m &\longmapsto (a \mapsto a \cdot m) \end{aligned}$$



Reversing arrows here (with algebra  $A \rightsquigarrow$  coalgebra  $C$ ) defines  $C$ -contramodules

# Contramodules of the coalgebra $k[G]$ .

$G$  algebraic group over  $k = \bar{k}$  with co-ord ring  $k[G]$ .

$$m: G \times G \rightarrow G \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad m_*: k[G] \rightarrow k[G] \otimes k[G].$$

↑ or " $\Delta$ "

Both  $k[G]$ -comodules &  $k[G]$ -contramodules give us a way to obtain reps of  $G$ .

• Comodules:  $V \longrightarrow V \otimes k[G]$

Gives  $G$ -repr. via  $G \times V \rightarrow G \times V \otimes k[G] \xrightarrow{\text{eval.}} V$

$$\{\text{rational } G\text{-modules}\} \longleftrightarrow \{k[G]\text{-comodules}\}$$

• Contramodules:  $\text{Hom}_k(k[G], V) \longrightarrow V$

$$G \times V \subset k[G]^* \otimes V$$

This composition is a  $G$ -action on  $V$ .

# An important example of contramodules

- If  $M$  is a  $k[G]$ -comodule,  $\rho: M \rightarrow M \otimes k[G]$  then  $\text{Hom}_k(M, V)$  is a contramodule via:  
    ↖  $V$  any vector space.

$$\text{Hom}_k(k[G], \text{Hom}_k(M, V)) \xrightarrow{\otimes + \text{Hom}} \text{Hom}_k(M \otimes k[G], V) \xrightarrow{\rho_*} \text{Hom}_k(M, V)$$

→ In particular for  $M = k[G]$  (as a comodule over itself)

Lemma: For any contramodule  $B$  we have:

$$\text{Hom}^{k[G]}(\text{Hom}_k(k[G], V), B) \cong \text{Hom}_k(V, B).$$

Consequences: 1.  $\text{Hom}_k(k[G], V)$  is a free contramodule.

2. From contra-action  $\text{Hom}_k(k[G], B) \rightarrow B$ :  
 $B$  projective  $\Leftrightarrow B \cong$  a free contramodule.

## Part 2: Constructing projective covers.

- $G$  simply connected, semisimple alg group over  $k = \bar{k}$  with  $\text{char } k = p$ .

Have:  $F: G \rightarrow G$ , with  $F$  Frobenius morphism.

with  $G_r := \ker(F^r)$ ,  $r > 0$  "The  $r$ -th Frobenius kernel."

- $\lambda$  dominant weight  $\leadsto L(\lambda)$  simple  $G$ -module.

$\lambda$   $p$ -restricted dom. weight  $\leadsto L(1, \lambda)$  simple  $G_1$ -module

- $G$ -structures: If  $V \in G_1\text{-Mod}$  and  $W \in G\text{Mod}$  s.t.  $W|_{G_1} \cong V$  then  $W$  is a  $G$ -structure on  $V$

Assume  $P(\lambda)$  is a  $G$ -structure on  $P(1, \lambda)$  - the  $G_1$ -projective cover of  $L(1, \lambda)$ .

- For  $p \geq 2h-4$  they exist (Jantzen, C. Beaudel, D. Nakano, '22; C. Pillen, P. Solaje '22)
- Conjectured to always exist (Humphreys & Verma.)

Fix  $\lambda$  - dominant. Write  $\lambda = \sum_{i=0}^s p^i \lambda_i$  ( $\lambda_i$   $p$ -restricted).

For  $m > s$  define:

$$P_{\lambda, m} := P(\lambda_0) \otimes P(\lambda_1)^{F_r} \otimes \dots \otimes P(\lambda_s)^{F_r^s} \otimes P(0)^{F_r^{s+1}} \otimes \dots \otimes P(0)^{F_r^{m-1}}.$$

Fix projection  $q: P(0) \rightarrow L(0)$

(this induces projections  $q_{m+1}: P_{\lambda, m+1} \rightarrow P_{\lambda, m}$ )


Define  $P_{\lambda} := \varprojlim P_{\lambda, m} =$  limit of diagram  $(P_{\lambda, m} \leftarrow P_{\lambda, m+1} \leftarrow P_{\lambda, m+2} \leftarrow \dots)$

**Theorem**

$P_{\lambda}$  is the projective cover of  $L(\lambda)$ .

## Remainder of talk: Idea behind the proof.

- In 1980, Donkin give a "short simple minded proof of the direct limit theorem."
- Try to modify this proof in our "dual case":

 **Problem:** In Donkin's proof he makes use of the fact that every comodule is a direct limit (a.k.a union) of its finite dimensional subcomodules.


**X** The analogous statement for conbimodules is not true. (c.f. Positselski: Conbimodules, §1.5).

This suggests that using  $\text{Hom}^{k[G]}(P_\lambda, -)$  to check projectiveness is not the way to go... So?



Need construction known as  $\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}$ :

• Takes a comodule  $M$ , and a contramodule  $B$ .

•  $\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(M, B) = \text{Hom}_k(M, B)$  

Think  $M \otimes_R N$  for  $R$ -modules

Lemma

Let  $V, W \in k[G]\text{-Comod f.d.}$  then:

$$\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(V, W) \cong \text{Hom}_{k[G]}(W, V)^*$$

*(viewed as a contramodule via  $\text{Hom}_k(k[G], W) \cong k[G]^* \otimes W \rightarrow k[G]^* \otimes k[G] \otimes W \rightarrow W$ .)*

*denotes  $k[G]$ -comodule homomorphisms.*

In particular, one can show for a fixed  $\lambda$ :

$$\dim(\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(V, P_{\lambda, m})) = f(V), \quad m \gg 0$$

where  $f(V) =$  composition multiplicity of  $L(\lambda)$  in  $V$ .

Q: How is Cohom useful to us?

Answer:

Lemma (Positselski, '15)

A  $k[G]$ -contramodule  $P$  is projective

$\Leftrightarrow \text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(-, P) : k[G]\text{-Comod}_{\text{f.d.}}^{\text{op } P} \rightarrow k\text{-Vect}$

is exact.

By using  $\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}$  we  
only need to check exactness  
for finite-diml objects!

# proof sketch of main Theorem

• Define  $\text{Rad}^{k[G]}(P_\lambda) = \varprojlim_m \text{Rad}_{k[G_m]}(P_{\lambda,m})$ .

- This satisfies conditions we want  $\rightarrow \frac{P_\lambda}{\text{Rad}(P_\lambda)} \cong L(\lambda)$ .

• To see that  $P_\lambda$  projective:

$\searrow$  Superfluous in  $P_\lambda$

For  $V$  f.d. comodule, one can show:

$$\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(V, P_\lambda) = \varprojlim \text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(V, P_{\lambda,m}).$$

But by lemma:  $\dim(\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(V, P_{\lambda,m})) = f(V)$ ,  $m \gg 0$

$$\Rightarrow \dim(\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(V, P_\lambda)) = f(V)$$

Finally,  $f$  is additive on S.E.S.s of finite dimensional comodules

(i.e.  $0 \rightarrow U \rightarrow V \rightarrow W \rightarrow 0$  exact  $\Rightarrow f(V) = f(U) + f(W)$ )

we conclude that  $\text{Cohom}_{k[G]}(-, P_\lambda)$  is exact

as functor from  $k[G]\text{-Comod}_{\text{f.d.}}^{\text{op}}$   $\rightarrow$   $k\text{-Vect}$

Positselski  $\implies P_\lambda$  projective.

Thank  
You!