

Let \mathfrak{g} be a Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} and let V be a \mathfrak{g} -module.

#1 Submodule Basics A warm up.

- (a) Let W_1 and W_2 be submodules of V . Show that $W_1 \cap W_2$ and $W_1 + W_2$ are submodules. Is $W_1 \cup W_2$ a submodule? Discuss.
- (b) Let $\varphi : V \rightarrow W$ be a \mathfrak{g} -module homomorphism. Also, let U be a submodule of W . Show that the inverse image of U , $\varphi^{-1}(U) = \{\mathbf{v} \in V \mid \varphi(\mathbf{v}) \in U\}$, is a submodule of V which contains the kernel.

#2 Meth Lab Let $\mathfrak{h} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}\}$ be the Heisenberg Lie algebra (over \mathbb{C}) whose bracket structure is defined by: $[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}] = \mathbf{z}$ and \mathbf{z} is central ($[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}] = [\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}] = 0$). Let $\mathbb{C}[t]$ be the algebra of polynomials with complex coefficients (with indeterminate t). For $f(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t]$ define $\mathbf{x} \bullet f(t) = f'(t)$ (differentiation), $\mathbf{y} \bullet f(t) = tf(t)$ (multiplication by t), $\mathbf{z} \bullet f(t) = f(t)$ (multiplication by 1), and extend linearly. Assuming bilinearity of this action, show $\mathbb{C}[t]$ is indeed a \mathfrak{h} -module. Is this an irreducible module?

#3 Irreducible (EW page 59 Exercise 7.3) Let $V \neq \{0\}$. Show that V is irreducible if and only if for any $0 \neq \mathbf{v} \in V$ we have that the submodule generated by \mathbf{v} contains all of V .

Note: The submodule generated by \mathbf{v} is the span of all elements of the form:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 \bullet (\mathbf{x}_2 \bullet (\cdots (\mathbf{x}_\ell \bullet \mathbf{v}) \cdots)) \quad \text{where } \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_\ell \in \mathfrak{g} \text{ and } \ell \geq 0.$$

By the way, $\ell = 0$ gives us the empty product (no elements acting on \mathbf{v}) which is just \mathbf{v} itself.