

Covering Techniques in Representation Theory of Algebras

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Abstract

Covering technique has been introduced into representation theory of algebras and developed in a series of papers by K. Bongartz, P. Gabriel, C. Riedtmann [BG, G, R] and, E. Green, A. de la Peña, Martinez-Villa, et. al., [Gr, MD]. This technique reduces a problem for modules over an algebra A to that of a category \mathcal{C} , often much simpler, with an action of a group G such that A is equivalent to the orbit category \mathcal{C}/G .

One of the most important result in this array is Gabriel's theorem [G] which asserts that if \mathcal{C} is a locally bounded \mathbb{k} -category, where \mathbb{k} is a field, and G is a group with a free action on $\text{ind-}\mathcal{C}$, then \mathcal{C} is locally representation-finite if and only if \mathcal{C}/G is so. Here, $\text{ind-}\mathcal{C}$ denotes the full subcategory of $\text{mod-}\mathcal{C}$ whose objects form a complete set of representatives of isoclasses of indecomposable modules in $\text{mod-}\mathcal{C}$ that is closed under the G -action naturally induced from that on \mathcal{C} . Then Dowber, Lenzing and Skowroński [DLS] proved a similar relation between \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{C}/G for a wide class of locally bounded categories. In fact, they showed that if \mathcal{C} is a locally support-finite category with a free action of a group G on $\text{ind-}\mathcal{C}$, then \mathcal{C}/G is locally support-finite and the Galois covering $P : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}/G$ induces a bijection between the G -orbits of isoclasses of indecomposable objects in $\text{mod-}\mathcal{C}$ and the isoclasses of indecomposable objects in $\text{mod-}(\mathcal{C}/G)$. Recall that, for a \mathcal{C} -module M the support of M , $\text{supp}M$, denotes the full subcategory of \mathcal{C} consisting of all objects x of \mathcal{C} such that $M(x) \neq 0$. A locally bounded \mathbb{k} -category \mathcal{C} is called locally support-finite if for every $x \in \mathcal{C}$, the full subcategory of \mathcal{C} formed by the points of all $\text{supp}M$, where $M \in \text{ind-}\mathcal{C}$ and $M(x) \neq 0$ is finite.

In this series of lectures, we will give an overview of the covering theory for locally bounded categories. Then a Gorenstein version of Gabriel's theorem will be given. We will apply this theorem, to investigate the number of summands in a decomposition of the middle term of almost split sequences of Gorenstein projective modules over monomial algebras.

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