

## 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.

This talk is based on a joint work with H. Asashiba and R. Hafezi.

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