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Σ -PURE-INJECTIVE MODULES FOR STRING ALGEBRAS AND LINEAR RELATIONS

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ABSTRACT. We prove that indecomposable Σ -pure-injective modules for a string algebra are string or band modules. The key step in our proof is a splitting result for infinite-dimensional linear relations.

1. INTRODUCTION

A *string algebra* is one of the form $\Lambda = KQ/(\rho)$ where K is a field, Q is a quiver, KQ is the path algebra, and (ρ) denotes the ideal generated by a set ρ of paths of length at least 2, satisfying

- (a) any vertex of Q is the head of at most two arrows and the tail of at most two arrows, and
- (b) given any arrow y in Q , there is at most one path xy of length 2 with $xy \notin \rho$ and at most one path yz of length 2 with $yz \notin \rho$.

For simplicity we suppose that Q has only finitely many vertices (so is finite), so that the algebra Λ has a unit element.

It is well-known that the finite-dimensional indecomposable modules for a string algebra are classified in terms of strings and bands, see for example [3, 4]. It is also interesting to study infinite-dimensional modules, especially pure-injective modules, see [12, 9, 10]. In this paper we classify indecomposable Σ -pure-injective modules for string algebras. Recall that a module is said to be *pure-injective* or *algebraically compact* if it is injective with respect to pure-exact sequences (where an exact sequence is *pure-exact* if it remains exact after tensoring with any module). A module is Σ -*pure-injective* if any direct sum of copies of it is pure-injective. There are many equivalent formulations, see for example [8, §4.4.2]. Note that any countable-dimensional pure-injective module is Σ -pure-injective, see [8, Corollary 4.4.10].

Associated to a string algebra Λ there are certain *words* whose letters are the arrows of Q and their inverses. The words may be finite or (as in [12, 4]) infinite. Associated to such a word C there is a module $M(C)$. (We recall the appropriate definitions in §3). By a *string module* one means a module $M(C)$ with C not a periodic word. If C is periodic, then $M(C)$ becomes a Λ - $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -bimodule, and given any indecomposable $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module V there is a corresponding *band module* $M(C, V) = M(C) \otimes_{K[T, T^{-1}]} V$. It is known that string modules are indecomposable, and Harland [7] has given

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a criterion in terms of a word C , for when the string module $M(C)$ is Σ -pure-injective; for convenience we recall his criterion in §3. Our main result is as follows.

Theorem 1.1. *Every indecomposable Σ -pure-injective module for a string algebra Λ is either a string module $M(C)$ or a band module $M(C, V)$ with V a Σ -pure-injective $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module.*

The indecomposable Σ -pure-injective $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -modules are the indecomposable finite-dimensional modules, the *Prüfer* modules, which are the injective envelopes of the simple modules, and the function field $K(T)$. It is easy to see that the corresponding Λ -modules $M(C, V)$ are also Σ -pure-injective, for example using [8, Theorem 4.4.20(iii)]. Since any Σ -pure-injective module is a direct sum of indecomposables, the theorem, combined with [4, Theorem 9.1], implies that $M(C, V)$ is indecomposable for V indecomposable Σ -pure-injective.

The proof of our theorem uses the functorial filtration method, which goes back to the classification of Harish-Chandra modules for the Lorenz group by Gelfand and Ponomarev [6], and was used for the classification of finite-dimensional modules for string algebras by Butler and Ringel [3]. The method depends on a certain splitting result for finite-dimensional linear relations, see [6, Theorem 3.1], [11, §2] and [5, §7]. An extension of this splitting result to some infinite-dimensional relations was obtained in [4, Lemma 4.6]. A key step in the proof of our theorem is the generalization of this splitting result to the Σ -pure-injective case, which we now explain.

Fix a base field K . A *linear relation* (V, C) consists of a vector space V and a subspace C of $V \oplus V$. The category of linear relations has as morphisms $(V, C) \rightarrow (U, D)$ the linear maps $f : V \rightarrow U$ with the property that $(f(x), f(y)) \in D$ for all $(x, y) \in C$. Any linear relation (V, C) defines a Kronecker module

$$X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xrightarrow{q} \end{array} Y$$

where $X = C$, $Y = V$ and p and q are the first and second projections, and in this way the category of linear relations is equivalent to the full subcategory of the category of Kronecker modules, consisting of those modules such that the map $\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} : X \rightarrow Y^2$ is injective. Linear relations can be considered as generalizations of linear maps, and one defines $Cu = \{v \in V : (u, v) \in C\}$ for $u \in V$ and $CU = \bigcup_{u \in U} Cu$ for $U \subseteq V$. If U is a subspace of V and C is a relation on V , then $C|_U$ denotes $C \cap (U \oplus U)$.

Given a linear relation (V, C) , we recall [4, Definition 4.3] that there are subspaces of V defined by

$$C^\sharp = \{v \in V : \exists v_n \in V \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ with } v_{n+1} \in Cv_n \text{ and } v = v_0\},$$

$$C^\flat = C_+ + C_-, \quad C_\pm = \{v \in V : \exists v_n \in V \text{ as above with } v_n = 0 \text{ for } \pm n \gg 0\}.$$

By [4, Lemma 4.5] the quotient C^\sharp/C^\flat is a $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module with the action of T given by $T(C^\flat + v) = C^\flat + w$ if and only if $w \in C^\sharp \cap (C^\flat + Cv)$. Using [4, Lemma 4.6] we prove the following.

Theorem 1.2. *As Kronecker modules, $(C^\flat, C|_{C^\flat})$ and $(C^\sharp, C|_{C^\sharp})$ are both pure submodules of (V, C) .*

We say that a relation (V, C) is *automorphic* if both projection maps $p, q : C \rightarrow V$ are isomorphisms. The theorem implies our splitting result for linear relations.

Corollary 1.3. *If (V, C) is Σ -pure-injective as a Kronecker module, then there is a decomposition $C^\sharp = C^\flat \oplus U$ such that $(U, C|_U)$ is an automorphic relation. Moreover C^\sharp/C^\flat is a Σ -pure-injective $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module.*

In section 2 we prove Theorem 1.2 and Corollary 1.3, and then in section 3 we use this to prove Theorem 1.1.

2. LINEAR RELATIONS

Products CD and inverses C^{-1} of relations on V are defined by $u \in CDv$ if $u \in Cw$ and $w \in Dv$ for some $w \in V$, and $u \in C^{-1}v \Leftrightarrow v \in Cu$. Recall [4] that

$$C' = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} C^n 0, \text{ and}$$

$$C'' = \{v_0 \in V : \exists v_n \in V \text{ for } n > 0 \text{ with } v_n \in Cv_{n+1} \text{ for all } n \geq 0\},$$

so that $C^\sharp = C'' \cap (C^{-1})''$, $C_+ = C'' \cap (C^{-1})'$, $C_- = (C^{-1})'' \cap C'$.

Lemma 2.1. *If (V, C) is automorphic, then $C^\flat = 0$ and $C^\sharp = V$.*

Proof. Clear. □

Lemma 2.2. *If C is a relation, then $(C|_{C^\flat})^\flat = C^\flat$ and $(C|_{C^\sharp})^\sharp = C^\sharp$.*

Proof. Straightforward. □

The category of linear relations inherits an exact structure from the category of Kronecker modules, in which a sequence of relations

$$0 \rightarrow (V_1, C_1) \xrightarrow{f} (V_2, C_2) \xrightarrow{g} (V_3, C_3) \rightarrow 0$$

is exact provided that $0 \rightarrow V_1 \rightarrow V_2 \rightarrow V_3 \rightarrow 0$ and $0 \rightarrow C_1 \rightarrow C_2 \rightarrow C_3 \rightarrow 0$ are exact.

Lemma 2.3. *Given a relation (V, C) , there is an exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow (C^\flat, C|_{C^\flat}) \rightarrow (C^\sharp, C|_{C^\sharp}) \rightarrow (C^\sharp/C^\flat, (C|_{C^\sharp})/(C|_{C^\flat})) \rightarrow 0$$

where the third term is automorphic.

Proof. We need to show that the third term is automorphic. Consider the map $C|_{C^\sharp} \rightarrow C^\sharp/C^\flat$ given by the first projection, say.

The map is onto since by definition any element v_0 of C^\sharp belongs to an infinite sequence of elements $v_n \in V$ with $(v_{n+1}, v_n) \in C$ for all n , and then $(v_0, v_{-1}) \in C|_{C^\sharp}$.

The kernel of the map is the set of pairs $(x, y) \in C$ with $x, y \in C^\sharp$ and $x \in C^\flat$. But then $y \in C^\sharp \cap CC^\flat$, and by [4, Lemma 4.4] this is equal to C^\flat , so the kernel is $C|_{C^\flat}$. □

A relation (V, C) is said to be *split* provided that there is a subspace U of V such that $C^\sharp = C^\flat \oplus U$ and $(U, C|_U)$ is an automorphic relation [4, §4].

Lemma 2.4. *A relation (V, C) is split if and only if the exact sequence in Lemma 2.3 is split.*

Proof. It suffices to show that if (V, C) is split, then $C|_{C^\sharp} = C|_{C^b} \oplus C|_U$, for then $(U, C|_U)$ is a complement for $(C^b, C|_{C^b})$ as Kronecker modules. Suppose $(x, y) \in C|_{C^\sharp}$. Write $x = z + u$ with $z \in C^b$ and $u \in U$. By assumption there is $w \in U$ with $(u, w) \in C$. Since C is linear, $(z, y - w) \in C$. Thus $y - w \in Cz \subseteq CC^b$. But also $y - w \in C^\sharp$. Thus $y - w \in C^b$ by [4, Lemma 4.4]. Then $(x, y) = (u, w) + (z, y - w) \in C|_U + C|_{C^b}$. \square

Lemma 2.5. *Consider an exact sequence of relations*

$$0 \rightarrow (V_1, C_1) \xrightarrow{f} (V_2, C_2) \xrightarrow{g} (V_3, C_3) \rightarrow 0$$

where we identify V_1 as a subspace of V_2 . Then

- (i) if $C_1^\sharp = V_1$ and $C_3^\sharp = V_3$ then $C_2^\sharp = V_2$;
- (ii) if $C_1^b = V_1$ and $C_3^b = V_3$ then $C_2^b = V_2$; and
- (iii) if $C_1^b = V_1$ and $C_3^b = 0$ then $C_2^b = V_1$.

Proof. (i) By symmetry, it suffices to show that if $v \in V_2$ then $v \in C_2V_2$. By assumption $g(v) \in V_3 = C_3^\sharp$, so $g(v) \in C_3V_3$. Thus $(u, g(v)) \in C_3$ for some $u \in V_3$. Since the map $C_2 \rightarrow C_3$ is onto, there is $(x, y) \in C_2$ with $g(x) = u$ and $g(y) = g(v)$. Then $g(y - v) = 0$, so we can identify $y - v$ as an element of $V_1 = C_1^\sharp$, so $y - v \in C_1V_1$, so there is $w \in V_1$ with $(w, y - v) \in C_1$. But then $(x - w, v) \in C_2$, so $v \in C_2V_2$, as required.

(ii) We show by induction on n that if $v \in V_2$ and $g(v) \in C_3^n 0$ then $v \in C_2^b$. The result then follows by symmetry, using that g is onto. Namely, for $v \in V_2$ we have $g(v) = y_+ + y_-$ with $y_\pm \in (C_3)_\pm$. Then $y_- = g(v_-)$ for some $v_- \in V_2$, and $g(v_-) \in (C_3)_- \subseteq (C_3)'$, so $g(v_-) \in C_3^n 0$ for some n , and hence $v_- \in C_2^b$. Also $g(v - v_-) = y_+ \in (C_3)_+ \subseteq (C_3^{-1})'$, so by the same result for the inverse relations, $v - v_- \in (C_2^{-1})^b = C_2^b$. Thus $v \in C_2^b$.

For the induction, if $n = 0$ then $g(v) = 0$, so $v \in V_1 = C_1^b \subseteq C_2^b$. If $n > 1$, then $g(v) \in C_3w$ with $w \in C_3^{n-1}0$. Now since the map $C_2 \rightarrow C_3$ is onto, there is $(x, y) \in C_2$ with $(g(x), g(y)) = (w, g(v))$. By induction $x \in C_2^b$. Then $y \in C_2x \subseteq C_2C_2^b$, and $y \in C_2^\sharp$, so $y \in C_2^b$ by [4, Lemma 4.4]. Also $g(v) = g(y)$, so $v - y \in V_1 = C_1^b \subseteq C_2^b$, so $v \in C_2^b$.

(iii) Clearly $V_1 = C_1^b \subseteq C_2^b$. Conversely, if $v \in C_2^b$, then $g(v) \in C_3^b$, so $g(v) = 0$, so $v \in V_1$. \square

We recall the classification of Kronecker modules, see for example [2]. If M is a finite-dimensional indecomposable Kronecker module, say of the form

$$X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{p} \\ \xrightarrow{q} \end{array} Y,$$

then either it is automorphic regular, meaning that p and q are isomorphisms, or M is of one of the following types, where X has basis $(x_i : i \in I)$, Y has basis $(y_j : j \in J)$, $p(x_i) = y_i$ (or 0 if $i \notin J$) and $q(x_i) = y_{i+1}$ (or 0 if $i + 1 \notin J$).

- (i) Preprojectives P_n ($n \geq 0$): $I = \{1, \dots, n\}$, $J = \{1, \dots, n + 1\}$.
- (ii) Preinjectives I_n ($n \geq 0$): $I = \{0, \dots, n\}$, $J = \{1, \dots, n\}$.

- (iii) 0-Regulars Z_n ($n \geq 1$): $I = \{1, \dots, n\}$, $J = \{1, \dots, n\}$.
- (iv) ∞ -Regulars R_n ($n \geq 1$): $I = \{0, \dots, n-1\}$, $J = \{1, \dots, n\}$.

Linear relations correspond to Kronecker modules without I_0 as a direct summand.

Lemma 2.6. *Let (V, C) be a linear relation, let U be one of the following subspaces of V and let M be a finite-dimensional indecomposable Kronecker module of the indicated type:*

- (i) $U = C^\flat$ and M is preinjective, or
- (ii) $U = C^\sharp$ and M is preinjective, or
- (iii) $U = C^\sharp$ and M is automorphic regular.

Then there is no non-zero map of Kronecker modules $\psi : M \rightarrow (V/U, C/C|_U)$.

Proof. (i), (ii) For $M = I_n$ the map ψ consists of maps $\theta : X \rightarrow C/C|_U$ and $\phi : Y \rightarrow V/U$, sending x_i to the coset of, say, $(v'_i, v''_{i+1}) \in C$ for $0 \leq i \leq n$ and y_j to the coset of v_j for $1 \leq j \leq n$, and such that $v'_i - v_i, v_{i+1} - v''_{i+1} \in U$ for $0 \leq i \leq n$, where $v_0 = v_{n+1} = 0$. Note $U \subseteq (C^{-1})''$.

We claim that all $v'_i, v''_{i+1} \in (C^{-1})''$. This is true for v''_{n+1} ; if true for v''_{i+1} it follows for v'_i since $v'_i \in C^{-1}v''_{i+1}$; and if true for v'_i it follows for v'_i since $v'_i - v''_i \in U \subseteq (C^{-1})''$. The claim follows.

Dually, starting with v'_0 , we see that all $v'_i, v''_{i+1} \in C''$. Thus all $v'_i, v''_{i+1} \in C^\sharp$. If $U = C^\sharp$ then $v_j \in U$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$ in which case $\theta = \phi = 0$. So we may assume $U = C^\flat$.

Now we claim that all $v'_i, v''_{i+1} \in C^\flat$. This is true for v'_0 ; if true for v'_i it follows for v''_{i+1} since $v''_{i+1} \in C^\sharp \cap Cv'_i \subseteq C^\sharp \cap CC^\flat \subseteq C^\flat$ by [4, Lemma 4.4]; if true for v''_i it follows for v'_i since $v'_i - v''_i \in C^\flat$. Thus $\psi = 0$ as above.

(iii) Let x_1, \dots, x_n be a basis for X , and so y_1, \dots, y_n is a basis for Y where $y_i = p(x_i)$. There is an invertible matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ with $a_{ij} \in K$ and $q(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}y_j$. The map ψ consists of $\theta' : X \rightarrow C/C|_{C^\sharp}$ and $\phi' : Y \rightarrow V/C^\sharp$, sending x_i to the coset of (w_i, w'_i) and y_i to the coset of w''_i , such that $w_i - w''_i, w'_i - \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}w''_j \in C^\sharp$. It suffices to show $w_i \in C^\sharp$.

Note $w'_i - \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}w_j \in C^\sharp$ since this is the sum of $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(w''_j - w_j)$ and $w'_i - \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}w''_j$. By [4, Lemma 4.4] we have $C^\sharp \subseteq C^{-1}C^\sharp$ and so there is some $u_i \in C^\sharp$ for which $(u_i, w'_i - \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}w_j) \in C$. Thus we have $(w_i - u_i, \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}w_j) \in C$.

Since $u_i \in C^\sharp$ there exist $u_{i,t} \in C^\sharp$ for $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $u_{i,0} = u_i$ and $u_{i,t} \in Cu_{i,t-1}$ for all t . For $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ let $a_{ij}^+ := a_{ij}$ and let a_{ij}^- be the (i, j) th entry of the matrix A^{-1} . We define elements $w_i^s, u_{i,t}^s \in V$ iteratively as follows. Let $w_i^0 = w_i$ and $u_{i,t}^0 = u_{i,t}$, and for $d \geq 1$ let

$$w_i^{\pm d} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}^\pm w_j^{\pm(d-1)} \quad u_{i,t}^{\pm d} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}^\pm u_{j,t}^{\pm(d-1)}$$

By construction $(w_i^d - u_{i,0}^d, w_i^{d+1}) \in C$ when $d = 0$. If this true for some $d \geq 0$ then

$$(w_i^{d+1} - u_{i,0}^{d+1}, w_i^{d+2}) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}(w_j^d - u_{j,0}^d, w_j^{d+1}) \in C,$$

hence for all $d \geq 0$ we have $(w_i^d - u_{i,0}^d, w_i^{d+1}) \in C$. Note that $(u_{i,t}^d, u_{i,t+1}^d) \in C$ for all $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. We claim $(z_i^d, z_i^{d+1}) \in C$ for all $d \geq 0$ where $z_i^0 = w_i^0 - u_{i,0}^0$,

$z_i^1 = w_i^1$ and $z_i^d = w_i^d + \sum_{r=1}^{d-1} u_{i,r}^{d-r}$ for $d \geq 2$. For $d = 0$ the claim holds by construction. If $(z_i^{d-1}, z_i^d) \in C$ for some $d \geq 1$ then

$$z_i^{d+1} = w_i^{d+1} + \sum_{r=1}^d u_{i,r}^{d+1-r} \in C(w_i^d - u_{i,0}^d + \sum_{r=1}^d u_{i,r-1}^{d+1-r})$$

by the above, and as $\sum_{r=2}^d u_{i,r-1}^{d+1-r} = \sum_{r=1}^{d-1} u_{i,r}^{d-r}$ this gives $(z_i^d, z_i^{d+1}) \in C$. Now let $z_i^d = w_i^d + \sum_{r=d}^0 u_{i,r}^{r-d}$ for $d \leq 1$. As above we have $(z_i^d, z_i^{d+1}) \in C$ for $d \leq 0$, and so altogether we have $z_i^0 = w_i - u_i \in C^\sharp$, as required. \square

Lemma 2.7. *Let (V, C) be a relation with $V = C^\sharp$, and let M be a finite-dimensional indecomposable preprojective, 0-regular or ∞ -regular Kronecker module. Then $\text{Ext}^1(M, (V, C)) = 0$.*

Proof. Using the explicit description of Kronecker modules before Lemma 2.6, we see that there are exact sequences of Kronecker modules

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\rightarrow P_n \rightarrow P_{n+1} \rightarrow R_1 \rightarrow 0, \\ 0 &\rightarrow Z_n \rightarrow Z_{n+1} \rightarrow Z_1 \rightarrow 0, \\ 0 &\rightarrow R_n \rightarrow R_{n+1} \rightarrow R_1 \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus any P_n , Z_n or R_n is an iterated extension of copies of the modules R_1 , Z_1 and P_0 . Thus it suffices to prove that $\text{Ext}^1(M, (V, C)) = 0$ for these three modules M . This is clear for P_0 since it is projective, and by symmetry, replacing C with its inverse, it suffices to show it for $M = R_1$.

Consider an extension

$$0 \rightarrow (V, C) \rightarrow (W, D) \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

and identify V as a subspace of W , so C is a subspace of D . Let $w \in W$ and $d = (w', w'') \in D$ be sent to the basis elements y_1 and x_1 in M . Then $w'' - w, w' \in V$. Now $w' \in Cw'''$ for some $w''' \in V$, and $W = V \oplus Ku$ where $u = w'' - w'''$, and $D = C \oplus K(u, 0)$, giving a splitting of the extension. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Let U be C^b or C^\sharp . We need to show that any map from a finitely presented, so finite dimensional, Kronecker module M to the third term in the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (U, C|_U) \rightarrow (V, C) \rightarrow (V/U, C/C|_U) \rightarrow 0$$

lifts to a map to the middle term. It is enough to let M be indecomposable and show the pullback sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (U, C|_U) \rightarrow (W, D) \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

is split. By Lemma 2.2 we have $(C|_{C^\sharp})^\sharp = C^\sharp$, and also clearly $(C|_{C^b})^\sharp = C^b$, so if M is preprojective, 0-regular or ∞ -regular then the pullback sequence splits by Lemma 2.7. Assume instead that M is preinjective or regular automorphic. There is nothing to prove if there are no non-zero maps $M \rightarrow (V, C)$. By Lemma 2.6 this means we can assume that $U = C^b$ and that M is regular automorphic. Hence $D^b = C^b$ and $D^\sharp = W$ by Lemma 2.5, and thus the pullback sequence is the exact sequence of Lemma 2.3 for the relation (W, D) . This splits by [4, Lemma 4.6], since the quotient is finite dimensional. \square

Proof of Corollary 1.3. Assume that (V, C) is Σ -pure-injective as a Kronecker module. By [8, Corollary 4.4.13] any pure submodule of it is a direct summand. In particular, by Theorem 1.2, this applies to $(C^b, C|_{C^b})$. Thus also $(C^b, C|_{C^b})$ is pure-injective.

Since $(C^b, C|_{C^b})$ is a pure submodule in (V, C) , it is also pure in $(C^\sharp, C|_{C^\sharp})$, see for example [8, Lemma 2.1.12]. Thus the exact sequence of Lemma 2.3 splits. By Lemma 2.4 we have

$$(C^b, C|_{C^b}) \oplus (C^\sharp/C^b, (C|_{C^\sharp})/(C|_{C^b})) \cong (C^\sharp, C|_{C^\sharp})$$

Since $(C^\sharp, C|_{C^\sharp})$ is a pure submodule of the Σ -pure injective module (V, C) , $(C^\sharp, C|_{C^\sharp})$ is Σ -pure injective, hence so is $(C^\sharp/C^b, (C|_{C^\sharp})/(C|_{C^b}))$. This means the inclusion of Kronecker modules

$$(C^\sharp/C^b, (C|_{C^\sharp})/(C|_{C^b}))^{(\mathbb{N})} \subseteq (C^\sharp/C^b, (C|_{C^\sharp})/(C|_{C^b}))^{\mathbb{N}}$$

splits. Thus the inclusion $(C^\sharp/C^b)^{(\mathbb{N})} \subseteq (C^\sharp/C^b)^{\mathbb{N}}$ of $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -modules splits, so C^\sharp/C^b is a Σ -pure-injective $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module. \square

3. STRING ALGEBRAS

Let $\Lambda = KQ/(\rho)$ be a string algebra, as in the introduction. We already mentioned words C and the associated modules $M(C)$ in the introduction. We begin by recalling the appropriate definitions.

Words. ([4, §1]) A *letter* is either an arrow x or its formal inverse x^{-1} . Let I be one of the sets $\{0, \dots, n\}$ (for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$), \mathbb{N} , $-\mathbb{N}$ or \mathbb{Z} . For $I \neq \{0\}$, an I -*word* is a sequence of letters

$$C = \begin{cases} C_1 \dots C_n & (\text{if } I = \{0, \dots, n\}) \\ C_1 C_2 \dots & (\text{if } I = \mathbb{N}) \\ \dots C_{-1} C_0 & (\text{if } I = -\mathbb{N}) \\ \dots C_{-1} C_0 | C_1 C_2 \dots & (\text{if } I = \mathbb{Z}) \end{cases}$$

(a bar $|$ shows the position of C_0 and C_1 when $I = \mathbb{Z}$) satisfying:

- (a) if C_i and C_{i+1} are consecutive letters, then the tail of C_i is equal to the head of C_{i+1} .
- (b) if C_i and C_{i+1} are consecutive letters, then $C_i^{-1} \neq C_{i+1}$
- (c) no zero relation $x_1 \dots x_m \in \rho$, nor its inverse $x_m^{-1} \dots x_1^{-1}$ occurs as a sequence of consecutive letters in C .

For $I = \{0\}$ there are *trivial words* $1_{v,\epsilon}$ for each vertex v and each $\epsilon = \pm 1$. By a *word* we mean an I -word for some I .

The *inverse* C^{-1} of C is defined by inverting its letters (where $(x^{-1})^{-1} = x$) and reversing their order. By convention $(1_{v,\epsilon})^{-1} = 1_{v,-\epsilon}$, and the inverse of a \mathbb{Z} -word is indexed so that $(\dots C_0 | C_1 \dots)^{-1} = \dots C_1^{-1} | C_0^{-1} \dots$.

If C is a \mathbb{Z} -word and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, the *shift* $C[n]$ is the word $\dots C_n | C_{n+1} \dots$. We say that a word C is *periodic* if it is a \mathbb{Z} -word and $C = C[n]$ for some $n > 0$. The minimal such n is called the *period*. We extend the shift to I -words C with $I \neq \mathbb{Z}$ by defining $C[n] = C$.

Modules given by words. For any I -word C and any $i \in I$ there is an associated vertex $v_i(C)$, the tail of C_i or the head of C_{i+1} , or v for $C = 1_{v,\epsilon}$. Given an I -word C let $M(C)$ be the Λ -module generated by the elements b_i subject to the relations

$$e_v b_i = \begin{cases} b_i & (\text{if } v_i(C) = v) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$

for any vertex v in Q and

$$x b_i = \begin{cases} b_{i-1} & (\text{if } i-1 \in I \text{ and } C_i = x) \\ b_{i+1} & (\text{if } i+1 \in I \text{ and } C_{i+1} = x^{-1}) \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$

for any arrow x in Q . Given a periodic \mathbb{Z} -word C of period p , and a $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module V , there is an automorphism of the underlying vector space of $M(C)$ given by $b_i \mapsto b_{i-p}$. Hence $M(C)$ is a Λ - $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -bimodule and we let $M(C, V) = M(C) \otimes_{K[T, T^{-1}]} V$.

By a *string module* we mean a module of the form $M(C)$ where C is not a periodic \mathbb{Z} -word. By a *band module* we mean a module of the form $M(C, V)$ where C is a periodic \mathbb{Z} -word and V is an indecomposable $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -module.

Sign, heads and tails. ([4, §2]) We choose a *sign* $\epsilon = \pm 1$ for each letter l , such that if distinct letters l and l' have the same head and sign, then $\{l, l'\} = \{x^{-1}, y\}$ for some zero relation $xy \in \rho$.

The head of a finite word or \mathbb{N} -word C is defined to be $v_0(C)$, so it is the head of C_1 , or v for $C = 1_{v,\epsilon}$. The sign of a finite word or \mathbb{N} -word C is defined to be that of C_1 , or ϵ for $C = 1_{v,\epsilon}$.

For v a vertex and $\epsilon = \pm 1$, we define $\mathcal{W}_{v,\epsilon}$ to be the set of all I -words with head v , sign ϵ , and where $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$.

Composing words. The composition CD of a word C and a word D is obtained by concatenating the sequences of letters, provided that the tail of C is equal to the head of D , the words C^{-1} and D have opposite signs, and the result is a word.

By convention $1_{v,\epsilon} 1_{v,\epsilon} = 1_{v,\epsilon}$ and the composition of a $-\mathbb{N}$ -word C and an \mathbb{N} -word D is indexed so that $CD = \dots C_0 \mid D_1 \dots$. If $C = C_1 \dots C_n$ is a non-trivial finite word and all powers C^m are words, we write C^∞ and ${}^\infty C^\infty$ for the \mathbb{N} -word and periodic word $C_1 \dots C_n C_1 \dots C_n \dots$ and $\dots C_n \mid C_1 \dots$. If C is an I -word and $i \in I$, there are words $C_{>i} = C_{i+1} C_{i+2} \dots$ and $C_{\leq i} = \dots C_{i-1} C_i$ with appropriate conventions if i is maximal or minimal in I , such that $C = (C_{\leq i} C_{>i})[i]$.

Relations given by words. ([4, §4]) If M is a Λ -module and x is an arrow with head v and tail u , then multiplication by x defines a linear map $e_u M \rightarrow e_v M$, and hence a linear relation from $e_u M$ to $e_v M$.

By composing such relations and their inverses, any finite word C defines a linear relation from $e_u M$ to $e_v M$, where v is the head of C and u is the tail of C . We denote this relation also by C .

Thus, for any subspace U of $e_u M$, one obtains a subspace CU of $e_v M$. We write $C0$ for the case $U = \{0\}$ and CM for the case $U = e_u M$.

Filtrations given by words. ([4, §6]) For $C \in \mathcal{W}_{v,\epsilon}$ and any Λ -module M define subspaces $C^-(M) \subseteq C^+(M) \subseteq e_v M$ as follows.

Suppose C is finite. Let $C^+(M) = Cx^{-1}0$ if there is an arrow x such that Cx^{-1} is a word, and otherwise $C^+(M) = CM$. Similarly let $C^-(M) = CyM$ if there is an arrow y such that Cy is a word, and otherwise $C^-(M) = C0$.

If instead C is an \mathbb{N} -word let $C^+(M)$ be the set of $m \in M$ such that there is a sequence m_n ($n \geq 0$) with $m_0 = m$ and $m_{n-1} \in C_n m_n$ for all $n \geq 1$, and define $C^-(M)$ to be the set of $m \in M$ such that there is a sequence m_n as above which is eventually zero. Clearly $C^-(M) \subseteq C^+(M)$.

Subgroups of finite definition. ([8, §1.1.1]) A *pp-definable subgroup* of M is an additive subgroup of M of the form

$$\{m \in M \mid A\underline{m} = 0 \text{ for some } \underline{m} = \begin{pmatrix} m_0 \\ \vdots \\ m_{c-1} \end{pmatrix} \in M^c \text{ with } m = m_0\}$$

where $r, c \geq 1$ and $A = (a_{ij})$ is a $r \times c$ matrix with entries in Λ . If $r = c = 1$ and $A = a$ this gives $\{m \in M \mid am = 0\}$. If $r = 1, c = 2$, and $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & a \end{pmatrix}$ this gives $\{m \in M \mid \exists m' \in M \text{ such that } m = am'\}$. If C is a finite word then CM is a pp-definable subgroup of M (see [7, §5.3.2], [8, Example 1.1.2] or [10, §4]).

Lemma 3.1. *If M is a pure-injective Λ -module and C is an \mathbb{N} -word then $C^+(M) = \bigcap_{n \geq 0} C_{\leq n} M$.*

Proof. Clearly $C^+(M) \subseteq \bigcap_{n \geq 0} C_{\leq n} M$. Conversely, given m_0 in the right hand side, we iteratively find elements

$$m_i \in C_i^{-1} m_{i-1} \cap \bigcap_{n \geq 0} (C_{> i})_{\leq n} M$$

for all $i > 0$. For any $n \geq 0$ we consider the set

$$\Delta_n = C_i^{-1} m_{i-1} \cap (C_{> i})_{\leq n} M.$$

This is non-empty since $m_{i-1} \in (C_{> i-1})_{\leq n+1} M = C_i (C_{> i})_{\leq n} M$, and it is a coset of a pp-definable subgroup. Moreover $\Delta_0 \supseteq \Delta_1 \supseteq \Delta_2 \supseteq \dots$, so any intersection of finitely many of the Δ_n is non-empty. As M is algebraically compact, the intersection of all the Δ_n is non-empty (see [8, §4.2.1]), so there is some m_i as indicated. Now the sequence of elements m_0, m_1, m_2, \dots shows that $m_0 \in C^+(M)$. \square

Refined functors. ([4, §7]) If $(B, D) \in \mathcal{W}_{v,1} \times \mathcal{W}_{v,-1}$ and M is a Λ -module, let $F_{B,D}(M) = F_{B,D}^+(M)/F_{B,D}^-(M)$ where

$$F_{B,D}^+(M) = B^+(M) \cap D^+(M) \text{ and} \\ F_{B,D}^-(M) = (B^+(M) \cap D^-(M)) + (B^-(M) \cap D^+(M)).$$

If $(B, D) \in \mathcal{W}_{v,1} \times \mathcal{W}_{v,-1}$ and $C = B^{-1}D$ is a periodic word, say $D = E^\infty$ and $B = (E^{-1})^\infty$ for some finite word E , then $F_{B,D}^+(M) = E^\sharp$, $F_{B,D}^-(M) = E^\flat$ and the linear relation E on $e_v M$ induces an automorphism of $F_{B,D}(M)$

(see §1). Hence $F_{B,D}$ defines a functor from Λ -modules to $K[T, T^{-1}]$ -modules. Otherwise C is a non-periodic word and we consider $F_{B,D}$ as a functor from the category of Λ -modules to K -vector spaces.

In general there is a natural isomorphism between $F_{B,D}$ and the functor $G_{B,D}$ defined by $G_{B,D}(M) = G_{B,D}^+(M)/G_{B,D}^-(M)$ for any Λ -module M where $G_{B,D}^\pm(M) = B^\pm(M) + D^\pm(M) \cap B^+(M)$.

Corollary 3.2. *Let $\theta : N \rightarrow M$ be a homomorphism of Λ -modules where M is pure-injective over Λ . If $F_{B,D}(\theta)$ is surjective for all $(B, D) \in \bigcup_v \mathcal{W}_{v,1} \times \mathcal{W}_{v,-1}$ then θ is surjective.*

Proof. For the contrapositive we suppose $\text{im}(\theta) \neq M$, and so we can choose a vertex v and some element $m \in e_v M \setminus e_v \text{im}(\theta)$. The set $S = e_v \text{im}(\theta) + m$ contains m but not 0, so by combining Lemma 3.1 and [4, Lemma 10.3], there is a word $B \in \mathcal{W}_{v,\epsilon}$ such that S meets $B^+(M)$ but not $B^-(M)$. Following the proof of [4, Lemma 10.5] we have that S meets $G_{B,D}^+(M)$ but not $G_{B,D}^-(M)$ for some $(B, D) \in \mathcal{W}_{v,1} \times \mathcal{W}_{v,-1}$. Following the second half of the proof of [4, Lemma 10.6], this shows $G_{B,D}(\theta)$ is not surjective. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.1. We show that every Σ -pure-injective Λ -module M is a direct sum of string modules $M(C)$ and band modules $M(C, V)$ with V Σ -pure-injective.

Suppose that $(B, D) \in \mathcal{W}_{v,1} \times \mathcal{W}_{v,-1}$ and $C = B^{-1}D$ is periodic, say $D = E^\infty$ and $B = (E^{-1})^\infty$ for some finite word E . We consider the pair $(e_v M, E)$ consisting of the vector space $e_v M$ and the relation on it induced by the word E . Since M is Σ -pure-injective, there is an infinite cardinal κ such that any product of copies of M is isomorphic to a direct sum of modules of cardinality $\leq \kappa$. This property is inherited by the pair $(e_v M, E)$ as a Kronecker module, and hence it is Σ -pure-injective by [8, Theorem 4.4.20].

Thus by Corollary 1.3, there is a decomposition $E^\sharp = E^\flat \oplus U$ such that $(U, E|_U)$ is an automorphic relation, or in other words, M is E -split in the sense of [4, §7].

Following the proof of [4, Theorem 9.2], this means there is a homomorphism $\theta : N \rightarrow M$ where N is a direct sum of string and band modules, and $F_{B,D}(\theta)$ is an isomorphism for all pairs of words $(B, D) \in \mathcal{W}_{v,1} \times \mathcal{W}_{v,-1}$ such that $C = B^{-1}D$ is a word. By [4, Lemma 9.4] this means θ is injective, and θ is surjective by Corollary 3.2. \square

Note that any Σ -pure-injective module is a direct sum of indecomposables, but conversely not every direct sum of indecomposable Σ -pure-injective modules is Σ -pure-injective, see for example [8, Example 4.4.18].

Ringel has shown that $M(C)$ is Σ -pure-injective provided C is a so-called *contracting* word [12, §5]. A more general result is due to Harland [7].

Harland's criterion. For each vertex v and each $\epsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$ there is a total ordering $<$ on $\mathcal{W}_{v,\epsilon}$ given by $C < C'$ if

- (a) $C = ByD$ and $C' = Bx^{-1}D'$ for arrows x and y and words B, D , and D' (with B finite),
- (b) C' is finite and $C = C'yD$ for an arrow y and a word D , or
- (c) C is finite and $C' = Cx^{-1}D$ for an arrow x and a word D .

For any I -word C and any $i \in I$ the words $C_{>i}$ and $(C_{\leq i})^{-1}$ have the same head but opposite signs. Let $C(i, \pm 1)$ be the one with sign ± 1 . The following result is [7, Proposition 14 and Theorem 42]. (Note that Harland uses the opposite ordering on $\mathcal{W}_{v,\epsilon}$ so has the ascending chain condition.)

Proposition 3.3. *Let Λ be finite dimensional and C be an I -word. Then $M(C)$ is Σ -pure-injective if and only if for each vertex v and each $\epsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$ every descending chain in $\{C(i, \epsilon) : i \in I, v_i(C) = v\}$ stabilizes.*

On page 243 of [7, §6.9] there is an example of an aperiodic word C where $M(C)$ is pure-injective.

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