

# Four problems regarding representable functors

G. Militaru — arXiv:1005.0156

University of Bucharest

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- **Adjoint, Frobenius, separable functors:**

If  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is a **left adjoint** of  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  we **denote** this by  $F \dashv G$ . We denote by  $\eta : 1_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow GF$  and  $\varepsilon : FG \rightarrow 1_{\mathcal{D}}$  the unit and counit of the adjoint pair  $F \dashv G$ .

### Example

The representable functor  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{C}, -) : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  has a **left adjoint** if and only if  $\mathcal{C}$  has **arbitrary copowers**, i.e. for any set  $X$  there exists the coproduct in  $\mathcal{C}$

$$\mathcal{C}^{(X)} := \bigoplus_{x \in X} \mathcal{C}_x, \quad \mathcal{C}_x = \mathcal{C}, \forall x \in X$$

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- $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  is called a **Frobenius functor** if there exists  $G : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  such that  $F \dashv G \dashv F$ .
- Let  $F \dashv G$ . Then  $F$  (resp.  $G$ ) is a **separable functor** iff  $\eta$  splits (resp.  $\varepsilon$  cosplits).

### Example

Let  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of rings. Then  $\phi^* : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{M}$  is Frobenius (resp. separable) iff  $S/R$  is a Frobenius (resp. separable) extension of rings in the classical sense.

This basic example was recently generalized to **various theorems** for **Doi-Koppinen modules**, **Yetter-Drinfel'd modules**, **entwined modules**, **modules over corings**, **etc.**

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Let  $(\mathcal{V}, \gamma)$  be a **concrete** category: i.e.  $\mathcal{V}$  is a category and  $\gamma : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}et$  a faithful functor.

**Typical example:**  $\mathcal{V}$  is a **variety of algebras** (like **Gr**, **Ab**, **Rings**,  **$k$ -Alg**,  $R\mathcal{M}$ , etc) in the sense of universal algebras and  $\gamma$  is the **forgetful functor**.

### Definition

Let  $(\mathcal{V}, \gamma)$  be a concrete category.  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  is called a **representable functor** if  $\gamma \circ F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}et$  is representable in the classical sense, i.e. there exists  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ , called the **object of representability**, such that

$$\gamma \circ F \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, -)$$

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## Four general problems:

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $(\mathcal{V}, \gamma)$  be given categories.

- **Problem A:** Describe the category  $\mathbf{Rep}(\mathcal{C}, (\mathcal{V}, \gamma))$  of all representable functors.
- **Problem B:** Give a necessary and sufficient condition for a given functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  to be representable (possibly predefining the object of representability).
- **Problem C:** When is a composition of two representable functors a representable functor?
- **Problem D:** Give a necessary and sufficient condition for a representable functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  to be separable or Frobenius.

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- **Problem D:** Give a necessary and sufficient condition for a representable functor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  to be separable or Frobenius.

## Examples

1. Yoneda lemma  $\Rightarrow$  first answer for Problem A in the **trivial case**  $(\mathcal{V}, \gamma) := (\mathcal{S}et, Id_{\mathcal{S}et})$ . The functor

$$Y : \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Rep}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}et), \quad Y(C) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, -)$$

is an equivalence of categories.

2. **Freyd's Theorem (1966)**: Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a **cocomplete** category,  $\mathcal{V}$  a **variety of algebras**. Then  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  is representable if and only if  $F$  is a right adjoint.

3. **(Freyd + Morita)**: Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings. Then  $F : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{M}$  is representable if and only if there exists  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  such that  $F \cong {}_S\text{Hom}(U, -)$ .

**Consequence:** The Problem C has a positive answer for categories of modules. The **tensor product** of bimodules plays the key role as:

$${}_R\text{Hom}(V, -) \circ {}_S\text{Hom}(U, -) \cong {}_S\text{Hom}(U \otimes_R V, -)$$

The pioneer of studying Problem A was D. M. Kan in 1958, who described **all representable functors from semigroups to semigroups**.

An excellent **book** dedicated exclusively to Problem A:  
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### Example

(The fundamental theorem [BH]) Let  $R$  be a ring. Then the functor

$$Y : ({}_R\mathcal{M}_R)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Rep}(R\text{-Rings}, \mathcal{A}b), \quad Y(M) := {}_R\text{Hom}_R(M, -)$$

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## Examples for Problem B

### Examples

1. Let  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  be a morphism of rings. Then  $S \otimes_R - : {}_R\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  is representable **by**  $S \in {}_R\mathcal{M}_S$  iff  $S/R$  is a Frobenius extension of rings.
2. (T. Brzezinski, 2002) Let  $R$  be a ring and  $C$  be an  $R$ -coring. Then the forgetful functor  $F : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{M}$  is representable **by**  $C$  iff  $C$  is a Frobenius coring.
3. (S. Caenepeel, G.M., S. Zhu, 1997): Let  $H$  be a Hopf algebra. Then the forgetful functor  $F : {}_H^H\mathcal{YD} \rightarrow {}_H\mathcal{M}$  is representable **by**  $H \otimes H$  iff  $H$  is finite dimensional and unimodular.

An answer for Problem D is the following:

### Theorem

*Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an abelian category and  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}b$  be a functor. The following are equivalent:*

- ①  *$F$  is a Frobenius and separable functor;*
- ②  *$F \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, -)$ , for some  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  having the following properties:*
  - (i)  *$C$  is a small, projective, generator and has all copowers in  $\mathcal{C}$ ;*
  - (ii)  *$\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(C)$  is Frobenius and separable as a  $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra.*

- **Representable functors for corings**

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring and the **cocomplete** categories of comodules

$${}^C_R\mathcal{M}, \quad \mathcal{M}_R^C, \quad {}^C_R\mathcal{M}_S, \quad {}^C_R\mathcal{M}_R^C$$

Let  $V \in {}^C_R\mathcal{M}_S$ . Then we have an adjoint pair of functors

$$V \otimes_S - : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}^C_R\mathcal{M}, \quad {}^C_R\mathrm{Hom}(V, -) : {}^C_R\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$$

with  $V \otimes_S - \dashv {}^C_R\mathrm{Hom}(V, -)$  (S. Caenepeel, E. De Groot, J. Vercruysse, Trans AMS, 2007).

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The converse of the above proposition also holds.

### Theorem

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring and two functors

$$F : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R^C\mathcal{M}, \quad G : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$$

such that  $F \dashv G$ , i.e.  $F$  is a left adjoint of  $G$ .

Then there exists  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ , unique up to an isomorphism in  ${}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ , such that

$$F \cong V \otimes_S - \quad G \cong {}_R^C\text{Hom}(V, -)$$

Let  $\mathbf{Rep}({}_R^C\mathcal{M}, {}_S\mathcal{M})$  be the category of all representable functors  ${}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$ .

The above theorem + Freyd's theorem + a Yoneda type embedding for comodules over corings give:

### Corollary

Let  $R, S$  be rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring. Then the functor

$$Y : ({}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Rep}({}_R^C\mathcal{M}, {}_S\mathcal{M}), \quad Y(V) := {}_R^C\text{Hom}(V, -)$$

is an equivalence of categories.

## Two questions:

- Describe the category **Rep**  $({}_S\mathcal{M}, {}^C_R\mathcal{M})$  (or more general **Rep**  $({}_S^D\mathcal{M}, {}^C_R\mathcal{M})$ , for a  $S$ -coring  $D$ ) of all representable functors  ${}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}^C_R\mathcal{M}$ .
- Describe all **right adjoint** functors  $G : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}^C_R\mathcal{M}$ .

**Partial answer** (T. Brzezinski, R. Wisbauer): if  $C \in \mathcal{M}_R$  is flat,  $G$  **preserves all colimits** and its left adjoint  $F$  **preserves kernels**, then

$$G \cong V \otimes_S -, \quad F \cong M \square_C -$$

for some  $V \in {}^C_R\mathcal{M}_S$ ,  $M \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R^C$ .

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Let  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  and the induction functor  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$

- When is  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  a representable functor?
- When is  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  an equivalence of categories (or a separable functor)?

### Example

Let  $U := S := R$ . Then  $R \otimes_R - \cong F$ , where  $F : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R\mathcal{M}$  is the forgetful functor. We have the adjoint pairs:

$$F = R \otimes_R - \dashv C \otimes_R - \dashv {}_R^C\text{Hom}(C, -)$$

Thus,  $F \cong R \otimes_R -$  is a representable functor **by**  $C$

$\iff F$  is a Frobenius functor

$\iff C$  is a Frobenius coring (T. Brzezinski).

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## Theorem

Let  $C$  be a  $R$ -coring and  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$ . TFAE:

①  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  is an equivalence of categories;

② There exists  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$  such that:

(i)  $U \otimes_R V \cong S$ , isomorphism in  ${}_S\mathcal{M}_S$ .

(ii)  $V \otimes_S U \otimes_R C \cong C$ , isomorphism in  ${}_R^C\mathcal{M}_R^C$ ;

③ There exists a triple  $(V, p, h)$ , where  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ ,  $p \in {}_R^C\text{Hom}_R(C, V \otimes_S U)$ ,  $h \in {}_R\text{Hom}_R(V \otimes_S U \otimes_R C, R)$  such that:

(i)  $U \otimes_R V \cong S$ , isomorphism in  ${}_S\mathcal{M}_S$ ;

(ii)  $v_{\langle -1 \rangle} h(v_{\langle 0 \rangle} \otimes_S u \otimes_R c) = h(v \otimes_S u \otimes_R c_{(1)})c_{(2)}$ ;

(iii)  $h(p(c_{(1)}) \otimes_R c_{(2)}) = \varepsilon(c)$ ;

(iv)  $h(v \otimes_S u \otimes_R c_{(1)})p(c_{(2)}) = v \otimes_S u\varepsilon(c)$

for all  $v \in V$ ,  $u \in U$ ,  $c \in C$ .



## Definition

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring,  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  and  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ .

A pair  $(e, h)$ , where  $e = \sum e^1 \otimes e^2 \in (U \otimes_R V)^S$ ,  
 $h \in {}_R\text{Hom}_R(V \otimes_S U \otimes_R C, R)$ , such that

$$v_{\langle -1 \rangle} h(v_{\langle 0 \rangle} \otimes_S u \otimes_R c) = h(v \otimes_S u \otimes_R c_{(1)}) c_{(2)}$$

$$\sum e^1 h(e^2 \otimes_S u \otimes_R c) = u \varepsilon(c)$$

$$\sum h(v \otimes_S e^1 \otimes_R e^2_{\langle -1 \rangle}) e^2_{\langle 0 \rangle} = v$$

for all  $v \in V$ ,  $u \in U$ ,  $c \in C$  is called a **comodule dual basis of first kind** for  $(U, V)$ .

## Example

Let  $C := R$ ,  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$ ,  $V := U^* = \text{Hom}_R(U, R) \in {}_R\mathcal{M}_S$  and  $h$  the evaluation map

$$h := ev_U : U^* \otimes_S U \rightarrow R, \quad u^* \otimes_S u \mapsto \langle u^*, u \rangle$$

There exists  $e = \sum_i u_i \otimes_R u_i^* \in (U \otimes_R U^*)^S$  such that  $(e, h = ev_U)$  is a 'comodule' dual basis of first kind for  $(U, U^*)$  iff  $\{u_i, u_i^*\}$  is a dual basis for  $U \in \mathcal{M}_R$  iff  $U$  is finitely generated projective as a right  $R$  module.

## Theorem

Let  $C$  be an  $R$ -coring and  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$ . TFAE:

- 1  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  is a representable functor;
- 2 There exists  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$  such that  $V \otimes_S - \dashv U \otimes_R -$ ;
- 3 There exists  $(V, e, h)$ , where  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$  and  $(e, h)$  is a comodule dual basis of first kind for  $(U, V)$ .

In this case  $U \otimes_R - \cong {}_R^C\text{Hom}(V, -)$  and  $V \in {}_R\mathcal{M}$  is f.g. projective.

## Theorem

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring,  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  and  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ .  
TFAE:

- 1 Then the induction functor  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  is a left adjoint of  $V \otimes_S - : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R^C\mathcal{M}$ ;
- 2 There exists a pair  $(p, E)$ , where  $p \in {}_R^C\text{Hom}_R(C, V \otimes_S U)$ ,  $E \in {}_S\text{Hom}_S(U \otimes_R V, S)$ , such that

$$(Id_V \otimes_S E) \circ (p \otimes_R Id_U) \circ \rho_V = Id_V$$

$$(E \otimes_S Id_U) \circ (Id_U \otimes_R p) = Id_U \otimes_R \varepsilon_C$$

A pair of maps  $(p, E)$  as above is called a **comodule dual basis of second kind** for  $(U, V)$ .

### Example

Let  $C := R$ ,  $V \in {}_R\mathcal{M}_S$ ,  $U := V^*$  and the evaluation map

$$E : V^* \otimes_R V \rightarrow S, \quad E(v^* \otimes_R v) = \langle v^*, v \rangle$$

There exists  $p \in {}_R\text{Hom}_R(R, V \otimes_S V^*)$  such that  $(p, E)$  is a 'comodule' dual basis of second kind for  $(V^*, V)$  iff  $V$  is f.g. projective as a right  $S$ -module.



## Corollary

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring,  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  and  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ .  
TFAE:

- 1 The pair of functors  $(V \otimes_S -, U \otimes_R -)$  is a Frobenius pair;
- 2 There exists  $((e, h), (p, E))$  such that  $(e, h)$  (resp.  $(p, E)$ ) is a comodule dual basis of first kind (resp. second kind) for  $(U, V)$ .

## Corollary

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring,  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  and  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ . Assume that there exists  $(e, h)$  a comodule dual basis of first kind for  $(U, V)$ . Then:

- 1 The induction functor  $V \otimes_S - : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R^C\mathcal{M}$  is separable if and only if there exists  $E \in {}_S\text{Hom}_S(U \otimes_R V, S)$  such that  $E(e) = 1$ .
- 2 The induction functor  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  is separable if and only if there exists  $p \in {}_R^C\text{Hom}_R(C, V \otimes_S U)$  such that:

$$h(p(c_{(1)}) \otimes_R c_{(2)}) = \varepsilon(c)$$

for all  $c \in C$ .

The dual version of it:



## Corollary

Let  $R, S$  be two rings,  $C$  an  $R$ -coring,  $U \in {}_S\mathcal{M}_R$  and  $V \in {}_R^C\mathcal{M}_S$ . Assume that there exists  $(p, E)$  a comodule dual basis of second kind for  $(U, V)$ . Then:

- 1 The induction functor  $V \otimes_S - : {}_S\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_R^C\mathcal{M}$  is separable if and only if there exists an element  $e \in (U \otimes_R V)^S$  such that  $E(e) = 1$ .
- 2 The induction functor  $U \otimes_R - : {}_R^C\mathcal{M} \rightarrow {}_S\mathcal{M}$  is separable if and only if there exists  $h \in {}_R\text{Hom}_R(V \otimes_S U \otimes_R C, R)$  s.t.:

$$v_{\langle -1 \rangle} h(v_{\langle 0 \rangle} \otimes_S u \otimes_R c) = h(v \otimes_S u \otimes_R c_{(1)}) c_{(2)}$$

$$h(p(c_{(1)}) \otimes_R c_{(2)}) = \varepsilon(c)$$

for all  $v \in V, u \in U, c \in C$ .

## Remark

*The separability of the induction functor is still an **open problem** even for the category of modules (i.e. for the trivial coring  $C := R$ ): S. Caenepeel and L. Kadison (*K-Theory*, 2001) solved the problem only for **finitely generated and projective modules**.*

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