
Let R be a ring, let M be an R -module, and let $(M_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a descending family of R -submodules of M . Set

$$\hat{M} := \varprojlim_{j \in \mathbb{N}} M/M_j$$

and denote by $\hat{M}_j \subseteq \hat{M}$ the kernel of the projection $\hat{M} \rightarrow M/M_j$ onto the j -th component. We endow M and \hat{M} with the topology defined by the descending family of R -submodules $(M_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $(\hat{M}_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$, respectively. Further, we denote by $g : M \rightarrow \hat{M}$ the canonical R -linear map.

Problem 1 (4 points): Let N be an R -module which is Hausdorff and complete with respect to the topology defined by a descending family $(N_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ of R -submodules. Show that if $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$ is a continuous R -linear map then there is a unique continuous and R -linear map $\hat{\varphi} : \hat{M} \rightarrow N$ such that $\hat{\varphi} \circ g = \varphi$.

Hint: By continuity there is an increasing sequence $(i_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ of natural numbers i_j such that the composition of φ with the natural map $N \rightarrow N/N_j$ factors through M/M_{i_j} . Use the resulting maps $M/M_{i_j} \rightarrow N/N_j$ and the universal property of projective limits to construct an R -linear map $\hat{M} \rightarrow \varprojlim_j M/M_{i_j} \rightarrow \varprojlim_j N/N_j \cong N$.

Problem 2 (4 points): Show that the canonical map $g : M \rightarrow \hat{M}$ is continuous, i.e. inverse images of open subsets are open. Endow the image of g with the subspace topology of \hat{M} and show that the map $g : M \rightarrow g(M)$ is open, i.e. maps open sets to open sets. In particular, if M is Hausdorff then g is a homeomorphism onto its image.

Problem 3 (4 points): Endow each of the quotient modules M/M_j with the discrete topology and endow $\prod_{j \in \mathbb{N}} M/M_j$ with the product topology. Show that the topology of \hat{M} defined by the descending family $(\hat{M}_j)_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ of R -submodules coincides with the subspace topology of $\prod_{j \in \mathbb{N}} M/M_j$ and that \hat{M} is closed in $\prod_{j \in \mathbb{N}} M/M_j$. Use Tychonoff's theorem to deduce that the ring \mathbb{Z}_p of p -adic integers is a compact topological space.