



# A Krull-Schmidt type theorem for coherent sheaves

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## Abstract

Let  $X$  be projective variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$  and  $G$  be a finite group with  $\text{g.c.d.}(\text{char}(k), |G|) = 1$ . We prove that any representations of  $G$  on a coherent sheaf,  $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{E})$ , has a natural decomposition  $\mathcal{E} \simeq \bigoplus V \otimes_k \mathcal{F}_V$ , where  $G$  acts trivially on  $\mathcal{F}_V$  and the sum run over all irreducible representations of  $G$  over  $k$ .

## 1 Introduction

Let  $X$  be a complete variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$  and let  $G$  be a finite group with  $\text{char}(k)$  and  $|G|$  coprimes, thus the  $k$ -algebra  $k[G]$  is semisimple (not necessary commutative) of finite dimension  $|G|$  over  $k$ . Let  $\mathcal{O}_X[G] := \mathcal{O}_X \otimes_k k[G]$ . Thus, we can define the category  $\mathbf{A}$  where the objects are  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules, which are defined as pairs consisting of an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module  $\mathcal{E}$  together with a  $k$ -morphism of rings  $\rho : k[G] \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{E})$  and the morphisms are defined in the natural way. Clearly this an Abelian category. We say that an  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module  $\mathcal{E}$  is indecomposable if every direct decomposition of  $\mathcal{E}$  into  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules is trivial. From the Krull-Schmidt Theorem proved by Atiyah in [1], on a complete variety  $X$  every non-zero  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module  $\mathcal{E}$  has a direct sum decomposition into indecomposable  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules and this decomposition is unique up to permutations. The objective of this paper is to prove the next structure theorem for  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules.

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**Theorem 1.** *Let  $X$  be a complete variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module and suppose there is a surjective  $G$ -morphism*

$$\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow 0$$

*with  $\mathcal{F}$  torsion free. Let  $V_0, \dots, V_r$  be the irreducible representations of  $G$  over  $k$ . Then, there is a natural  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -isomorphism*

$$\mathcal{E} \simeq (V_0 \otimes_k \mathcal{E}_{V_0}) \oplus \dots \oplus (V_r \otimes_k \mathcal{E}_{V_r})$$

*where the action of  $G$  on  $\mathcal{E}_{V_i}$  is trivial for all  $i$ . In particular, if  $X$  is a projective variety, this is true for any coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module.*

## 2 Proof of Theorem 1

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field and  $G$  be a finite group. Then, for any field extension  $K$  of  $k$ , any  $K$ -representation of  $G$  is of the form  $V \otimes_k K$  with  $V$  a  $k$ -representation of  $G$ , unique up to  $G$ -isomorphisms.*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to prove the lemma for irreducible representations. By the corollary 3.61 in [2] page 68, any representation of the form  $V \otimes_k K$  is irreducible over  $K$  if  $V$  is irreducible over  $k$ , and by theorem 30.15 in [3] page 214 all those are different irreducible representations, then those are all the irreducible representations.  $\square$

**Definition 1.** Let  $X$  be an integral scheme over an algebraically closed field  $k$ ,  $K$  be the function field of  $X$  and  $\epsilon$  be the generic point. Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a torsion free coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module, and  $\mathcal{E}_\epsilon \simeq V \otimes_k K$  be the representation of  $G$  at the generic point, we define the type of the representation of  $G$  on  $\mathcal{E}$  as the isomorphisms class of the representation  $V$ . Also, if  $\mathcal{G}$  is any  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module, we define the isotypical decomposition of  $\mathcal{G}$  by the decomposition

$$\mathcal{G} = e_0 \mathcal{G} \oplus \dots \oplus e_r \mathcal{G}$$

where  $\{e_i\}$  are the respective idempotents of  $k[G]$ . Notice that  $e_V$  define an exact functor from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Now, the type of the representation and the isotypical decomposition are related by

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $X$  be a variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$ ,  $K$  be its function field and  $\epsilon$  be the generic point. Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a torsion free coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module of type  $V$ . Then*

$$e_i(\mathcal{E}_\epsilon) = e_i(V \otimes_k K) = (e_i \mathcal{E})_\epsilon$$

where  $e_i$  is the idempotent element on  $k[G]$  corresponding to the representation  $V_i$ . Furthermore, the isotypical decomposition of the  $K[G]$ -module  $\mathcal{E}_\epsilon$  is given by

$$\mathcal{E}_\epsilon = V \otimes_k K = \bigoplus_{i=0}^r (e_i \mathcal{E})_\epsilon$$

*Proof.* The first part of the theorem is an immediately consequence of the properties of the stalk at a point. The second part follows from lemma 1.  $\square$

**Lemma 3. (Characterization of free torsion  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules)** *Let  $X$  be a complete variety over an algebraically closed field  $k$ , let  $\mathcal{E}$  be an indecomposable torsion free coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module of  $W$  type. Then  $\mathcal{E} \simeq V \otimes_k \mathcal{F}$  with  $\mathcal{F}$  an indecomposable  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module and  $W \simeq V^{\oplus \text{rank} \mathcal{F}}$ , with  $V$  an irreducible representation.*

*In particular, if  $\mathcal{G}$  is a torsion free coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module of type  $V_0^{n_0} \oplus \dots \oplus V_r^{n_r}$ . Then the isotypical decomposition of  $\mathcal{G}$  is given by*

$$\mathcal{G} \simeq (V_0 \otimes_k \mathcal{G}_{V_0}) \oplus \dots \oplus (V_r \otimes_k \mathcal{G}_{V_r})$$

where  $\mathcal{G}_{V_i}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module of rank  $n_i$ .

*Proof.* As  $X$  is a complete variety, we can apply the Krull-Schmidt theorem for coherent sheaves proved in [1]. Thus, let  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{F}_1^{\oplus n_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{F}_r^{\oplus n_r}$  be the unique decomposition of  $\mathcal{E}$  into indecomposable  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules with  $\mathcal{F}_i \neq \mathcal{F}_j$ , if  $i \neq j$ . Hence, if  $g \in G$ ,  $g\mathcal{E} = g\mathcal{F}_1^{\oplus n_1} \oplus \dots \oplus g\mathcal{F}_r^{\oplus n_r}$  imply  $g\mathcal{F}_i = \mathcal{F}_j$  for some  $j$ , then  $\mathcal{F}_i \simeq \mathcal{F}_j$  and  $i = j$ . Now, any  $\mathcal{F}_i^{\oplus n_i}$  must be  $G$ -invariant but  $\mathcal{E}$  is an indecomposable  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module so  $r = 1$  and  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{F}^{\oplus n}$  with  $\mathcal{F}$  an indecomposable  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module.

Let  $W$  the type of the representation, therefore,  $W \simeq V^{\oplus s}$  with  $V$  irreducible. Thus, the next step is to show that  $s = \text{rank} \mathcal{F}$  and  $\dim V = n$ . For this, we consider the part of type  $V_0$  of  $V^\vee \otimes_k \mathcal{E}$ , where  $V^\vee$  is the dual representation of  $V$ , this is a direct summand of  $V^\vee \otimes_k \mathcal{E} \simeq \mathcal{F}^{\oplus n \cdot \dim V}$ , so this component must be  $\mathcal{F}^{\oplus i}$  for some  $i$ . Now, taking the composition of the canonical inclusion of  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module

$$V \otimes_k \mathcal{F}^{\oplus i} \simeq (V \otimes_k \mathcal{F})^{\oplus i} \longrightarrow (V \otimes_k V^\vee) \otimes_k \mathcal{E}$$

with the canonical map

$$(V \otimes_k V^\vee) \otimes_k \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}$$

we have an  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -morphism

$$\alpha : (V \otimes_k \mathcal{F})^{\oplus i} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \simeq \mathcal{F}^{\oplus n}$$

that is a  $K[G]$ -isomorphism at the generic point, so  $n = i \cdot \dim(V)$ . Now,  $\mathcal{F}$  is torsion free, so  $\alpha$  must be injective and we can apply the last corollary in [1], this corollary claim that, over a complete variety, an injective endomorphism is an isomorphism, but we are supposing that  $\mathcal{E}$  is an indecomposable  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module, then  $i = 1$  and  $\mathcal{E} \simeq V \otimes_k \mathcal{F}$  and the theorem follows.  $\square$

Now we have

*Proof of Theorem 1* From the hypotheses we have an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{K} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow 0,$$

with  $\mathcal{F}$  a coherent torsion free sheaf, thus we have that  $\mathcal{K}$  is torsion free.

On the other hand, for each  $T \in \mathcal{J}$  we have an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow e_T(\mathcal{K}) \longrightarrow e_T(\mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow e_T(\mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow 0$$

and from Lemma 2 above, there are unique sheaves  $\mathcal{K}_T$  and  $\mathcal{F}_T$  such that  $e_T(\mathcal{K}) \simeq T \otimes \mathcal{K}_T$  and  $e_T(\mathcal{F}) \simeq T \otimes \mathcal{F}_T$ , thus we have the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow T \otimes_k \mathcal{K}_T \longrightarrow T \otimes_k \mathcal{F}_T \longrightarrow e_T(\mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow 0 \quad (1)$$

applying the exact functor  $e_0(T^\vee \otimes_k -)$  we obtain

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_T \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_T \longrightarrow e_0(T^\vee \otimes_k e_T(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow 0$$

and applying  $T \otimes_k -$

$$0 \longrightarrow T \otimes_k \mathcal{K}_T \longrightarrow T \otimes_k \mathcal{F}_T \longrightarrow T \otimes_k e_0(T^\vee \otimes_k e_T(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow 0 \quad (2)$$

but the first morphism in sequences 1 and 2 are the same, then both have the same cokernel, then  $e_T(\mathcal{E}) \simeq T \otimes_k e_0(T^\vee \otimes_k e_T(\mathcal{E}))$  and the first part of the Theorem is proved.

On the other hand, if  $X$  is projective, for any coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  there is an exact sequence

$$\widehat{\mathcal{F}} \xrightarrow{\widehat{\phi}} \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow 0$$

of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules with  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}$  locally free (see [5] II 5.18). Therefore, when  $\mathcal{E}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -module, we can construct an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_X[G]$ -modules

$$\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathcal{E} \rightarrow 0$$

with  $\mathcal{F} = k[G] \otimes \widehat{\mathcal{F}}$ ,  $\phi(\sum a \cdot g) \otimes f \mapsto \sum a \cdot g\widehat{\phi}(f)$ . Then the Theorem follows.  $\square$

## References

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