

**STABLE CATEGORIES OF COHEN-MACAULAY MODULES**  
**ICTP, JANUARY 2010**

OSAMU IYAMA

In this series of lectures I will give an introduction to representation theory of Cohen-Macaulay modules over orders based on the fundamental articles [A, A2] due to Auslander. The definition is quite simple.

**Definition 0.1.** Let  $R$  be a complete regular local ring of Krull dimension  $d$ , for instance, the formal power series ring  $k[[x_1, \dots, x_d]]$  over a field  $k$ .

- (a) We say that an  $R$ -algebra  $\Lambda$  is an  $R$ -order if  $\Lambda$  is a free  $R$ -module of finite rank.
- (b) We say that a  $\Lambda$ -module  $X$  is *Cohen-Macaulay (CM)* if  $X$  is a free  $R$ -module of finite rank.

The following three examples are fundamental:

- ( $d = 0$ ) finite dimensional modules over finite dimensional algebras over fields [ARS, ASS],
- ( $d = 1$ ) lattices over orders over complete discrete valuation rings [CR1, CR2],
- maximal Cohen-Macaulay modules over commutative complete local Cohen-Macaulay rings [Y].

We denote by  $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$  the category of CM  $\Lambda$ -modules. This category behaves quite similarly to the categories of finite dimensional modules over finite dimensional algebras. Let us give some of basic properties of  $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$ .

- $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$  is Krull-Schmidt,
- we have a *canonical duality*

$$\text{Hom}_R(-, R) : \text{CM}(\Lambda) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{CM}(\Lambda^{\text{op}}), \quad (1)$$

- $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$  is a resolving subcategory of  $\text{mod } \Lambda$ ,
- $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$  is an exact category with enough projectives add  $\Lambda$  and enough injectives add  $\text{Hom}_R(\Lambda, R)$ .

The *stable category*

$$\underline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda) \quad (\text{respectively, } \overline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda))$$

is defined as the factor category of  $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$  by the ideal generated by  $\Lambda$  (respectively,  $\text{Hom}_R(\Lambda, R)$ ). The stable categories play more and more important role in representation theory and related subjects, e.g. [O, KST, LP, IY, KMV].

The Auslander-Reiten theory on  $\text{CM}(\Lambda)$  was developed under the following condition:

**Definition 0.2.** We say that an  $R$ -order  $\Lambda$  is an *isolated singularity* if

$$\text{gl.dim}(\Lambda \otimes_R R_{\mathfrak{p}}) = \text{Krull.dim} R_{\mathfrak{p}}$$

for any non-maximal prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $R$ .

If  $d = 0$ , then the condition is always satisfied. If  $d = 1$ , then the condition means that  $\Lambda \otimes_R K$  is a semisimple  $K$ -algebra for the quotient field  $K$  of  $R$ .

For an  $R$ -order  $\Lambda$  which is an isolated singularity, CM modules have another meaning given in stable module theory [ABr]: We say that a finitely generated  $\Lambda$ -module  $X$  is  *$n$ -torsionfree* for a positive integer  $n$  if

$$\text{Ext}_{\Lambda}^i(\text{Tr } X, \Lambda) = 0$$

for any  $0 < i \leq n$ , where

$$\text{Tr} : \underline{\text{mod}} \Lambda \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{\text{mod}} \Lambda^{\text{op}}$$

is Auslander-Bridger transpose duality [ABr]. We denote by  $\mathcal{F}_n(\Lambda)$  the category of  $n$ -torsionfree  $\Lambda$ -modules. Then we have a duality [ABr]

$$\Omega^n \text{Tr} : \underline{\mathcal{F}}_n(\Lambda) \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{\mathcal{F}}_n(\Lambda^{\text{op}}), \quad (2)$$

on the stable category  $\underline{\mathcal{F}}_n(\Lambda)$  of  $\mathcal{F}_n(\Lambda)$ , where  $\Omega : \underline{\text{mod}}\Lambda \rightarrow \underline{\text{mod}}\Lambda$  is the syzygy functor. The following observation plays a crucial role.

**Proposition 0.3.** [A] *Let  $\Lambda$  be an  $R$ -order which is an isolated singularity.*

- (a)  $\text{CM}(\Lambda) = \mathcal{F}_d(\Lambda)$ .
- (b)  $\underline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda)$  is Hom-finite.

Now we have the following fundamental equivalence.

**Definition-Theorem 0.4.** *Composing dualities (1) and (2) we have an equivalence*

$$\tau : \underline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda) \xrightarrow{\Omega^d \text{Tr}} \underline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda^{\text{op}}) \xrightarrow{\text{Hom}_R(-, R)} \overline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda)$$

called the Auslander-Reiten translation.

Using  $\tau$  we have Auslander-Reiten duality and existence theorem of almost split sequences as in the case of finite dimensional algebras.

In the lecture I will explain the following subjects:

- orders in dimension 1: hereditary orders and Bass orders [CR1, CR2],
- Auslander-Reiten theory using  $\tau : \underline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda) \rightarrow \overline{\text{CM}}(\Lambda)$  [A, A2],
- tilting theory aspects of CM modules: Auslander-Buchweitz approximation [ABu],
- orders in dimension 2: fundamental sequences and algebraic McKay correspondence [A3],
- triangulated categories associated with orders,
- toward higher dimensional Auslander-Reiten theory via cluster tilting [I].

#### REFERENCES

- [ASS] I. Assem, D. Simson, A. Skowroński, *Elements of the representation theory of associative algebras. Vol. 1. Techniques of representation theory*, London Mathematical Society Student Texts, 65. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2006.
- [A] M. Auslander, *Functors and morphisms determined by objects*, Representation theory of algebras (Proc. Conf., Temple Univ., Philadelphia, Pa., 1976), pp. 1–244. Lecture Notes in Pure Appl. Math., Vol. 37, Dekker, New York, 1978.
- [A2] M. Auslander, *Isolated singularities and existence of almost split sequences*, Representation theory, II (Ottawa, Ont., 1984), 194–242, Lecture Notes in Math., 1178, Springer, Berlin, 1986.
- [A3] M. Auslander, *Rational singularities and almost split sequences*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **293** (1986), no. 2, 511–531.
- [ABr] M. Auslander, M. Bridger, *Stable module theory*, Memoirs of the American Mathematical Society, No. 94 American Mathematical Society, Providence, R.I. 1969.
- [ABu] M. Auslander, R-O. Buchweitz, *The homological theory of maximal Cohen-Macaulay approximations*, Colloque en l'honneur de Pierre Samuel (Orsay, 1987). Mem. Soc. Math. France (N.S.) No. **38** (1989), 5–37.
- [ARS] M. Auslander, I. Reiten, S. O. Smalø, *Representation theory of Artin algebras*, Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics, **36**. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1995.
- [CR1] C. W. Curtis and I. Reiner, *Methods of Representation Theory. I. With Applications to Finite Groups and Orders*. Pure and Applied Mathematics. Wiley-Interscience Publication, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1981. C. W. Curtis and I. Reiner,
- [CR2] C. W. Curtis and I. Reiner, *Methods of Representation Theory. II. With Applications to Finite Groups and Orders*. Pure and Applied Mathematics. Wiley-Interscience Publication, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1987.
- [I] O. Iyama, *Auslander-Reiten theory revisited*, Trends in representation theory of algebras and related topics, 349–397, EMS Ser. Congr. Rep., Eur. Math. Soc., Zürich, 2008.
- [IY] O. Iyama, Y. Yoshino, *Mutation in triangulated categories and rigid Cohen-Macaulay modules*, Invent. Math. **172** (2008), no. 1, 117–168.
- [KST] H. Kajiura, K. Saito, A. Takahashi, *Matrix factorization and representations of quivers. II. Type ADE case*, Adv. Math. **211** (2007), no. 1, 327–362.
- [KMV] B. Keller, D. Murfet, M. Van den Bergh, *On two examples by Iyama and Yoshino*, arXiv:0803.0720.
- [LP] H. Lenzing, J. A. de la Peña, *Extended canonical algebras and Fuchsian singularities*, arXiv:math/0611532.
- [O] D. Orlov, *Derived Categories of Coherent Sheaves and Triangulated Categories of Singularities*, arXiv:math/0503632.
- [Y] Y. Yoshino, *Cohen-Macaulay modules over Cohen-Macaulay rings*, London Mathematical Society Lecture Note Series, 146. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1990.

O. IYAMA: GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS, NAGOYA UNIVERSITY, CHIKUSA-KU, NAGOYA, 464-8602 JAPAN  
*E-mail address:* iyama@math.nagoya-u.ac.jp