

# The Schröder - Bernstein Problem for modules

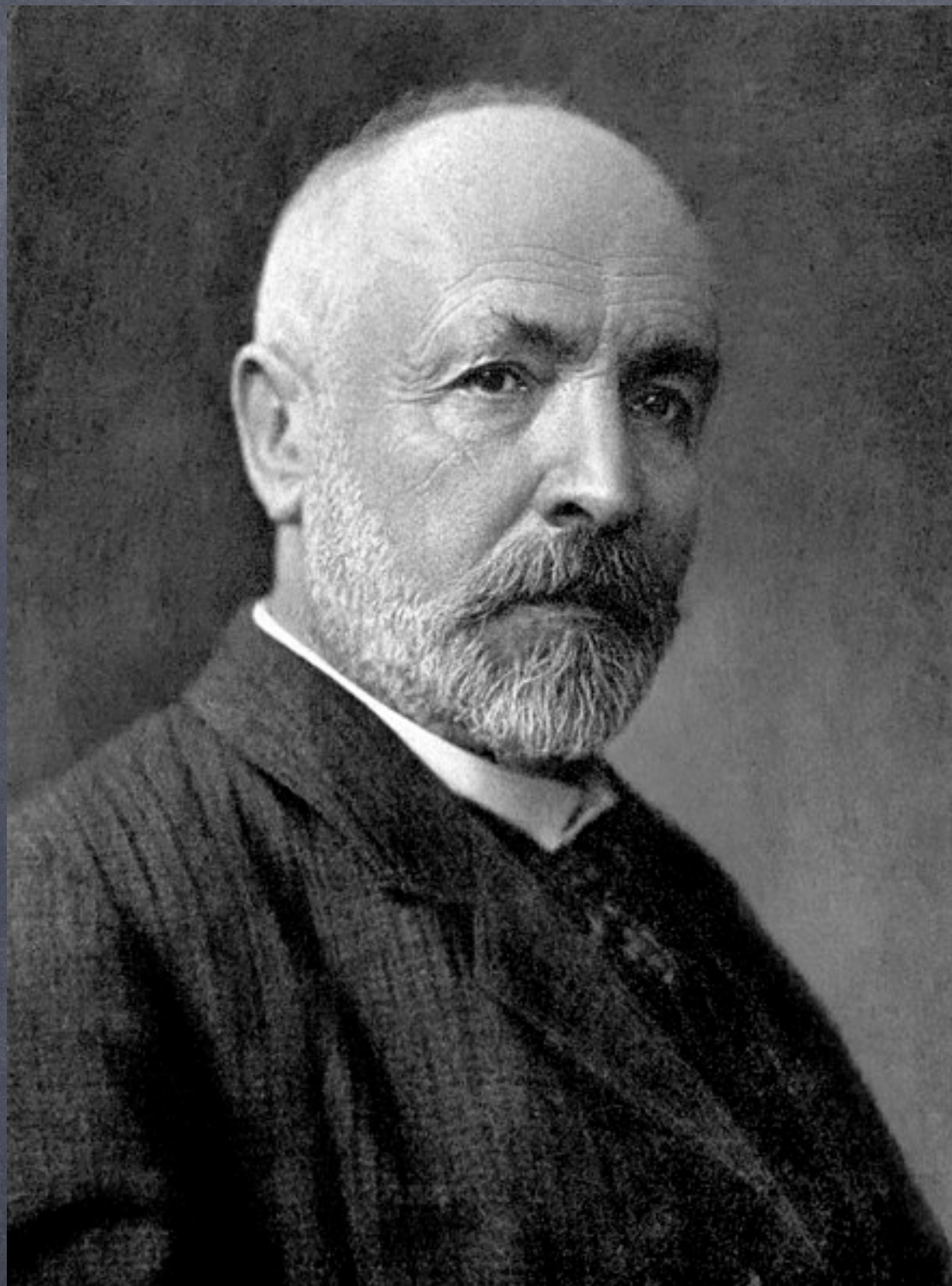
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E. SCHRÖDER. *Ac. P. 11*



If  $A$  and  $B$  are two sets  
such that there is a one-one  
function from  $A$  into  $B$  and  
a one-one function from  $B$  into  $A$   
then there is a bijective map  
between  $A$  and  $B$ .

This type of problem where one asks if two mathematical objects  $A$  and  $B$  which are similar in some sense to a part of each other are also similar themselves is usually called the Schröder-Bernstein problem.

# Schröder-Bernstein problem for groups

$$G_1 \xrightarrow{\text{mono.}} G_2, \quad G_2 \xrightarrow{\text{mono.}} G_1$$

Is  $G_1 \cong G_2$  ?

No.

Schröder-Bernstein problem for  
topological spaces:



Is  $\overline{\Sigma}_1 \cong \Sigma_2$  ?

No.

Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be two Banach spaces such that each one is a complemented subspace of the other. Is  $B_1 \cong B_2$ ?

No. (W. T. Gowers, 1996)

# Schröder-Bernstein problem for

modules:

Let  $M$  and  $N$  be modules such

that  $M \xrightarrow{\text{mono.}} N$ ,  $N \xrightarrow{\text{mono.}} M$ .

Is  $M \cong N$ ?

No.  $M = \bigoplus_{i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}_{2^i}$ ,  $N = \bigoplus_{i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}_{4^i}$



Bumby, 1965.

- Schröder-Bernstein problem has a positive answer for modules that are invariant under endomorphisms of their injective envelopes (i.e. quasi-injective).

Müller and Rizvi, 1983:

- The Schröder - Bernstein problem has a positive answer for the class of continuous modules.

Guil Asensio, Kaleboğaz, S. (2017)

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• We obtained a positive answer for the Schröder-Bernstein problem for modules invariant under endomorphisms of their general envelopes under some mild conditions.

Guil Asensio, Kaleboğaz, S. (2017)

- The Schröder-Bernstein problem has a positive answer for modules that are invariant only under automorphisms of their injective envelopes or pure-injective envelopes.

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a class of right  $R$ -modules closed under isomorphisms and direct summands.

An  $\mathcal{X}$ -preenvelope of a module  $M$  is a homomorphism  $u: M \rightarrow X, X \in \mathcal{X}$  such that any  $f: M \rightarrow X', X' \in \mathcal{X}$  factors through  $u$ .

A preenvelope  $u: M \longrightarrow X$  is called an  $\mathcal{X}$ -envelope if it is minimal in the sense that any

$h: X \longrightarrow X$  such that  $h \circ u = u$

must be an automorphism.

A module  $M$  having a monomorphic  $\chi$ -envelope  $u: M \rightarrow X(M)$  is said to be  $\chi$ -automorphism invariant (resp.  $\chi$ -endomorphism invariant) if for any automorphism (resp. endomorphism)

$$\varphi: X(M) \rightarrow X(M), \quad \exists f: M \rightarrow M$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 M & \xrightarrow{\quad f \quad} & M \\
 u \downarrow & & \downarrow u \\
 X(M) & \xrightarrow{\quad \varphi \quad} & X(M)
 \end{array}
 \quad u \circ f = \varphi \circ u$$

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# Invariance of Modules under Automorphisms of their Envelopes and Covers

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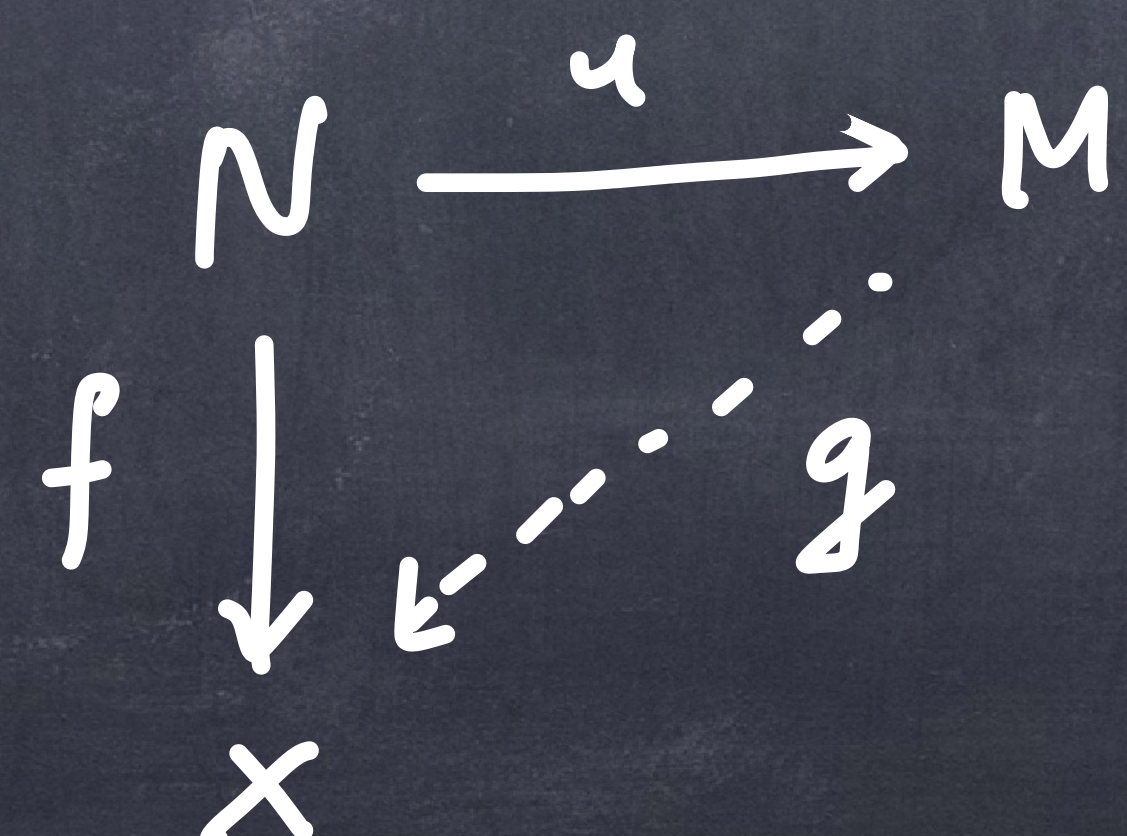
LONDON  
MATHEMATICAL  
SOCIETY  
1965-1975

CAMBRIDGE



A homomorphism  $u: N \longrightarrow M$  is called  $\mathcal{X}$ -strongly pure monomorphism

if any homomorphism  $f: N \longrightarrow X$  with  $X \in \mathcal{X}$  extends to a homomorphism  $g: M \longrightarrow X$  such that  $g \circ u = f$ .



- A submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is called an  $\chi$ -strongly pure submodule if  $i: N \rightarrow M$  is an  $\chi$ -strongly pure monomorphism.

Given a module  $M$ ,  
add  $[M] :=$  the class of all direct  
summands of finite direct sums of

copies of  $M$ .

- $M$  is called  $\lambda$ -strongly purely closed  
if any direct limit of splitting mono.  
among objects in add  $[M]$  is  $\lambda$ -strongly pure  
mono.

For example,

- $\mathcal{X} :=$  class of all (pure-) injective modules  
Any module is  $\mathcal{X}$ -strongly purely closed.

- $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{C})$ , a cotorsion pair  
Any object in  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{C}$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -strongly  
purely closed.

Theorem: Let  $M \in \mathcal{X}$  be an  $\mathcal{X}$ -strongly  
purely closed module and  $N \in \mathcal{X}$ , an

$\mathcal{X}$ -strongly pure submodule of  $M$ .

If  $\exists$  an  $\mathcal{X}$ -strongly pure monomorphism

$u: M \rightarrow N$ , then  $M \cong N$ .

Corollary:

1. If  $E$  is (pure-) injective and  $E'$  (pure-) injective (pure-) submodule of  $E$  such that  $\exists$  a monomorphism  $u: E \rightarrow E'$ , then  $E \cong E'$ .

2. If  $E$  is a flat cotorsion module  
and  $E'$ , a pure submodule of  $E$   
such that  $E'$  is also flat cotorsion  
and there exists a pure monomorphism  
 $u: E \rightarrow E'$ , then  $E \cong E'$ .

Theorem: Let  $M, N$  be two  $\chi$ -endomorphism invariant modules with monomorphic  $\chi$ -envelopes  $v_M: M \rightarrow \chi(M)$  and  $v_N: N \rightarrow \chi(N)$

Assume that  $N$  is strongly purely closed and  $M$  is an  $\chi$ -strongly pure-submodule of  $N$ . If  $\exists$  an  $\chi$ -strongly pure mono.

$u: N \rightarrow M$ , then  $M \cong N$ .



Corollary:

1. (Bumby) If  $M$  and  $N$  are quasi-injective modules such that there is a monomorphism from  $M$  to  $N$  and a monomorphism from  $N$  to  $M$ , then  $M \cong N$ .

2. If  $M$  and  $N$  are pure-quasi-injective  
modules such that there is a  
pure monomorphism from  $M$  to  $N$   
and pure monomorphism from  $N$  to  $M$ ,  
then  $M \cong N$ .

3. If  $M$  and  $N$  are flat modules invariant under endomorphisms of their cotorsion envelopes such that there is a pure monomorphism from  $M$  to  $N$  and a pure monomorphism from  $N$  to  $M$ , then  $M \cong N$ .

Theorem: Let  $M$  and  $N$  be  
automorphism-invariant modules

and let  $f: M \rightarrow N$  and  
 $g: N \rightarrow M$  be monomorphisms.

Then  $M \cong N$ .

Proof: By Burnby,  $E(M) \cong E(N)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} M & \xrightarrow{f} & f(M) & \xrightarrow{u} & N & \xrightarrow{g} & M \\ & & \downarrow l_M & & & & \\ & & M & \xleftarrow{\varphi} & & & \end{array}$$

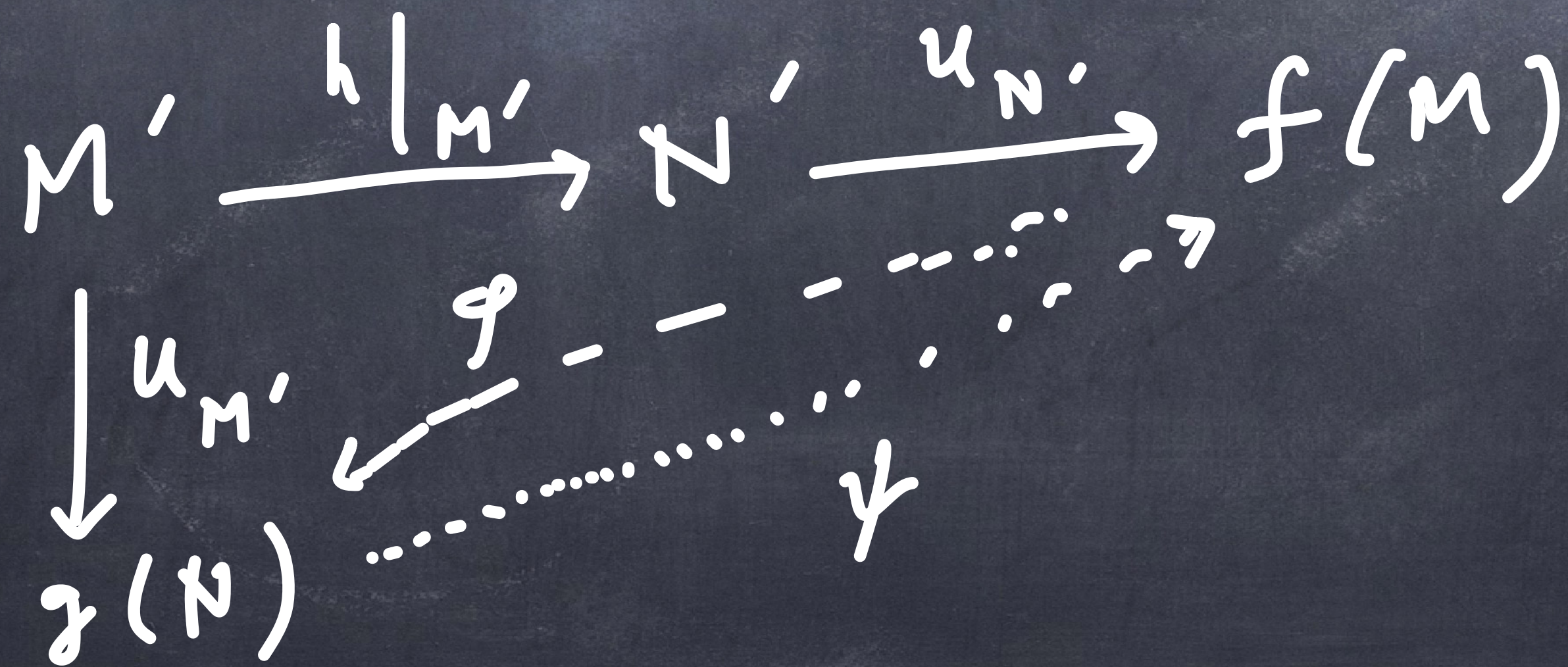
$$\varphi \circ g \circ u \circ f = l_M$$

$\Rightarrow u: f(M) \rightarrow N$  splits and so  $f(M)$  is a direct summand of  $N$ .

Similarly,  $g(N)$  is a direct summand of  $M$ .

Let  $h: E(g(N)) \rightarrow E(f(M))$  be an isomorphism. Call  $M' = h^{-1}(f(M) \cap g(N)$

and  $N' = h(g(N) \cap f(M))$



$$\psi \circ u_{M'} = u_N \circ h|_{M'}$$

$$\varphi \circ u_{N'} = u_{M'} \circ h'|_{N'}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 M' & \xrightarrow{h|_{M'}} & N' & \xrightarrow{h'|_{N'}} & M' \\
 \downarrow u_{M'} & & \downarrow u_{N'} & & \downarrow u_{M'} \\
 & & f(M) & \longrightarrow & g(N) \\
 & & \uparrow & & \\
 g(N) & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$\varphi \circ \psi \circ u_{M'} = \varphi \circ u_{N'} \circ h|_{M'} = u_{M'} \circ h'^{-1}|_{N'} \circ h|_{M'} = u_{M'}$$

$$(1_{g(N)} - \varphi \circ \psi) \circ u_{M'} = 0$$

As  $u_{M'}$  is monic, we deduce that  $1_{g(N)} - \varphi \circ \psi$  has essential kernel. So,

$$1_{g(N)} - \varphi \circ \psi \in J(\text{End}(g(N)))$$

$\Rightarrow \varphi \circ \psi$  is an isomorphism.

Similarly  $\psi \circ \varphi$  is an isomorphism



Thus,  $\varphi: f(M) \longrightarrow g(N)$  is an isomorphism. As  $M \cong f(M)$ , and

$N \cong g(N)$ , we have

$$M \cong N$$

Corollary: Let  $M, N$  be two modules  
invariant under automorphisms of  
their pure-injective envelopes.

Let  $f: M \rightarrow N$  and  $g: N \rightarrow M$  be  
pure monomorphisms. Then  $M \cong N$ .

Question: Does the Schröder-Bernstein  
Problem have positive answer for those  
 $\lambda$ -automorphism-invariant modules  
for which the endomorphism ring of  
their  $\lambda$ -envelope is right cotorsion.

Question: Let  $M_1, M_2$  be two flat modules invariant under automorphisms of their cotorsion envelopes such that

$$M_1 \xrightarrow{\text{mono.}} M_2, \quad M_2 \xleftarrow{\text{mono.}} M_1$$

Is  $M_1 \cong M_2$  ?

