

Some Ring Theory Class Notes

Class March 12

Conventions regarding 1 (multiplicative unity):

1. Every ring R has a multiplicative unity denoted by 1 or 1_R such that $1 * a = a * 1 \forall a \in R$. Note: $1 = 0$ in $R \Leftrightarrow R = \{0\}$ because $\forall a \in R: a = a * 1 = a * 0 = 0$.
2. Any subring S of R must contain 1_R . For subring, check

- (a) $1_R \in S$
- (b) $a \in S \implies -a \in S$
- (c) $a, b \in S \implies a + b \in S$
- (d) $a, b \in S \implies ab \in S$

Note: An ideal I of R is a subring if and only if $I = R$ ($1 \in I \implies a = a * 1 \in I \forall a \in R$).

Example 0.1. $R \times \{0\} = \{(a, 0) \mid a \in R\}$ is not a subring of $R \times R$ if $R \neq \{0\}$ since $(1, 1) \notin R \times \{0\}$. But $\{(a, a) \mid a \in R\}$ is a subring of $R \times R$.

3. For any ring homomorphism $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ we require $\varphi(1_R) = 1_S$. Note that this is not a consequence of the other ring homomorphism properties:

- (a) $\varphi(a + b) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) \forall a, b \in R$
- (b) $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b) \forall a, b \in R$

$\varphi(0) = 0$ is a consequence of (a): $\varphi(0) = \varphi(0+0) = \varphi(0) + \varphi(0) \implies 0 = \varphi(0)$. For multiplication, $\varphi(1) = \varphi(1 * 1) = \varphi(1) * \varphi(1)$ does not necessarily imply $1 = \varphi(1)$ since $\varphi(1)$ need not have a multiplicative inverse in S .

Example 0.2. $\varphi : R \rightarrow R \times R$ which maps $a \rightarrow (a, 0)$ is NOT a ring homomorphism since $\varphi(1_R) = (1_R, 0) \neq 1_{R \times R}$ if $R \neq \{0\}$

Example 0.3. $\psi : R \rightarrow R \times R$ which maps $a \rightarrow (a, a)$ is a ring homomorphism.

4. For an integral domain R (commutative without zero divisors) we also require $1 \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow R \neq \{0\}$ (neither integral domain nor a field)

Example 0.4. (a) of fields: \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{Z}_p (p prime), \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{C} . $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) := \{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ subfield of \mathbb{R} . Check: $0 \neq x \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \implies x^{-1} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ (need $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$).

- (b) of integral domains which are not fields: \mathbb{Z} , when n is a prime $\implies \mathbb{Z}_n$ is an integral domain, but also a field. When n is not a prime $\implies \mathbb{Z}_n$ has zero divisors and isn't an integral domain. Specifically $\exists l, m \in \mathbb{N}, 1 < l, m < n$ such that $n = lm \rightsquigarrow$ (modulo n). $[0] = [n] = [lm] = [l][m]$ in \mathbb{Z}_n (such that $[l] \neq [0]$ and $[m] \neq [0]$).

- (c) $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ subring of \mathbb{C} ; $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$ is a subring of \mathbb{R} .

- (d) commutative rings which are not integral domains. \mathbb{Z}_n , n is not prime. $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ has zero divisors e.g. $(1, 0) * (0, 1) = (0, 0)$.

- (e) of non-commutative rings:

- i. $M(n, R)$, $n \geq 2$ and R any ring $\neq \{0\}$. $\exists A, B \in M(n, R)$ such that $AB \neq BA$
- ii. Hamilton's quaternions $\mathbb{H} = \{a + bi + cj + dk \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\} (\cong \mathbb{R}^4 \text{ as abelian group})$.
Multiplication is induced by that \mathbb{Q} and distributive laws \rightsquigarrow example of skew field or division ring.

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Remark 0.5. Units. $(R^* =) U(R) := \{a \in R \mid \exists b \in R \text{ s.t. } ab = ba = 1\}$

1. There can only be one $b \in R$ with $ab = ba = 1$. In fact, if $ba = 1 = ab = ab'$ for some $b' \in R$
 $\implies (ba)b = (ba)b' \implies 1b = 1b' \implies b = b'$. Notation: $a \in U(R)$ $ab = ba = 1 \rightsquigarrow b = a^{-1}$
multiplicative inverse.
2. For non-commutative R , $ab = 1$ usually does not imply $ba = 1$. However, if $\exists c \in R$ with $ca = 1$,
then $c = b$ and hence also $ba = 1$. This is seen by $c = c * 1 = c(a * b) = (ca)b = 1 * b = b$.
3. $U(R)$ is closed under multiplication and $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$ for $ab \in U(R)$. Immediately checks
that $(U(R), *)$ is a group.
4. $a, b \in R$ are called zero divisors if $a, b \neq 0$ but $ab = 0$. $U(R) \cap \{\text{zero divisors}\} = \emptyset$.

Example 0.6. 1. F field (or skew field) $\implies U(F) = F \setminus \{0\} =: F^*$

2. $U(\mathbb{Z}) = \{1, -1\}$. $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\} \implies U(\mathbb{Z}[i]) = \{1, -1, i, -i\} = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \mid |x| = 1\}$
3. $U(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \{[a] \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid \gcd(a, n) = 1\}$. Notation $U(\mathbb{Z}_n) = U(n)$.
4. $U(R \times S) = U(R) \times U(S)$ (direct product groups). $(a, b) \implies (a, b)^{-1} = (a^{-1}, b^{-1})$.
5. $U(M(n, F)) = GL(n, F) = \{A \in M(n, F) \mid \det(A) \neq 0\}$

Remark 0.7. The Center (of a Ring). $Z(R) := \{z \in R \mid za = az \forall a \in R\}$. This is a subring of R :

1. $1 \in Z(R)$ since $a * 1 = 1 * a = a \forall a \in R$
2. $z \in Z(R) \implies -z \in Z(R)$: $-z * a = -(za) = -(az) = a * (-z) \forall a \in R$.
3. $y, z \in Z(R) \implies y + z \in Z(R)$: $(y + z)a = ya + za = ay + az = a(y + z) \forall a \in R$.
4. $y, z \in Z(R) \implies yz \in Z(R)$. $(yz)a = y(za) = y(az) = (ya)z = (ay)z = a(yz) \forall a \in R$.

Remark 0.8. Integral Multiples (of element of R). For $a \in R$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, we define $n * a :=$ if
 $n > 0$, $a + \dots + a$, if $n = 0$, 0 n -times and if $n < 0$, $(-a) + \dots + (-a)$ n -times.

Note: $n > 0$: $a + \dots + a = 1_R a + \dots + 1_R a$. $a(1_R + \dots + 1_R) = (n * 1_R)a$. If $n < 0$, $n * a = (-a) + \dots + (-a) = ((-1_R) + \dots + (-1_R))a = (n * 1_R)a$. Always, $n * a = (n * 1_R)a \forall a \in R \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Remark 0.9. More rules:

1. $a \in Z(R)$ (e.g. $a = 1_R$), then $n * a \in Z(R) \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$ since $Z(R)$ is a subring of R .
2. $(-n) * a = -(n * a) \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, a \in R$

3. $1 * a = a \forall a \in R$ by definition
4. $n * (a + b) = n * a + n * b \forall n \in \mathbb{Z} \forall a, b \in R$ (follows from $(R, +)$ is an abelian group).
5. $(n + m) * a = n * a + m * a$
6. $(nm) * (ab) = (n * a)(m * b) \forall n, m \in \mathbb{Z} \forall a, b \in R$.
7. $(nm) * a = n * (m * a) \forall n, m \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall a \in R$.

Definition 0.10. For any ring R , there is a unique ring homomorphism $\varphi = \varphi_R : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R$ which maps $1 \rightarrow 1_R$. Must have $\varphi(1) = 1_R$.

If $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n > 0$ then $\varphi(n) = \varphi(1 + \dots + 1) = \varphi(1) + \dots + \varphi(1) = 1_R + \dots + 1_R = n * 1_R$. $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $n < 0$, then $\varphi(n) = -\varphi(-n) = -\varphi(1 + \dots + 1) = -(-n * 1_R) = n * 1_R$. Therefore, the only possible ring homomorphism is $\varphi_R : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R$ (which maps $n \rightarrow n * 1_R$) $\ni \varphi(n) = n * 1_R \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Now, we check $\varphi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R$ which maps $n \rightarrow n * 1_R$ is in fact a ring homomorphism:

1. $\varphi(1) = 1_R$ by definition
2. $\varphi(n + m) = (n + m)1_R = n * 1_R + m * 1_R = \varphi(n) + \varphi(m) \forall n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$.
3. $\varphi(n * m) = (nm)1_R = (nm)(1_R * 1_R) = n1_R * m1_R = \varphi(n)\varphi(m) \forall n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Note: φ ring hom $\implies \varphi(\mathbb{Z}) = \{n * 1_R \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is a subring of R . Moreover, $\varphi(\mathbb{Z}) \subseteq Z(R)$ since $n * 1_R \in Z(R) \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}$. The kernel of φ_R is an ideal of \mathbb{Z} . Hence, $\text{Kern}(\varphi_R) = n\mathbb{Z}$ for a unique $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

Definition 0.11. The characteristic of R is defined as $\text{char}(R) = n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with $\text{Kern}(\varphi_R) = n\mathbb{Z}$. Alternatively, $\text{char}(R) = 0 \Leftrightarrow m * 1_R \neq 0 \forall m > 0$. $\text{char}(R) = n > 0 \Leftrightarrow n * 1_R = 0$ and $m * 1_R \neq 0 \forall 1 \leq m < n$.

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Remark 0.12. Some review! For any given ring R with 1, \exists unique ring homomorphism $\varphi_R : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R$ which maps $m \rightarrow m * 1_R$. It is important to note that $\varphi_R(\mathbb{Z})$ is a subring of R , $\varphi_R(\mathbb{Z}) \subseteq Z(R)$, and $\text{Kern}(\varphi_R)$ is an ideal of $\mathbb{Z} \implies \exists$ unique $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ with $\text{Kern}(\varphi_R) = n\mathbb{Z}$. (For notation purposes, $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$)

Definition 0.13. If $\text{Kern}(\varphi_R) = n\mathbb{Z}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, then n is called the characteristic of R , $\text{char}(R) = n$. An alternative characterization:

1. $m * 1_R \neq 0 \forall m \in \mathbb{N} \Leftrightarrow \text{char}(R) = 0$
2. n is the smallest natural number with $n * 1_R = 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{char}(R) = n$.

Example 0.14. 1. $\text{char}(\mathbb{Z}) = 0$ ($\varphi_{\mathbb{Z}} = \text{id}_{\mathbb{Z}}$) $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$ are all fields of characteristic 0 and $\text{char}(\mathbb{Z}[i]) = 0$

2. $\text{char}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varphi_{\mathbb{Z}_n} : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$ which maps $m \rightarrow [m]$

3. if p is prime, then \mathbb{Z}_p is a field of characteristic p .

Remark 0.15. If S is a subring of R , then $\text{char}(S) = \text{char}(R)$

Proof. $1_S = 1_R \implies \varphi_S(m) = \varphi_R(m) = m * 1_R \forall m \in \mathbb{Z} \implies \text{char}(S) = \text{char}(R)$ □

Definition 0.16. Any ring R has a unique smallest subring called the prime subring R_0 of R , namely $R_0 = \varphi_R(\mathbb{Z}) = \{m \cdot 1_R \mid m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and any subring of R must contain 1_R and hence $\{m \cdot 1_R \mid m \in \mathbb{Z}\} = R_0$

Theorem 0.17. *1st Isomorphism Theorem for Rings:* If $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ is a ring homomorphism, then $\text{Kern}(\varphi)$ is an ideal of R and $R/\text{Kern}(\varphi) \cong \varphi(R) (\subseteq S)$.

Proof. On the level of abelian groups, the map $\hat{\varphi} : R/\text{Kern}(\varphi) \rightarrow \varphi(R)$ which maps $a + \text{Kern}(\varphi) \rightarrow \varphi(a)$. This map is a well-defined isomorphism (see 1.2.2). We want a ring homomorphism. Therefore, we have to check that $\hat{\varphi}$ is also multiplicative. $\hat{\varphi}((a + K)(b + K)) = \hat{\varphi}(ab + K) = \varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b) = \hat{\varphi}(a + K)\hat{\varphi}(b + K)$ \square

Proposition 0.18. R ring with prime subring R_0 . If $\text{char}(R) = 0$, then $R_0 \cong \mathbb{Z}$. If $\text{char}(R) = n > 0$, then $R_0 \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$

Proof. $\varphi_R : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R$ with $\text{Kern}(\varphi_R) = n\mathbb{Z}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $n = \text{char}(R)$. $R_0 := \varphi_R(\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/\text{Kern}(\varphi_R) = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}$ if $n < 0$ and \mathbb{Z}_n if $n \geq 0$ \square

Remark 0.19. R is an integral domain \rightarrow By definition, R is commutative ($w/ 1 \neq 0$).

Corollary 0.20. If R is an integral domain, then either $\text{char}(R) = 0$ or $\text{char}(R)$ is a prime number.

Proof. R_0 , as a subring of an integral domain must be an integral domain itself. But by the previous proposition, $R_0 \cong \mathbb{Z} \implies \text{char}(R) = 0$ (integral domain) or $R_0 \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$ with $\text{char}(R) = n$, but \mathbb{Z}_n is an integral domain $\Leftrightarrow n$ is prime (implies zero divisors). $a, b \in R$ are zero divisors $\Leftrightarrow a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$ and $ab = 0$ $n = ml$, $1 < m, l < n \implies [m], [l]$ are zero divisors in $\mathbb{Z}_n \implies [m][l] = [n] = [0]$. \square

Ideals. R ring with 1.

Definition 0.21. Repetition. A subset $I \subseteq R$ is called an ideal of R if (1) $0 \in I$ (2) $a, b \in I \implies a + b \in I$ (3) $r \in R, a \in I \implies ra, ar \in I$.

Remark 0.22. $a \in I \implies$ by (3) $(-1)a = -a \in I$. Hence, $(I, +)$ is a subgroup of the abelian group $(R, +)$. Notation: $I \triangleleft R$ means that I is an ideal of $R \rightsquigarrow$ quotient ring R/I such that $+$: $(a + I) + (b + I) := (a + b) + I$ ($a, b \in R$) and $*$: $(a + I) * (b + I) := ab + I$. These operations are well-defined and yield a (quotient) ring $(R/I, +, *)$. $0_{R/I} = I = (0 + I)$ and $1_{R/I} = 1 + I$.

Why is $*$ well-defined? Assume $a + I = a' + I$, $b + I = b' + I \implies a' = a + x$ for some $x \in I$ and $b' = b + y$ for some $y \in I$. $a'b' = (a + x)(b + y) = ab + (ay + xb + xy) \implies$, by $(ay + xb + xy) \in I$, $a'b' + I = ab + I$.

Lemma 0.23. $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ is a ring homomorphism.

1. if $J \triangleleft S$, then $\varphi^{-1}(J) \triangleleft R$
2. if $I \triangleleft R$ and φ is surjective, then $\varphi(I) \triangleleft S$

Remark 0.24. (2) is not true without surjectivity e.g. $\varphi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ which maps $m \rightarrow m$ and $n\mathbb{Z} \triangleleft \mathbb{Z}$ but $n\mathbb{Z} \not\triangleleft \mathbb{Q}$ (unless $n = 0$).

Proof. Proof of (1).

1. $0_S \in J \triangleleft S$ and $\varphi(0_R) = 0_S \implies 0_R \in \varphi^{-1}(J)$
2. $a, b \in \varphi^{-1}(J) \implies \varphi(a), \varphi(b) \in J \implies \varphi(a + b) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) \in J \implies a + b \in \varphi^{-1}(J)$

3. $a \in \varphi^{-1}(J), r \in R \implies \varphi(a) \in J \implies \varphi(ar) = \varphi(a)\varphi(r) \in J, \varphi(ra) = \varphi(r)\varphi(a) \in J \implies ar \in \varphi^{-1}(J) \text{ and } ra \in \varphi^{-1}(J)$

□

Remark 0.25. In particular, $\text{Kern}(\varphi) = \varphi^{-1}(\{0\})$ is an ideal of R .

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Before anything else, we'll review a few concepts from last class.

Definition 0.26. $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ ring homomorphism.

1. $J \triangleleft S \implies \varphi^{-1}(J) \triangleleft R$
2. $I \triangleleft R$ and φ surjective $\implies \varphi(I) \triangleleft S$

Definition 0.27. Ideals of R/I ($I \triangleleft R$).

\exists surjective ring homomorphism $\pi : R \rightarrow R/I$ which maps $a \rightarrow a + I$ with $\text{Kern}(\pi) = I$ because $a + I = 0 \iff a \in I$.

For any $I' \triangleleft R$ with $I \subseteq I'$, we define $I'/I := \{a + I \mid a \in I'\} = \pi(I') \triangleleft R/I$.

Claim: $f : \{I' \triangleleft R \mid I \subseteq I'\} \rightarrow \{J \triangleleft R/I\}$ (which maps I'/I) is bijective.

Proof. f is surjective: Let $J \triangleleft R/I$ be given \rightsquigarrow set $I' := \pi^{-1}(J) \triangleleft R$ by part (a) of the definition of ring homomorphism. Also, $I' \supseteq \pi^{-1}(0) = \text{Kern}(\pi) = I$ such that $f(I') = I'/I = \pi(I') = \pi(\pi^{-1}(J)) = J$ since π is surjective $\implies f$ is surjective.

f is injective: $I'_1, I'_2 \triangleleft R; I'_1, I'_2 \supseteq I$ and $f(I'_1) = f(I'_2)$ to show $I'_1 = I'_2$. Specifically, $a \in I'_1 \implies a + I \in I'_1/I = f(I'_1) = f(I'_2) = I'_2/I \implies \exists b \in I'_2$ s.t. $a \in b + I$. $a \in b + I \subseteq I'_2 + I = I'_2$ (since $I \subseteq I'_2$) $\implies a \in I'_2$ for any $a \in I'_1 \implies I'_1 \subseteq I'_2$. Similarly, $I'_1 \subseteq I'_2 \implies I'_1 = I'_2$ □

Lemma 0.28. Let R be a commutative ring with $1 \neq 0$. Then, R is a field $\iff R$ has precisely two ideals, namely $\{0\}$ and R

Proof. " \implies " Assume $\{0\} \neq I \triangleleft R$. Want to show $I = R$. $I \neq \{0\} \implies \exists 0 \neq x \in I, R$ is a field $\implies \exists x^{-1} \in R \implies$ for any $a \in R$, we obtain $a = a * 1 = a(x^{-1}x) = (ax^{-1})x \in I \implies I = R$.

" \impliedby " To show $0 \neq x \in R \implies x \in U(R)$. Consider the principal ideal $I := \langle x \rangle := \{rx \mid r \in R\} \triangleleft R$. $0 \neq x = 1 * x \in I \implies I \neq \{0\} \implies I = R$ by assumption $\implies 1 \in I = \langle x \rangle \implies \exists r \in R$ with $1 = rx = xr \implies x \in U(R)$. Hence, $U(R) = R \setminus \{0\} \implies R$ is a field. □

From now on, we assume that the ring R with 1 is commutative.

Definition 0.29. 1. A proper ideal $I \triangleleft R$ (i.e. $I \neq R$) is called a prime ideal of R if the $x, y \in R$, $xy \in I \implies x \in I$ or $y \in I$.

2. A proper ideal $I \triangleleft R$ is called a maximal ideal of R if: $J \triangleleft R$ with $I \subseteq J \implies J = I$ or $J = R$.
3. $\{0\}$ is allowed in (1) and (2)

Remark 0.30. One can show using Zorn's Lemma that every proper ideal of R is contained in some maximal ideal.

Proposition 0.31. Assume $I \triangleleft R$, $I \neq R \implies R \neq \{0\} \implies 1 \neq 0$. Then, I is a maximal ideal of $R \Leftrightarrow R/I$ is a field.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) By definition of a maximal ideal, $\{I' \triangleleft R \mid I \subseteq I'\} = \{I, R\} \implies \{J \triangleleft R/I\} = \{I/I = \{0\}, R/I\} \implies R/I$ is a field.

(\Leftarrow) Assume R/I is a field $\implies \{0\}$ and R/I are only ideals of $R/I \implies \{I' \triangleleft R \mid I' \supseteq I\} = \{I, R\} \implies I$ is a maximal ideal of R . \square

Proposition 0.32. $I \triangleleft R$, $I \neq R$ ($\implies 1 \neq 0$). Then, I is a prime ideal of $R \Leftrightarrow R/I$ is an integral domain.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) R/I is a commutative ring with $1 + I \neq 0 + I$ since $1 \notin I$ ($1 \in I \implies I = R$). To show, R/I has no zero divisors. So assume for $x, y \in R$, we have $(x + I)(y + I) = 0 + I$ in $R/I \Leftrightarrow xy + I = I \implies xy \in I \implies$ (*Isprime*) $x \in I$ or $y \in I \implies x + I = I$ or $y + I = I$ ($= 0$ in R/I) \implies no zero divisors in R/I is an integral domain. Assume $xy \in I$ for $x, y \in R \implies I = xy + I = (x + I)(y + I) \implies$ (R/I has no zero divisors) $x + I = I$ or $y + I = I \implies x \in I$ or $y \in I$ \square

Proposition 0.33. Assume $I \triangleleft R$, $I \neq R$. I is a maximal ideal of $R \Leftrightarrow R/I$ is a field.

Corollary 0.34. $I \triangleleft R$, $I \neq R$. If I is maximal, then it's also a prime ideal of R .

Proof. I maximal $\implies R/I$ is a field $\implies R/I$ is an integral domain $\implies I$ is a prime ideal \square

Example 0.35. 1. if F is a field, $\{0\}$ is a prime and a maximal ideal of F

2. $\{0\}$ is a prime ideal of $R \Leftrightarrow R/\{0\} \cong R$ is an integral domain.

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R commutative ring with $1 \neq 0$, $R \neq I \triangleleft R$. I is a **prime ideal** of $R \Leftrightarrow x, y \in R$, $xy \in I \rightarrow x \in I$ or $y \in I$. I is a **maximal ideal** of $R \Leftrightarrow \{J \mid J \triangleleft R \text{ and } I \subseteq J\} = \{I, R\}$.

Proposition 0.36. I maximal $\Leftrightarrow R/I$ is an integral domain.

Example 0.37. 1. F is a field $\implies \{0\}, F$ are its only ideals $\implies \{0\}$ is the only prime and maximal ideal of F .

2. $\{0\}$ is a prime ideal of $R \Leftrightarrow R$ is an integral domain.

Remark 0.38. $\{0\}$ is a maximal ideal of $R \Leftrightarrow R$ is a field $\cong R/\{0\}$.

3. $R = \mathbb{Z}$ {ideals of \mathbb{Z} } = {subgroups of $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ } = $\{<n> = n\mathbb{Z} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$
 $n = 0$: $n\mathbb{Z} = \{0\}$ is a prime ideal of \mathbb{Z} (not maximal). $n > 0$: $<n>$ is prime $\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/<n> = \mathbb{Z}_n$ is an integral domain $\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$ is a field $\Leftrightarrow n$ is prime $\Leftrightarrow <n>$ is maximal.

4. $\mathbb{Z} \times \{0\} = \{(a, 0) \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is a prime ideal of $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ since $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \mathbb{Z} \times \{0\} \cong \mathbb{Z}$ integral domain but not a field $\implies \mathbb{Z} \times \{0\}$ is not maximal in $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ e.g. $\mathbb{Z} \times \{0\} \subsetneq \mathbb{Z} \times <n>$ with $n \geq 2$.

Polynomial Rings. We start with the standard assumption that R is a commutative ring with $1 \neq 0$.

Definition 0.39. A **polynomial** (in one variable x) with coefficients in R is a finite formal sum $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x^i$ with $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $a_i \in R \forall i$. Identify $x^0 = 1$, $1 * x^i = x^i$, $a_0 * x^0 = a_0$. If $f(x) \neq 0$, $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$ with $a_n \neq 0$, we define the **degree** of $f(x)$ as $\deg(f) := n$ and the **leading coefficient** $l(f) := a_n \neq 0$. $f(x)$ is called **monic** if $l(f(x)) = 1$.

Conventions regarding $\deg(0)$: $\deg(0) = -1$, $\deg(0) = -\infty$ or $\deg(0)$ is not defined. Never $\deg(0) = 0 \implies$ Always $\deg(0) \neq 0$. Rather $\deg(f(x)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in R \setminus \{0\}$.

Lemma 0.40. *Defining addition and multiplication of polynomials: $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$, $g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i$. $f(x) + g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\max(m,n)} (a_i + b_i) x^i$ with the convention that $a_i = 0 \forall i > n$ if $m > n$ and $b_i = 0 \forall i > m$ if $n > m$. $a_i = 0 \forall i > n$ if $m > n$ and $b_i = 0 \forall i > m$ if $n > m$. $f(x)g(x) := \sum_{j=0}^{m+n} c_j x^j$ with $c_j := \sum_{i=0}^j a_i b_{j-i} = \sum_{i,k \in \mathbb{N}_0, i+k=j} a_i b_k$ and $a_i = 0$ if $i > n$ and $b_{j-i} = 0$ if $j-i > m$. In particular, $c_0 = a_0 b_0$, $c_{n+m} = a_n b_m$. Also, $x^n x^m = (1 * x^n)(1 * x^m) = 1 * x^{n+m} = x^{n+m}$.*

Lemma 0.41. *With addition and multiplication as defined above $R[x] := \{f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \text{ all } a_i \in R\}$ becomes a commutative ring with 1_R called the **polynomial ring** (in one variable) over R . Note: R is a subring of $R[x] \implies 1_{R[x]} = 1_R$, more generally, $a(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i) = \sum_{i=0}^n (aa_i) x^i$. Verification of the ring axioms is left as an exercise.*

For commutative law $\implies \sum_{i,k \in \mathbb{N}_0, i+k=j} a_i b_k \rightsquigarrow$ commutativity. For the associative law for multiplication, $(f(x)g(x))h(x) = f(x)(g(x)h(x)) \rightsquigarrow$ coefficients in the product $\sum_{l=0} d_l x^l$. $\sum_{i,j,k \in \mathbb{N}_0, i+j+k=l} (a_i b_j) c_k = \sum_{i,j,k \in \mathbb{N}_0, i+j+k=l} a_i (b_j c_k)$.

Proposition 0.42 ("Universal Property"). *R, S commutative rings with 1, $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ is a ring hom and $s \in S$, then there exists a unique ring hom $\tilde{\varphi} = \tilde{\varphi}_S : R[x] \rightarrow S$ with $\varphi_{1R} = \varphi$ and $\tilde{\varphi}(x) = s$.*

Proof. Assume $\tilde{\varphi}$ exists and $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$. $\tilde{\varphi}(f(x)) = \tilde{\varphi}(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i) = \sum_{i=0}^n \tilde{\varphi}(a_i x^i) = \sum_{i=0}^n \tilde{\varphi}(a_i) \tilde{\varphi}(x^i) = \sum_{i=0}^n \varphi(a_i) s^i$. Verify that this yields a ring such that $\varphi_{1R} = \varphi$. It follows from the fact that $\varphi(a_i + b_i) = \varphi(a_i) + \varphi(b_i)$ that $\tilde{\varphi}(f + g) = \tilde{\varphi}(f) + \tilde{\varphi}(g) \forall f, g \in R[x]$. Multiplication of $\tilde{\varphi}$: $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$, $g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i \implies f(x)g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{n+m} c_j x^j$ such that $c_j = \sum_{i=0}^j a_i b_{j-i}$. $\tilde{\varphi}(f(x)g(x)) = \tilde{\varphi}(f(x)g(x)) = \tilde{\varphi}(\sum_{j=0}^{n+m} (\sum_{i=0}^j a_i b_{j-i}) x^j) = \sum_{j=0}^{n+m} \varphi(\sum_{i=0}^j a_i b_{j-i}) s^j = (\varphi \text{ is a ring hom}) = \sum_{j=0}^{n+m} (\sum_{i=0}^j \varphi(a_i) s^i \sum_{i=0}^m \varphi(b_i) s^i) = \tilde{\varphi}(f(x)) \tilde{\varphi}(g(x))$. Also, $\tilde{\varphi}(a_0) = \varphi(a_0)$ by definition of $\tilde{\varphi}$ and $\tilde{\varphi}(x) = \tilde{\varphi}(x) = \tilde{\varphi}(1 * x) = \varphi(1_R) s = 1_s * s = s$. \square

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["Universal Property"] R, S commutative rings with 1, $s \in S$, $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ ring homomorphism. Then, there exists a unique ring homomorphism $\tilde{\varphi} : R[x] \rightarrow S$ such that $\tilde{\varphi}_{1R} = \varphi$ and $\tilde{\varphi}(x) = s$ ($\varphi(a) = a \forall a \in R$).

Corollary 0.43 (Special cases of last proposition). 1. $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ ring homomorphism $\implies \exists$ unique ring homomorphism $\tilde{\varphi} : R[x] \rightarrow S[x]$ with $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x^i \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(a_i) x^i$. This follows from 2.3.3 with $S = S[x]$, $\varphi : RS[x] \rightarrow S[x]$ (S is a subring of $S[x]$).

2. With $S = R$, $\varphi = \text{id}_R$. For any $r \in R$, there exists a unique evaluation homomorphism (at r): $xr \implies \tilde{\varphi} : R[x] \rightarrow R$ such that $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \mapsto \sum_{i=0}^n a_i r^i =: f(r) \implies f(x) \mapsto \tilde{\varphi}(f(x))$. From this, we know that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is a ring homomorphism $\implies \forall f, g \in R[x] : (fg)(r) = f(r)g(r)$, $(f + g)(r) = f(r) + g(r)$. $r \in R$ is called the root of $f(x) \in R[x]$ if $f(r) = 0$.

3. R is a subring of S and $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ is the embedding homomorphism $r \rightarrow r$. For any given $s \in S$, we obtain a ring homomorphism, $\tilde{\varphi} : R[x] \rightarrow S$ which maps $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^n a_i s^i =: f(s)$. Therefore, $\tilde{\varphi}$ is a ring homomorphism $\implies \tilde{\varphi}(R[x])$ is a subring of S . More explicitly, $\tilde{\varphi}(R[x]) = \{\sum_{i=0}^n a_i s^i \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \text{ all } a_i \in R\}$ which is the smallest subring of S containing R and s . Notation $\tilde{\varphi}(R[x]) = R[s] \subseteq S$. We say that $R[s]$ is obtained from R by adjoining s .

Example 0.44. $R = \mathbb{Z}, S = \mathbb{C}, s = i, \mathbb{Z}[i] = \{\sum_{j=0}^n a_j i^j \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \forall a_i \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{a_0 + a_1 i \mid a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ which is the smallest subring of \mathbb{C} containing \mathbb{Z} and i .

Similarly, $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b^2 \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

Remark 0.45. Using the evaluation homomorphism in 2.3.4(b) every polynomial $f(x) \in R[x]$ defines a function $R \rightarrow R$ such that $r \rightarrow f(r)$. One has to distinguish between the polynomial and the corresponding function since different polynomials induce the same function $R \rightarrow R$.

Example 0.46. $R = \mathbb{Z}_3, f(x) = x^3 - x, g(x) = 0, f(x) = 0 = g(r) \forall r \in \mathbb{Z}_3$

Lemma 0.47. $f(x), g(x) \in R[x] \setminus \{0\}$.

1. If $l(f(x))$ or $l(g(x))$ is not a zero divisor (automatically satisfied if R is an integral domain), then $\deg(f(x)g(x)) = \deg(f(x)) + \deg(g(x))$ and $l(f(x)g(x)) = l(f(x))l(g(x))$.
2. R is an integral domain $\implies R[x]$ is an integral domain and $U(R[x]) = U(R)$.

Proof. $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i, g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i$ and $a_n \neq 0 \neq b_m \implies \deg(f(x)) = n, l(f(x)) = a_n$ and $\deg(g(x)) = m, l(g(x)) = b_m$.

1. Assumption $\implies a_n b_m \neq 0$. $f(x)g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{m+n} c_j x^j, c_{n+m} = a_n b_m \neq 0 \implies \deg(f(x)g(x)) = n + m = \deg(f(x)) + \deg(g(x)), l(f(x)g(x)) = c_{n+m} = a_n b_m = l(f(x))l(g(x))$.
2. $R[x]$ is a commutative ring with $1 \neq 0$. $R[x]$ has no zero divisors: $f(x), g(x) \in R[x] \setminus \{0\} \implies (1) \implies \deg(f(x)g(x)) = \deg(f(x)) + \deg(g(x)) \geq 0 \implies f(x)g(x) \neq 0$.
 $U(R) \subseteq U(R[x]): a \in U(R) \implies \exists a^{-1} \in R \in R[x] \implies a \in U(R[x])$ and $a * a^{-1} = 1$. **More generally, if R is a subring of S , then $U(R) \subseteq U(S)$. $U(R[x]) \subseteq U(R)$. $f \in R[x] \implies \exists g \in R[x] : fg = 1 (= gf) \implies 0 = \deg(1) = \deg(fg) = \deg(f) + \deg(g) \implies \deg(f) = \deg(g) \implies f, g \in R \setminus \{0\}, fg = 1 \implies f \in U(R)$.**

□

Theorem 0.48 (Division Algorithm). Assume $f(x), g(x) \in R[x], g(x) \neq 0$ and $l(g(x)) \in U(R)$. Then there exist uniquely determined $q(x), r(x) \in R[x]$ such that $f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x)$ and $r(x)$ or $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x))$.

Special cases:

1. $R = F$, a field, $g(x) \in F[x]$ any polynomial $\neq 0$ ($F \setminus \{0\} = U(F)$).
2. $g(x)$ is monic (i.e. $l(g(x)) = 1$).

Proof. $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i, g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i, \deg(g(x)) = m, b_m = l(g(x)) \in U(R)$. Proof by induction on $\deg(f(x))$: we may assume $f(x) \neq 0, n = \deg(f(x))$. If $n < m$, then $f(x) = 0 * g(x) + f(x)$ satisfies the requirements with $q(x) = 0, r(x) = f(x)$. If $n \geq m$: we consider $f_1(x) = f(x) - a_n b_m^{-1} x^{n-m} g(x) = (a_n - a_n b_m^{-1} b_m) x^n + \text{lower terms} \implies \deg(f_1(x)) < n = \deg(f(x)) \implies \text{I.H.} \exists g_1(x), r_1(x)$ with $f_1(x) = q_1(x)g(x) + r_1(x)$ and $r_1(x) = 0$ or $\deg(r_1(x)) < \deg(g(x)) \implies f(x) = f_1(x) + a_n b_m^{-1} x^{n-m} g(x) = (q_1(x) + a_n b_m^{-1} x^{n-m})g(x) + r_1(x) = q(x) + r(x)$ □

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More arguments in the existence proof from last class: $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x^i$, $g(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i$, $l(g(x)) = b_m \in U(R)$. $n = \deg(f) \geq m = \deg(g)$; $b_m \in U(R) \rightsquigarrow$ Consider $f_1(x) = f(x) - a_n b_m^{-1} x^{n-m} g(x) \implies \deg(f_1) < n$.

Uniqueness: Assume $f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x) = q'(x)g(x) + r'(x)$ and $r(x)r'(x)$ are 0 or of degree $< \deg(g(x)) \implies (q(x) - q'(x))g(x) = r'(x) - r(x)$ and apply 2.3.6(a).

Example 0.49. $R = \mathbb{Z}_3$, $f(x) = [3]x^3 + [4]x^2 + [2]$, $g(x) = [5]x^2 + [1] \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}[x]$. $[5]^{-1} = [5]$ (since $[5] * [5] = [1]$ in \mathbb{Z}_{12}). $([3]x^3 + [4]x^2 + [2]) \div ([5]x^2 + [1]) = [3] * [5]x + [4] * [5] = [3]x + [8] = q(x)$.
 $([3]x^3 + [4]x^2 + [2]) - ([3]x^3 + [3]x) = (f_1) = [4]x^2 - [3]x + [2] - ([4]x^2 + [8]) = (-[3]x - [6]) = [9]x + [6] = r(x)$.
Check: $q(x)g(x) + r(x) = f(x)$

Corollary 0.50. If $a \in R$ is a root of $0 \neq f(x) \in R[x]$, then $x - a \mid f(x)$ in $R[x]$.

Proof. $l(x - a) = 1 \in U(R)$ so 2.3.7 applies $\implies \exists q(x), r(x) \in R[x]$ with $f(x) = q(x)(x - a) + r(x)$ and $r(x) = 0$ or $\deg(r(x)) < 1$, i.e. $r(x) \in R$ a root of $f(x) \implies 0 = f(a) = q(a)(a - a) + r = r \implies r = 0 \implies f(x) = q(x)g(x) \implies x - a \mid f(x)$ in $R[x]$. \square

Proposition 0.51. If R is an integral domain and $0 \neq f(x) \in R[x]$, then $f(x)$ has at most $\deg(f(x))$ many roots.

Proof. By induction on $\deg(f(x)) = n$.

$n = 0 \implies f(x) \in R \setminus \{0\}$, 0 roots

$n \geq 1$: Assume the claim is true for polynomials degree $< n$. If $f(x)$ has no root \rightsquigarrow done! Assume $a \in R$ is a root of $f(x)$, i.e. $f(a) = 0 \implies (2.3.9) (x - a) \mid f(x) \implies f(x) = (x - a)q(x)$ with $q(x) \in R[x]$.
 2.3.6 $\implies n = \deg(f(x)) = \deg(x - a) + \deg(q(x)) = 1 + \deg(q(x)) \implies \deg(q(x)) = n - 1 < n \implies$
 I.H. $q(x)$ has at most $n - 1$ roots. For any root $b \in R$ of $f(x)$, we obtain $0 = f(b) = (b - a)q(b) \Leftrightarrow b - a = 0$ or $q(b) = 0$. Conclusion: $\{\text{roots of } f\} = \{\text{roots of } q\} \cup \{a\} \implies f$ has at most n roots. \square

Theorem 0.52. If R is an integral domain, then any finite subgroup $G \subseteq U(R)$ is cyclic.

Proof. R commutative $\implies U(R)$ is abelian $\implies G$ is abelian, finite. Set $n = |G| = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{e_i}$, p_1, \dots, p_k are distinct primes $e_i \in \mathbb{N}$. (Wlog $G \neq \{0\}$). $P_i \in \text{Syl}_{p_i}(G)$, $1 \leq i \leq k$ i.e. $|P_i| = p_i^{e_i} = n_i$. G abelian $\implies P_i \triangleleft G$, $n_{p_i} = 1 \implies G = P_1 \times \dots \times P_k$ (1.5.12). Now assume, by way of contradiction, that P_i is not cyclic $\implies |a| < |P_i| = p_i^{e_i}$ for some i and $\forall a \in P_i$. But also, $|a| \mid |P_i| \implies |a| p_i^{e_i-1} = m_i < n_i$
 $\forall a \in P_i \implies a^{m_i} = 1 \forall a \in P_i \implies$ the polynomial $x^{m_i} - 1 \in R[x]$ of degree $m_i \geq 1$ has $\geq |P_i| = n_i > m_i$ many roots, which contradicts 2.3.10. Hence, $\implies P_i$ is cyclic, $P_i \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_i}$ ($n_i = p_i^{e_i}$)
 $\implies G = P_1 \times \dots \times P_k \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_k} \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_1 * \dots * n_k} = \mathbb{Z}_n$. This follows from the fact that $\gcd(n_i, n_j) = 1 \forall i \neq j$. \square

Corollary 0.53. For any prime number p , $U(p) = U(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ is cyclic.

Proof. \mathbb{Z}_p is a field \implies integral domain $\implies U(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ is cyclic, i.e. $U(p) \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p-1}$ \square

Example 0.54. (Counterexample)

1. $R = \mathbb{Z}_{12}$, $U(R) = U(12) = \{[1], [5], [7], [11]\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$.
2. $R = H$, division ring (no zero divisors but not commutative). $U(R) = H^*$ contains the finite subgroup Q_8 , which is not cyclic.

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Definition 0.55. $n \in \mathbb{N}$, R commutative ring with $1 \rightsquigarrow R[x_1, \dots, x_n] := R[x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}][x_n]$. Direct definition: $R[x_1, \dots, x_n] := \{\sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n=0}^m x_1^{i_1} * \dots * x_n^{i_n} \mid m \in \mathbb{N}_0, \text{ all } i_1, \dots, i_n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ such that we define $+$: component wise, $*$: $x_1^{i_1} * \dots * x_n^{i_n} * x_1^{j_1} * \dots * x_n^{j_n} = x_1^{i_1+j_1} * \dots * x_n^{i_n+j_n}$ and Distributive Law.

Euclidean Domains. In this section, R is an integral domain.

Definition 0.56. R is a Euclidean domain if there exists a function $\gamma : R \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ s.t. $(*) \forall a, b \in R$ with $b \neq 0 \exists q, r \in R$ s.t. $a = bq + r$ and $r = 0$ or $\gamma(r) < \gamma(b)$

Remark 0.57. 1. if $\gamma(0)$ is defined and $\gamma(0) < \gamma(b) \forall b \in R \setminus \{0\}$, then we can drop " $r = 0$ " in $(*)$ and simply write $\gamma(r) < \gamma(b)$.

2. We will not require (though it's satisfied in many examples) that $\gamma(x) \leq \gamma(xy) \forall R \setminus \{0\}$.

3. We do not require that q and r are uniquely determined.

Example 0.58. 1. $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $\gamma : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$, $\gamma(a) = |a|$ (here $\gamma(0) = 0 < \gamma(b) \forall b \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$). $(*) \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $b \neq 0 \exists q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $a = qb + r$ and $|r| < |b|$ (see 0.3.11 in the Pure Applied Algebra textbook).

2. F field, $R = F[x]$, $\gamma = \deg : F[x] \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ then $(*)$ is satisfied by Division Algorithm $f, g \in F[x]$, $g \neq 0 \implies \exists q, r \in F[x] : f = qg + r$ and $r = 0$ or $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$.

Definition 0.59. R (integral domain) is called a principal ideal domain (PID) if every ideal I of R is principal (generated by one element) i.e. $I = \langle a \rangle = \{ra \mid r \in R\}$ for some $a \in I$.

Example 0.60. \mathbb{Z} is a PID. Every ideal of \mathbb{Z} is of the form $\langle n \rangle = n\mathbb{Z}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

Theorem 0.61. Every Euclidean domain R is a PID. (Note: use this to prove something is a PID, we can prove that it is a Euclidean domain)

Proof. Let $I \triangleleft R$ be given. We may assume $I \neq \{0\} = \langle 0 \rangle$. Set $n := \min\{\gamma(a) \mid 0 \neq a \in I\}$. Pick $0 \neq b \in I$ with $\gamma(b) = n$. Claim: $I = \langle b \rangle$. Note: $b \in I \implies \langle b \rangle \subseteq I$. Let $a \neq 0$ be any element of $I \setminus \{0\}$. $(*) \implies \exists q, r \in R : a = qb + r$ and $r = 0$ or $\gamma(r) < \gamma(b)$. Here only $r = 0$ is possible. $a, b \in I \implies a, qb \in I \implies r = a - qb \in I$. If we had $r \neq 0$, $r \in I \implies \gamma(r) \geq n$ by definition of n . But also $\gamma(r) < \gamma(b) = n$, contradiction! Hence, $r = 0 \implies a = qb \in \langle b \rangle$. This shows $I \subseteq \langle b \rangle \subseteq I \implies I = \langle b \rangle$ (principal ideal by defn) \square

Example 0.62. $\langle 2, x \rangle = \{2f + xg \mid f, g \in \mathbb{Z}[x]\}$ is not a principal ideal. Notation: $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R \rightsquigarrow \langle a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle = \{\sum_{i=1}^n r_i a_i \mid r_i \in R \forall i\} \triangleleft R$. This is the smallest ideal of R containing a_1, \dots, a_n . $d \in \mathbb{Z}$, not a square $\implies \sqrt{d} \in \mathbb{Q}$. Consider $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] = \{a + b\sqrt{d} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$. If $a + b\sqrt{d} \in F^* = F \setminus \{0\} \implies (a, b) \neq (0, 0)$ and subfield $a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \implies (a + b\sqrt{d})^{-1} = \frac{a - b\sqrt{d}}{a^2 - db^2} \in F$.

Question: When is R a Euclidean domain? Candidate for $\gamma : R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ which maps $a + b\sqrt{d} \rightarrow |a^2 - db^2|$ ($a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$).

Extension: $\tilde{\gamma} : F \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ which maps $a + b\sqrt{d} \rightarrow |a^2 - db^2|$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Proposition 0.63. Assuming that for any $\alpha \in F$ there exists $r \in R$ with $\tilde{\gamma}(\alpha - r) < 1'$. Then R is a Euclidean domain satisfying $(*)$ with γ as above.

Corollary 0.64. $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ is a Euclidean domain for $d = -2, -1, 2, 3$ e.g. $d = -1$ i.e. $R = \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Let $\alpha = a + bi \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$ be given ($a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$). Choose $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $|a - m|, |n - b| \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Set $r = m + ni \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \implies \tilde{\gamma}((\alpha - m) + (b - n)i) = (\alpha - m)^2 + (b - n)^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \implies \mathbb{Z}[i] \text{ is Euclidean} \implies \text{PID}$.

Class April 2

$d \in \mathbb{Z}$ not a square $\implies \sqrt{d} \notin \mathbb{Q}$.

$R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] = \{a + b\sqrt{d} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$, $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}) = \{a + b\sqrt{d} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

$\tilde{\gamma} : F \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$ which maps $a + b\sqrt{d} \rightarrow |a^2 - db^2|$ ($= a^2 - db^2$ if $d < 0$).

$\gamma = \tilde{\gamma}|_R : R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ ($\gamma(x) = 0 \iff x = 0$)

Check $\tilde{\gamma}$ is multiplicative i.e. $\tilde{\gamma}(\alpha\beta) = \tilde{\gamma}(\alpha)\tilde{\gamma}(\beta) \forall \alpha, \beta \in F$.

Proposition 0.65. Assume that for any $\alpha \in F \exists q \in R$ s.t. $\tilde{\gamma}(\alpha - q) < 1$. Then R is a Euclidean domain with respect to γ .

Proof. Given $x, y \in R$, $y \neq 0 \implies$ consider $\alpha = \frac{x}{y} \in F \implies \exists q \in R: \tilde{\gamma}(\alpha - q) < 1$ and moreover $1 * \tilde{\gamma}(y) = \gamma(y) \implies \tilde{\gamma}(\alpha - q)\tilde{\gamma}(y) < \gamma(y) \implies \tilde{\gamma}(\alpha y - qy) = \tilde{\gamma}(x - qy) =: r \in R \implies x = qy + r$ and $\gamma(r) < \gamma(y)$ by definition of r ($q, r \in R$). \square

Corollary 0.66. $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ is a Euclidean domain for $d = -2, 1, 2, 3$.

Remark 0.67. One can show that $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ is not a PID (hence not Euclidean) but the condition of the proposition can be satisfied with $\tilde{\gamma}(\alpha - q) < 1$.

If R is Euclidean $\implies R$ is a PID. Hence, if $a, b \in R$ are given, $\exists c \in R$ such that $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle c \rangle$ ($\langle a, b \rangle = \{\lambda * a + \mu * b \mid \lambda, \mu \in R\} \triangleleft R$). **Question:** How do we compute c ? **Answer:** Euclidean Algorithm.

Proposition 0.68 (Euclidean Algorithm). R (Euclidean domain); $a, b \in R \setminus \{0\}$.

Then $\exists q_1, r_1 \in R: a = q_1 b + r_1$ and if $r_1 \neq 0$, then $\gamma(r_1) < \gamma(b)$

$q_2 r_2 \in R: b = q_2 r_1 + r_2$ and if $r_2 \neq 0$, then $\gamma(r_2) < \gamma(r_1)$

...

$\exists q_{i+1}, r_{i+1} \in R: r_{i-1} = q_{i+1} r_i + r_{i+1}$ and if $r_{i+1} \neq 0$, then $\gamma(r_{i+1}) < \gamma(r_i)$

$\exists n$ s.t. $r_{n+1} = 0$ for the first time $r_n \neq 0$. $r_{n-2} = q_n r_{n-1} + r_n$ and $\gamma(r_n) < \gamma(r_{n-1})$

$r_{n-1} = q_{n+1} r_n + 0 = r_{n+1}$

Then, $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle r_i, r_{i+1} \rangle = \langle r_n \rangle \forall 0 \leq i \leq n$ (because $r_{n+1} = 0$ in the last step). Furthermore, coefficients with $r_n = c_{i+1} r_{i-1} + c_i r_i$ can be computed recursively: $c_{n+1} = 0, c_n = 1, c_{i-1} = c_{i+1} + q_i c_i \forall n \geq i \geq 0 \rightsquigarrow r_n = c_1 r_{-1} + c_0 r_0 = c_1 a + c_0 b$

Remark 0.69. $r_n = \gcd(a, b)$ (clear for $R = \mathbb{Z}$ (has to be defined for general R)).

Proof. $a = q_1 b + r_1 \in \langle b, r_1 \rangle \implies \langle a, b \rangle \subseteq \langle b, r_1 \rangle$

$r_1 = a - q_1 b \in \langle a, b \rangle \implies \langle b, r_1 \rangle \subseteq \langle a, b \rangle \implies \langle a, b \rangle = \langle b, r_1 \rangle \implies \langle r_{-1}, r_1 \rangle = \langle r_0, r_1 \rangle$

Therefore, we WTS $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle r_{i-1}, r_i \rangle = \langle r_i, r_{i+1} \rangle$

$r_{i-1} = q_{i+1} r_i + r_{i+1} \in \langle r_i, r_{i+1} \rangle \implies \langle r_{i-1}, r_i \rangle \subseteq \langle r_i, r_{i+1} \rangle$

$r_{i+1} = r_{i-1} + q_{i+1} r_i \in \langle r_{i-1}, r_i \rangle \implies \langle r_i, r_{i+1} \rangle \subseteq \langle r_{i-1}, r_i \rangle \implies \langle r_{i-1}, r_i \rangle = \langle r_i, r_{i+1} \rangle$

Recall $r_{n+1} = 0$, so for $i = n: \langle a, b \rangle = \langle r_n \rangle$. We prove $r_n = c_{i+1} r_{i-1} + c_i r_i$ for $n \geq i \geq 0$ by (reverse) induction on i :

$i = n$: $c_{n+1} r_{n-1} + c_n r_n = 0 * r_{n-1} + 1 * r_n = r_n$

$i \rightarrow i - 1$: $r_n = c_{i+1} r_{i-1} + c_i r_i, r_{i-2} = q_i r_{i-1} + r_i \iff r_i = r_{i-2} - q_i r_{i-1}$. Moreover, $r_n = c_{i+1} r_{i-1} + c_i (r_{i-2} - q_i r_{i-1}) = (c_{i+1} - q_i c_i) r_{i-1} + c_i r_{i-2} = c_{(i-1)+1} r_{(i-1)-1} + c_{i-1} r_{i-1}$ \square

Example 0.70. $R = \mathbb{Z}[i]$, $a = 4 + 7i$, $b = 8 - i$, $a = q_1b + r_1$

$\alpha_1 = \frac{a}{b} = \frac{4+7i}{8-i} = \frac{(4+7i)(8+i)}{(8-i)(8+i)} = \frac{25+60i}{65}$ approximate by $m + ni \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ (e.g. $m = 0, n = i$) $\rightsquigarrow q_1 = m + ni = i$, $r_i = a - q_1b = 3 - i \implies a = q_1b + r_1 \iff 4 + 7i = i(8 - i) + (3 - i)$

$\alpha_2 = \frac{b}{r_1} = \frac{8-i}{3-i} = \frac{(8-i)(3+i)}{(3-i)(3+i)} = \frac{25+5i}{10} = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i$, $q_2 = 3 \rightsquigarrow r_2 = b - q_2r_1 = -1 + 2i$

$\therefore 8 - i = 3(3 - i) + (-1 + 2i) \implies 3 - i = (-1 - i)(-1 + 2i) + 0 \rightsquigarrow n = 2$ and our first result is that $< 4 + 7i, 8 - i > = < -1 + 2i >$.

$r_2 = (8 - i) - 3(3 - i) = (8 - i) - 3(4 + 7i) - i(8 - i) = (1 + 3i)(8 - i) - 3(4 + 7i) = -3a + (1 + 3i)b = c_1a + c_0b$.

Check that $c_0 = 1 + 3i$, $c_1 = -3$

Miscellaneous Notes from Textbook

Theorem 0.71. *If R is an integral domain, then $R[x]$ is an integral domain, and the product of any two nonzero polynomials $f(x), g(x) \in R[x]$ such that $\deg(f(x)) = m$ and $\deg(g(x)) = n$, is a nonzero polynomial $f(x) * g(x)$ of degree $m + n$.*

Proof. if $f(x) = a_nx^n + \dots + a_0$ and $g(x) = b_mx^m + \dots + b_0 \implies f(x) * g(x) = a_nb_mx^{m+n} + \dots + a_0b_0 \implies$ because R is an integral domain, $a_nb_m \neq 0 \implies$ the product has degree $m + n$ and it is also clear that $R[x]$ is an integral domain. \square

Proposition 0.72. *Let D be an integral domain. Then the units in $D[x]$ are precisely the units in D .*

Corollary 0.73. *If F is a field, then $F[x]$ is an integral domain but not a field.*

Proof. F is a field $\implies F$ is an integral domain $\implies F[x]$ is an integral domain, but all nonzero polynomials in $F[x]$ are nonzero elements that are not units (because all units in $F[x]$ are precisely the units of F). Therefore $F[x]$ is not a field. \square

Definition 0.74 (Characteristic). The characteristic of a polynomial ring $R[x]$ is the least integer $n > 0$ such that $nf(x) = 0 \forall f(x) \in R[x]$ (and is zero if no such n exists).

Proposition 0.75. *Let R be a ring. Then $R[x]$ has the same characteristic as R .*

Proof. Since R is contained in $R[x]$, it is obvious that if $a * f(x) \forall f(x) \in R[x] \implies a * r = 0 \forall r \in R$ (because $r \in R[x]$).

Let $f(x) = a_nx^n + \dots + a_0$. Then if $a * r = 0 \forall r \in R \implies a * f(x) = a * a_nx^n + \dots + a * a_0$ and because the coefficients are in R , all the new coefficients equal 0 $\implies f(x) = 0$ \square

Definition 0.76. Let F be a subfield of a field E and $\alpha \in E$. The **evaluation homomorphism** is defined as $\phi_\alpha : F[x] \rightarrow E$ such that $f(x) = a_nx^n + \dots + a_1x + a_0 \in F[x]$ and $\phi_\alpha(f(x)) = a_n\alpha^n + \dots + a_1\alpha + a_0 \in E$.

Division Algorithm and Proof are worth reviewing

Proposition 0.77. *Let F be a field such that $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$. Then,*

1. $g(x) \mid f(x) \implies eg(x) \mid f(x)$ for any element $0 \neq e \in F$.
2. $g(x) \mid f(x)$ and $f(x) \mid g(x) \implies f(x) = eg(x)$ for some element $0 \neq e \in F$.

1. *Proof.* $g(x) \mid f(x) \implies f(x) = q(x) * g(x) \implies f(x) = (e^{-1} * q(x)) * (e * g(x)) \implies e * g(x) \mid f(x)$. \square

2. *Proof.* $g(x) \mid f(x) \implies f(x) = q(x) * g(x)$; $f(x) \mid g(x) \implies g(x) = p(x) * f(x)$. Hence, $f(x) = q(x) * p(x) * f(x) \implies q(x) * p(x) = 1 \implies q(x), p(x)$ have degree 0 and are both constant because their product is constant $\implies q(x) = e$ and $p(x) = e^{-1}$ for some element $0 \neq e \in F$. \square

Remark 0.78. If the leading coefficient is 1, then the polynomial is called **monic**

Definition 0.79. For $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ in $F[x]$ where F is a field, a **common divisor** of $f(x), g(x)$ is any polynomial $c(x) \in F[x]$ such that $c(x) \mid f(x)$ and $c(x) \mid g(x)$. A **greatest common divisor** of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ is a common divisor $d(x)$ such that for any other common divisor $c(x)$, $c(x) \mid d(x)$. If the only common divisors and therefore the only greatest common divisors of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are constants, then $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are called **relatively prime**.

Remark 0.80. If $d_1(x), d_2(x)$ are both greatest common divisors, then $d_1(x) = e * d_2(x)$ for some $0 \neq e \in F \implies$ there can only be one *monic* greatest common divisor, denoted $\gcd(f(x), g(x))$.

Theorem 0.81. Let F be a field and $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$ (not both 0). Then there exists a greatest common divisor $d(x)$ of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ that can be written as a linear combination of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$. Therefore, $\exists u(x), v(x) \in F[x]$ such that $d(x) = u(x) * f(x) + v(x) * g(x)$ is a greatest common divisor of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$.

Proof. Define the set $S = \{m(x)f(x) + n(x)g(x) \mid m(x), n(x) \in F[x]\}$. Note that $f(x), g(x) \in S$. Therefore, S has elements other than 0. Let $d(x) \in S$ of minimum degree. We may take $d(x)$ to be monic because if it isn't then, we can take $a^{-1}d(x)$ which is monic if a was the leading coefficient of $d(x)$. Because, $d(x) \in S \implies d(x) = u(x)f(x) + v(x)g(x)$ for some $u(x), v(x) \in F[x]$.

Now we must show that $d(x)$ is a common divisor of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$. According to the division algorithm, $f(x) = q(x)d(x) + r(x)$ such that $r(x) = 0$ or $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(d(x))$. Solving for $r(x)$, we obtain $r(x) = f(x) - q(x)d(x) = f(x) - q(x)(u(x)f(x) + v(x)g(x)) = [1 - u(x)q(x)]f(x) - [q(x)v(x)]g(x) \implies r(x) \in S$ by definition. Since $d(x)$ was chosen to be of minimum degree (in S), $\implies \deg(r(x)) < \deg(d(x))$ is not true and therefore $r(x) = 0 \implies d(x) \mid f(x)$. Wlog this argument also applies to $g(x)$.

To complete the proof, we need to show that $d(x)$ is the greatest common divisor (so any other common divisor $c(x) \mid d(x)$). If \exists common divisor $c(x) \implies f(x) = q(x)c(x)$ and $g(x) = p(x)c(x)$ by definition. Therefore, $d(x) = u(x)f(x) + v(x)g(x) = [u(x)q(x) + v(x)p(x)]c(x) \implies c(x) \mid d(x) \implies d(x)$ is the $\gcd(f(x), g(x))$ by construction. \square

Practice using the Euclidean Algorithm

Theorem 0.82 (Factor Theorem). Let F be a field, $f(x) \in F[x]$ and $a \in F$. Then, a is a zero of $f(x) \iff (x - a)$ is a divisor of $f(x)$ in $F[x]$.

Proof. (\implies) Assume a is a zero of $f(x)$. Applying the division algorithm, we can write $f(x) = q(x)(x - a) + r(x)$ such that $r(x) = 0$ or $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(x - a)$. Suppose $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(x - a)$. This implies that $\deg(r(x)) = 0$ and $r(x) = c \in F$ (a constant). By definition, $0 = f(a) = q(a)(a - a) + c = 0 + c \implies r(x) = 0 \implies (x - a) \mid f(x)$

(\impliedby) $(x - a) \mid f(x) \implies f(x) = q(x)(x - a) \implies f(a) = q(a)(a - a) = 0 \implies a$ is a zero of $f(x)$. \square

Irreducible Polynomials not covered on the exam but seem pretty important

Definition 0.83. Let F be a field and $f(x)$ a nonconstant polynomial in $F[x]$. Then $f(x)$ is **irreducible** over F if $f(x)$ cannot be expressed as a product $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$ of polynomials $g(x)$ and $h(x)$ in $F[x]$ both of lower degree than $f(x)$. $f(x)$ is **reducible** over F if it is not irreducible.

Theorem 0.84. Let F be a field, $f(x)$ a polynomial in $F[x]$ of degree 2 or 3. Then, $f(x)$ is reducible over $F \iff f(x)$ has a zero in F .

Ideals in $F[x]$

Definition 0.85. If $a \in R$, then the **principal ideal** $\langle a \rangle$ generated by a is the ideal $\{ra \mid r \in R\}$ consisting of all multiples by a . Therefore, if F is a field, then the principal ideal $\langle x \rangle$ in $F[x]$ generated by x is the set of all multiples of x , which is to say, the set of all polynomials in $F[x]$ with constant term 0.

Definition 0.86. Let D be an integral domain. Then D is called a **principal ideal domain (PID)** if every ideal in D is a principal ideal.

Example 0.87. \mathbb{Z} is a PID, since as we know every ideal I in \mathbb{Z} is generated by a fixed element $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, so $I = n\mathbb{Z} = \langle n \rangle$.

Theorem 0.88. Let F be a field. Then $F[x]$ is a PID.

Proof. $F[x]$ is an integral domain because F is an integral domain. Now, we need to show that for any ideal I in $F[x] \exists f(x) \in I$ such that $I = \langle f(x) \rangle$. If I is the zero ideal $\{0\}$, then $I = \langle 0 \rangle$. If I is not the zero ideal, let $g(x)$ be a nonzero element of I of minimal degree. We show that $g(x)$ generates I ($I = \langle g(x) \rangle$) by showing that if $f(x) \in I \setminus \{g(x)\}$, then $g(x) \mid f(x)$. To show this we apply the division algorithm to write $f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x)$ such that $r(x) = 0$ or $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x))$. Since $r(x) = f(x) - q(x)g(x) \in I$ and $g(x)$ is chosen to have minimal degree, $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x))$ cannot hold $\implies r(x) = 0 \implies f(x) = q(x)g(x)$ which is a multiple of $g(x)$ by definition. \square

Theorem 0.89. Let F be a field. A nontrivial ideal $I = \langle p(x) \rangle$ is a maximal ideal in $F[x] \iff p(x)$ is irreducible over F .

Proof. (\implies) Suppose $I = \langle p(x) \rangle$ is a maximal ideal in $F[x]$. I is neither $\{0\} = \langle 0 \rangle$ nor $F[x] = \langle 1 \rangle$, so $p(x)$ is neither the zero polynomial nor a unit of $F[x]$ (a constant polynomial). If $p(x) = g(x)h(x)$, then $p(x) \in \langle g(x) \rangle$ and, therefore, $I = \langle p(x) \rangle \subseteq \langle g(x) \rangle \subseteq F[x]$. We assume I is maximal \implies either $\langle p(x) \rangle = \langle g(x) \rangle$ or $\langle g(x) \rangle = F[x]$. $\langle p(x) \rangle = \langle g(x) \rangle \implies \deg(g(x)) = \deg(p(x))$. Conversely, $\langle g(x) \rangle = F[x] \implies \deg(g(x)) = 0$ and $\deg(h(x)) = \deg(p(x))$. This shows that $p(x)$ is irreducible over F .

(\impliedby) Suppose $p(x)$ is irreducible over F and let $J = \langle f(x) \rangle$ be an ideal with $\langle p(x) \rangle \subseteq J = \langle f(x) \rangle \subseteq F[x]$. Then, $p(x) \in \langle f(x) \rangle \implies p(x) = q(x)f(x)$ for some $q(x) \in F[x]$. By our assumption that $p(x)$ is irreducible, we must either have $\deg(f(x)) = \deg(p(x)) \implies q(x)$ is a nonzero constant, or $\deg(q(x)) = \deg(p(x)) \implies f(x)$ is a nonzero constant. In the former case, $\langle p(x) \rangle = \langle f(x) \rangle$ and in the latter, $\langle f(x) \rangle = F[x]$. Either way, this shows that $I = \langle p(x) \rangle$ is a maximal ideal. \square

Practice proof techniques from the last few proofs and return to Page 267 in [P]

Chapter 9: Euclidean Domains

Definition 0.90 (Euclidean Domain). Informally, a **Euclidean Domain** is an integral domain in which a division algorithm holds.

More formally, an integral domain D is called a Euclidean domain if $\exists \gamma : D \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \cup \{0\}$ from the set of nonzero elements of D to the set of non negative integers such that

1. For $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$ in D , $\gamma(x) \leq \gamma(xy)$
2. Given a and $b \neq 0$ in D , $\exists q, r \in D$ such that $a = qb + r$ such that $r = 0$ or $\gamma(r) < \gamma(b)$

Theorem 0.91. *Every Euclidean domain is a PID.*

Proof. Let I be an ideal in a Euclidean domain D . If $I = \{0\}$, then $I = \langle 0 \rangle$. If $I \neq \{0\}$, let $0 \neq a \in I$ be an element of I such that $\gamma(a) \leq \gamma(x)$ for all $0 \neq x \in I$. We will show that $I = \langle a \rangle$. Let $b \in I$. Then $\exists q, r \in D$ such that $b = qa + r$ with $r = 0$ or $\gamma(r) < \gamma(a)$. $r = b - qa \implies r \in I$. By the minimality of $\gamma(a)$, we have that $r = 0 \implies b = qa \in \langle a \rangle$. Therefore, $b \in \langle a \rangle$ for all $b \in I$ and $I = \langle a \rangle \implies D$ is a principal ideal domain. \square

Definition 0.92. Let R be a commutative ring and let $a, b \in R$ with $b \neq 0$.

1. b is said to be a **divisor** of a in R , written $b \mid a$ if $\exists x \in R$ such that $ax = b$
2. $c \in R$ is a **common divisor** of a and b if $c \mid a$ and $c \mid b$.

Definition 0.93. Let R be a commutative ring and let $a, b \in R$. A **greatest common divisor** of a and b is a nonzero element $d \in R$ such that

1. d is a common divisor of a and b
2. If c is a common divisor of a and b , then $c \mid d$.

Theorem 0.94. *Let D be a Euclidean domain and $a, b \in D$ two nonzero elements of D . Then $\exists d \in D$ such that*

1. d is a greatest common divisor of a and b
2. $\exists u, v \in D$ such that $d = ua + vb$.

Proof. Let $I = \{xa + yb \mid x, y \in D\}$. I is an ideal of D (specifically the ideal generated by a and b). Because every Euclidean domain is a principal ideal domain, $I = \langle d \rangle$ for some $d \in D$. Since $d \in I \implies d = ua + vb$ for some $u, v \in D$. Since $I = \langle d \rangle$, every element in I is of the form xd for $x \in D$. Since $a \in I$ by construction $\implies d \mid a$ (and the same thing for $b \implies d \mid b$). If $c \mid a$ and $c \mid b$ such that $a = xc$ and $b = yc \implies d = uxc + vyc = (ux + vy)c$ such that $c \mid d$ (and this concludes the proof!). \square

Proposition 0.95. *Let D be an integral domain and let $a, b \in D$. Then if d and d' are greatest common divisors of $a, b \in D$, then $d = ud'$ for some unit $u \in D$.*

Proof. Since both d and d' are greatest common divisors of a and b , $d \mid d'$ and $d' \mid d$. Therefore, $d = ud'$ and $d' = vd$ for some $u, v \in D$. This implies that $d = u(vd) = (uv)d \implies (1 - uv)d = 0$ and $d \neq 0 \implies uv = 1 \implies u$ is a unit with its inverse v in D . \square

Theorem 0.96. *Let D be a Euclidean domain. Then,*

1. $\gamma(1) \leq \gamma(a) \forall 0 \neq a \in D$
2. $\gamma(1) = \gamma(a)$ if and only if a is a unit in D

Proof. 1. $\gamma(1) \leq \gamma(1 * a) = \gamma(a) \forall 0 \neq a \in D$

2. If a is a unit in D , then $\gamma(a) \leq \gamma(a * a^{-1}) = \gamma(1) \leq \gamma(a)$. hence, $\gamma(1) = \gamma(a)$. Conversely, if $\gamma(1) = \gamma(a)$, by the division algorithm $\exists q, r \in D$ such that $1 = qa + r$ with $r = 0$ or $\gamma(r) < \gamma(a)$. But since $\gamma(a) = \gamma(1)$ and by (1), $\gamma(1) \leq \gamma(r)$, we cannot have $\gamma(r) < \gamma(a)$ and must have $r = 0$. Therefore, $1 = qa$ and a is a unit. \square