



Math for the people, by the people.

every ring is an integer algebra

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Let  $R$  be a ring. Then  $R$  is also an algebra over the ring of integers if we define the action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $R$  by the following rules:

$$0 \cdot x = 0$$

$$(n + 1) \cdot x = n \cdot x + x$$

$$(-n) \cdot x = -(n \cdot x)$$

In other words, the action of a positive integer  $n$  on  $x$  is to add  $x$  to itself  $n$  times and the action of a negative integer  $n$  on  $x$  is to subtract  $x$  to itself  $n$  times.