

**Problem 1:**

Prove that

$$\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$$

where  $d = \gcd(m, n)$  with  $d \neq 1$ . If  $d = 1$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = 0$ .

Note: We discussed this, and I read Example 3 on page 369 of Dummit & Foote.

Take  $a \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . By the relations of simple tensors, we have

$$a \otimes b = a \otimes (b \cdot 1) = (ab) \otimes 1 = ab(1 \otimes 1),$$

which means  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  is a cyclic group and  $1 \otimes 1$  is its generator. By the operations on tensors, we see that

$$m(1 \otimes 1) = m \otimes 1 = 0 \otimes 1 = 0$$

$$n(1 \otimes 1) = 1 \otimes n = 1 \otimes 0 = 0,$$

which means for  $d(1 \otimes 1) = 0$ , it must be that  $d \in m\mathbb{Z} \cup n\mathbb{Z}$ , so  $d = \gcd(m, n)$ . This shows that the order of  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  divides  $d$ .

We now consider  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$  defined by  $\varphi(a \bmod m, b \bmod n) = ab \bmod d$ .

This map is well-defined because  $d$  divides both  $m$  and  $n$ . This map is also  $\mathbb{Z}$ -bilinear, which we just verify the first factor because the second factor is essentially the same:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(r_1 a_1 \bmod m + r_2 a_2 \bmod m, b \bmod n) &= \varphi(r_1 a_1 + r_2 a_2 \bmod m, b \bmod n) \\ &= (r_1 a_1 + r_2 a_2) b \bmod d \\ &= r_1 a_1 b \bmod d + r_2 a_2 b \bmod d \\ &= r_1 \varphi(a_1 \bmod m, b \bmod n) + r_2 \varphi(a_2 \bmod m, b \bmod n). \end{aligned}$$

(1)

By Corollary 12 on page 368, we get an  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\psi : \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$  that maps  $1 \otimes 1$  to  $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$ , which has order  $d$ . This shows that the order of  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  must be at least  $d$ .

We have thus obtained the isomorphism  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$ .

*QED*

**Problem 2:**

a) Prove that  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  are isomorphic as left  $\mathbb{Q}$ -modules. (Show that they are both 1-dimensional vector spaces over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .)

By Corollary 19 on page 374, we know  $R^s \otimes_R R^t \cong R^{st}$ , which tells us that  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q} \cong \mathbb{Q}$ . This means  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}$  is a 1-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Furthermore, by the defined relation we see that any simple tensor  $q_1 \otimes q_2 = 1 \otimes q_1 q_2 = 1 \otimes q$  for some  $q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , which means  $1 \otimes 1$  generates the vector space, so it is the only basis element.

We then show that  $1 \otimes 1$  is also the only basis element for the vector space  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

We claim that it generates all elements in  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ . Consider arbitrary  $\frac{a_1}{b_1} \otimes \frac{a_2}{b_2}$ :

$$\frac{a_1}{b_1} \otimes \frac{a_2}{b_2} = \frac{a_1}{b_1} \otimes \frac{b_1 a_2}{b_1 b_2} = \frac{a_1 b_1}{b_1} \otimes \frac{a_2}{b_1 b_2} = a_1 \otimes \frac{a_2}{b_1 b_2} = 1 \otimes \frac{a_1 a_2}{b_1 b_2},$$

and  $\frac{a_1 a_2}{b_1 b_2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . This means every simple tensor has the form  $1 \otimes q$ , so every simple tensor is generated by  $1 \otimes 1$ . Furthermore, since this is only 1 element, it must be linearly independent.

Hence  $1 \otimes 1$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ , and  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  are isomorphic as left  $\mathbb{Q}$ -modules.

*QED*

b) Prove that  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}$  are both left  $\mathbb{R}$ -modules but are not isomorphic as  $\mathbb{R}$ -modules.

By Corollary 19 on page 374, we know  $R^s \otimes_R R^t \cong R^{st}$ , which tells us that  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{C}$ . This means  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}$  is a 1-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$ , so a 2-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

We claim  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$  is a 4-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Consider an arbitrary element  $a_1 + b_1 i \otimes a_2 + b_2 i \dots$  I want to show  $\{1 \otimes 1, 1 \otimes i, i \otimes 1, i \otimes i\}$  is a basis for this vector space, which I know is true because of the discussions I had with Hongyi, Dalena, and Ellie during problem session, but I do not know how to prove this rigorously, so I'm leaving this blank.

**Problem 3:**

Let  $I$  be a two-sided ideal of  $R$  and let  $N$  be a left  $R$ -module. Recall that  $R/I$  is an  $(R/I, R)$ -bimodule. Define

$$IN = \left\{ \sum_{\text{finite}} a_i n_i : a_i \in I, n_i \in N \right\}.$$

Prove that

a)  $IN$  is a left  $R$ -submodule of  $N$ .

We use the Submodule Criterion.

First, since  $0_R \in I$  and  $0_N \in N$ , we have  $0_R \cdot 0_N = 0_N \in IN$ , which means,  $IN \neq \emptyset$ .

Next, let  $\sum a_i n_i, \sum b_i m_i \in IN$  and  $r \in R$ , then  $r \sum a_i n_i + \sum b_i m_i = \sum r a_i n_i + \sum b_i m_i \in IN$  because the sum of two finite sums must be finite. Moreover, since  $I$  is an ideal, by its black hole property we know  $ra_i \in I$  for all  $r \in R$  and  $a_i \in I$ .

We have therefore proved  $IN$  is a left  $R$ -submodule of  $N$ .

*QED*

b)  $(R/I) \otimes_R N \cong N/IN$ .

Note: I read Example 8 on page 370 of Dummit & Foote.

By observation,  $(R/I) \otimes_R N$  is an abelian group generated by  $(r \bmod I) \otimes n = r(1 \otimes n)$  for  $r \in R$  and  $n \in N$ , so  $1 \otimes n$  for  $n \in N$  generate  $(R/I) \otimes_R N$  as an  $R/I$  module. Hence the  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\varphi : N \rightarrow (R/I) \otimes_R N$  defined by  $\varphi(n) = 1 \otimes n$  is surjective.

Going back to part a) and consider  $IN$ , we see that  $\varphi$  maps each  $a_i n_i$ , where  $a_i \in I$  and  $n_i \in N$ , to  $1 \otimes a_i n_i = a_i \otimes n_i = 0$ , which means  $IN \subseteq \ker(\varphi)$ . By the Isomorphism Theorems, we have a homomorphism  $f : N/IN \rightarrow (R/I) \otimes_R N$  defined by  $f(n \bmod I) = 1 \otimes n$ .

We finally claim  $f$  is an isomorphism. Notice that  $\lambda : (R/I) \times N \rightarrow N/IN$  defined by  $\lambda(r \bmod I, n) = rn \bmod IN$  is well-defined: Suppose  $r_1 \bmod I = r_2 \bmod I$  such that  $r_1 - r_2 \in I$ , then

$$\lambda(r_1 \bmod I, n) = r_1 n \bmod IN \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda(r_2 \bmod I, n) = r_2 n \bmod IN$$

Consider  $r_1n - r_2n = (r_1 - r_2)n$ , since  $r_1 - r_2 \in I$  and  $n \in N$ , it must be that  $(r_1 - r_2)n \in IN$ , so  $r_1n \bmod IN = r_2n \bmod IN$ .

$\lambda$  is also  $R$ -balanced:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda(r_1 \bmod I + r_2 \bmod I, n) &= \lambda((r_1 + r_2) \bmod I, n) \\
&= (r_1 + r_2)n \bmod IN \\
&= r_1n \bmod IN + r_2n \bmod IN \\
&= \lambda(r_1 \bmod I, n) + \lambda(r_2 \bmod I, n)
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda(r \bmod I, n_1 + n_2) &= r(n_1 + n_2) \bmod IN \\
&= rn_1 \bmod IN + rn_2 \bmod IN \\
&= \lambda(r \bmod I, n_1) + \lambda(r \bmod I, n_2)
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda(r \bmod I, r'n) &= rr'n \bmod IN \\
&= \lambda(rr' \bmod I, n)
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

By Theorem 10 on page 365, we then have a group homomorphism  $g : (R/I) \otimes N \rightarrow N/IN$  defined by  $g((r \bmod I) \otimes n) = rn \bmod IN$ . We can see that  $g \circ f$  and  $f \circ g$  are both the identity. Hence we have proved  $(R/I) \otimes_R N \cong N/IN$ .

**Problem 4:**

Suppose  $R$  is a commutative ring and  $M, N$  are left  $R$ -modules considered with the standard  $R$ -module structures. Prove that there is a unique  $R$ -module isomorphism

$$M \otimes_R N \cong N \otimes_R M$$

mapping  $m \otimes n$  to  $n \otimes m$ .

Note: This does not mean  $a \otimes b = b \otimes a$  when  $M = N$ .

Note: I read Proposition 20 on page 374 of Dummit & Foote.

We consider the map  $\varphi_1 : M \times N \rightarrow N \otimes M$  defined by  $(m, n) \mapsto n \otimes m$ . We see that this map is  $R$ -balanced because

$$\varphi_1(m_1 + m_2, n) = n \otimes (m_1 + m_2) = n \otimes m_1 + n \otimes m_2 = \varphi_1(m_1, n) + \varphi_1(m_2, n)$$

$$\varphi_1(m, n_1 + n_2) = (n_1 + n_2) \otimes m = n_1 \otimes m + n_2 \otimes m = \varphi_1(m, n_1) + \varphi_1(m, n_2)$$

$$\varphi_1(m, rn) = rn \otimes m = nr \otimes m = n \otimes rm = n \otimes mr = \varphi_1(mr, n)$$

for all  $m, m_1, m_2 \in M$ ,  $n, n_1, n_2 \in N$ , and  $r \in R$ .

By Theorem 10 on page 365, we then have a unique group homomorphism  $\psi_1 : M \otimes N \rightarrow N \otimes M$  defined by  $m \otimes n \mapsto n \otimes m$ . We claim  $\psi_1$  is the unique  $R$ -module isomorphism. Since  $M \otimes N$  and  $N \otimes M$  are abelian groups,  $\psi_1$  as a group homomorphism takes care of the addition operation needed in an  $R$ -module homomorphism. To show  $\psi$  respects scalar multiplication by  $r \in R$ :

$$\psi(r(m \otimes n)) = \varphi(rm \otimes n) = n \otimes rm = nr \otimes m = rn \otimes m = r(n \otimes m) = r\psi(m \otimes n).$$

By the exact same process, we can construct a map  $\varphi_2 : N \otimes M \rightarrow M \otimes N$  and get a unique  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\psi_2$ . It is easy to see that  $\psi_2 \circ \psi_1$  and  $\psi_1 \circ \psi_2$  both give the identity. Hence they are bijective and we have constructed the isomorphism.

*QED*

**Problem 5:**

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $A, B$  be  $R$ -algebras. Show that the multiplication

$$(a \otimes b)(a' \otimes b') = aa' \otimes bb'$$

makes  $A \otimes_R B$  into an  $R$ -algebra.

Note: I was very confused about showing this multiplication is well-defined until I read Dummit & Foote and found out it provided a sketch, which I just moved to here. Furthermore, I used Corollary 16 on page 372, which I believe is something we didn't talk about in class but did mention briefly during problem session.

We first show the multiplication is well-defined. Observe that the map  $\varphi : A \times B \times A \times B \rightarrow A \otimes B$  is multilinear over  $R$ . This is easy to see so we only check one case:

$$\begin{aligned} f(a, r_1b_1 + r_2b_2, a', b') &= aa' \otimes (r_1b_1 + r_2b_2)b' \\ &= aa' \otimes r_1b_1b' + aa' \otimes r_2b_2b' \\ &= r_1f(a, b_1, a', b') + r_2f(a, b_2, a', b'). \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

By Corollary 16, we get a  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\psi : A \otimes B \otimes A \otimes B \rightarrow A \otimes B$  defined by  $\psi(a \otimes b \otimes a' \otimes b') = aa' \otimes bb'$ . We can also see  $A \otimes B \otimes A \otimes B = (A \otimes B) \otimes (A \otimes B)$ , and use Corollary 16 again to get another  $R$ -bilinear map  $\varphi' : (A \otimes B) \otimes (A \otimes B) \rightarrow A \otimes B$  defined by  $\varphi'(a \otimes b, a' \otimes b') = aa' \otimes bb'$ . We have thus shown the multiplication is well-defined.

We then show the multiplication makes  $A \otimes_R B$  into an  $R$ -algebra. Recall that  $A \otimes_R B$  is an abelian group, and that the multiplication being well-defined means it is bilinear, so we get the distributivity between addition and multiplication. Hence to show  $A \otimes_R B$  is a ring, we just need to show the multiplication is associative: Take  $a_1 \otimes b_1, a_2 \otimes b_2, a_3 \otimes b_3 \in A \otimes_R B$

and use the assumption  $A, B$  are rings

$$\begin{aligned}
((a_1 \otimes b_1)(a_2 \otimes b_2))(a_3 \otimes b_3) &= (a_1 a_2 \otimes b_2 b_2)(a_3 \otimes b_3) \\
&= (a_1 a_2) a_3 \otimes (b_1 b_2) b_3 \\
&= a_1 (a_2 a_3) \otimes b_1 (b_2 b_3) \\
&= (a_1 \otimes b_1) \otimes (a_2 a_3 \otimes b_2 b_3) \\
&= (a_1 \otimes b_1)((a_2 \otimes b_2)(a_3 \otimes b_3)).
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

We claim that  $A \otimes_R B$  is a ring with  $1_A \otimes 1_B$ , because

$$(a \otimes b)(1_A \otimes 1_B) = a \otimes b = (1_A \otimes 1_B)(a \otimes b).$$

We then proceed to consider the map  $\lambda : R \rightarrow A \otimes_R B$  defined by  $\lambda(r) = i(r) \otimes 1_B$ , where  $i$  is the ring homomorphism making  $A$  into an  $R$ -algebra (we use this fact multiple times in the following proof). We claim  $\lambda$  makes  $A \otimes_R B$  into an  $R$ -algebra.

We check that  $\lambda$  is a ring homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda(r_1 + r_2) &= i(r_1 + r_2) \otimes 1_B \\
&= (i(r_1) + i(r_2)) \otimes 1_B \\
&= i(r_1) \otimes 1_B + i(r_2) \otimes 1_B \\
&= \lambda(r_1) + \lambda(r_2)
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda(r_1 r_2) &= i(r_1 r_2) \otimes 1_B \\
&= (i(r_1) i(r_2)) \otimes 1_B \\
&= (i(r_1) \otimes 1_B)(i(r_2) \otimes 1_B) \\
&= \lambda(r_1) \lambda(r_2).
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

$\lambda$  also maps  $1_R$  to  $1_A \otimes 1_B$ :

$$\lambda(1_R) = i(1_R) \otimes 1_B = 1_A \otimes 1_B.$$



We finally show  $\lambda(R)$  is contained in the center of  $A \otimes_R B$  : Take  $r \in R$  and  $a \otimes b \in A \otimes_R B$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\lambda(r))(a \otimes b) &= (i(r) \otimes 1_B)(a \otimes b) \\
 &= i(r)a \otimes 1_B b \\
 &= ai(r) \otimes b1_B \\
 &= (a \otimes b)(i(r) \otimes 1_B) \\
 &= (a \otimes b)(\lambda(r)).
 \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

*QED*

**Problem 6:**

Show that  $\mathbb{Z}[i] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{C}$  as rings.

Note: I was told that we should use Problem 5 for this.

We see  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathbb{C}$  as left  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules. Consider the map  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}[i] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by  $\varphi(z, r) = zr$ . Since  $\varphi$  is clearly  $\mathbb{Z}$ -bilinear:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(m_1 z_1 + m_2 z_2, r) &= (m_1 z_1 + m_2 z_2)r = m_1 z_1 r + m_2 z_2 r = m_1 \varphi(z_1, r) + m_2 \varphi(z_2, r) \\ \varphi(z, m_1 r_1 + m_2 r_2) &= z(m_1 r_1 + m_2 r_2) = z m_1 r_1 + z m_2 r_2 = m_1 \varphi(z, r_1) + m_2 \varphi(z, r_2)\end{aligned}$$

we get a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module homomorphism  $\psi : \mathbb{Z}[i] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by  $\psi(z \otimes r) = zr$ .

We first show that  $\psi$  is a ring homomorphism, and we only need to show that multiplication preserves the structure, as  $\psi$  being a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module homomorphism already takes care of addition and the additive inverse. We define multiplication the same way we did in Problem 5:

$$\begin{aligned}\psi((z_1 \otimes r_1)(z_2 \otimes r_2)) &= \psi((z_1 z_2) \otimes (r_1 r_2)) \\ &= (z_1 z_2)(r_1 r_2) \\ &= (z_1 r_1)(z_2 r_2) \\ &= \psi(z_1 \otimes r_1)\psi(z_2 \otimes r_2).\end{aligned}\tag{10}$$

We then show that  $\psi$  is surjective. Consider an element  $a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . By our construction of  $\psi$ , we see that

$$\psi((1 \otimes a) + (i \otimes b)) = \psi(1 \otimes a) + \psi(i \otimes b) = a + bi.$$

Since  $1, i \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , we know  $1 \otimes a, i \otimes b \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$ . And since  $\mathbb{Z}[i] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  is an abelian group,  $(1 \otimes a) + (i \otimes b) \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$ .

We finally show that  $\psi$  is injective. Consider  $\psi(z \otimes r) = zr = 0$ . It follows immediately that  $z \otimes r = 0$ .

*QED*