

# Algebraic Number Theory

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### **Abstract**

There's definitely mistakes in this but don't blame me if you fail (:

For an up to date version of this pdf, check my GitHub :)

[https://github.com/vrvinny/algebraic\\_nt](https://github.com/vrvinny/algebraic_nt)

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# 1 Introduction/Review

## 1.1 Introduction

This is the study of certain rings, numbers called algebraic integers, e.g.

- Quadratic rings  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$  or  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}]$
- Cyclotomic rings  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n] \implies y = e^{2\pi i/n}$
- $\mathbb{Z}[z\sqrt{2}] = \{x + y^3\sqrt{2} + z^3\sqrt{z^2}\} \ x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$

**Definition 1.1.** A Diophantine equation is an equation of the form  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$  where  $f$  is a polynomial with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$

We'll usually be interested in solution in integers (or maybe rational numbers), for example, Pell's equation-  $x^2 - dy^2 = 1$ , or  $N(A) = n$  where  $A = x + y\alpha$ ,  $\alpha = \{\sqrt{d}, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\}$ .

In general Diophantine equations are hard, Matiyasevich's theorem shows Diophantine equations are as hard as any mathematical question. In spite of this, there are some Diophantine equations for which we have methods for solving, e.g. *What are the integer solutions of  $x^3 = y^2 + y = y(y+1)$ ?*

Since  $y, y+1$  are both coprime and their product is a cube, both  $y$  and  $y+1$  are a cube which implies  $y = 0, -1$ . So we have two solutions,  $(0, 0), (0, -1)$ . To do this we used this lemma:

**Lemma 1.2.** *Descent Lemma*

Let  $R$  be a ring be a unique factorisation domain. Suppose  $a, b, c \in R$  and  $a^n = bc$ . If  $b, c$  are coprime in  $R$  then  $b = u^{r^n}$ ,  $c = vs^n$  where  $u, v$  are units in  $R$ .

Another example,  $x^3 = y^2 + 1$ :

Problem,  $y^2 + 1$  doesn't factorise in  $\mathbb{Z}$  but it does factorise in  $\mathbb{Z}[i] \implies x^3 = (y+i)(y-i)$ . We want to use the Descent lemma to solve the equation.

- $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a unique factorisation domain
- Are  $y+i$  and  $y-i$  coprime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ?

Suppose  $p \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  is an irreducible common factor of  $y+i, y-i$ . If  $p|y+i$  and  $p|y-i \implies p|(y+i) - (y-i) \implies p|2i$ . This means the norms also divide each other,  $N(p)|N(2i) \implies N(p)|4$ .

$N(p) \neq \pm 1$  because  $p$  isn't a unit, therefore,  $2|N(p)|N(y+i) \implies N(y+i) = y^2 + 1 = x^3$ , so  $2|x^3$ .

Since 2 is a prime,  $2|x \implies x^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ . This implies  $y^2 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$

$y$	$y^2 \pmod{8}$
0	0
$\pm 1$	1
$\pm 2$	4
$\pm 3$	1
4	0

Since the equation has no solutions,  $y^2 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  has no solutions.

So  $y + i, y - i$  are coprime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

$\therefore y + 1 = uA^3$  with  $u \in \mathbb{Z}[i]^\times$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  with  $u = \pm 1$  or  $\pm i$

So in fact

$$\begin{aligned} y + i &= (r + si)^3 \quad r, s \in \mathbb{Z} \\ &= r^3 + 3ir^2s - 3rs^2 - is^3 \\ &= r^3 - 3rs^2 + i(3r^2s - s^3) \end{aligned}$$

Organising the terms gives a new Diophantine equation:

$$1 = 3r^2s - s^3 \qquad y = r^3 - 3rs^2$$

We can solve the new equation:

$$1 = (3r^2 - s^2)s \implies s = \pm 1$$

$$\text{If } s = 1 \implies 3r^2 - 1 = 1 \nmid$$

$$\text{If } s = -1 \implies 3r^2 - 1 = -1 \implies r = 0 \quad \text{so } (r, s) = (0, -1)$$

This implies  $x = 1, y = 0$  so  $(1, 0)$  is the only solution in integers.

This motivates the question: which rings are unique factorisation domains? More specifically which rings of algebraic integers are unique factorisation domains?

## 1.2 Definitions and proofs

A ring is a set  $R$  with two operations  $+$  &  $\times$ .  $(R, +)$  is an abelian group with identity element 0.  $\times$  is commutative, associative and has identity 1.  $x(y + z) = xy + xz \quad \forall x, y, z \in R$

An element  $x \in R$  is:

- a unit if  $\exists x^{-1} \in R$  such that  $xx^{-1} = 1$
- reducible if  $x = yz$  where  $y, z$  not units
- irreducible otherwise

For examples, in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , units are  $\pm 1$ , irreducible elements are  $\pm p$  for prime numbers  $p$ .

**Definition 1.3.** A ring  $R$  is an integral domain if  $xy = 0 \implies x = 0$  or  $y = 0$

**Lemma 1.4.** Cancellation property: If  $R$  is an integral domain, if  $x \neq 0$  then  $xy = xz \implies y = z$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} xy = xz &\implies x(y - z) = 0 \text{ and since } x \neq 0 \\ &\implies y - z = 0 \\ &\implies y = z \end{aligned}$$

□

A ring  $R$  is a unique factorisation domain if:

- $R$  is an integral domain
- If  $x \in R$  and  $x \neq 0$  then  $x = Up_1 \dots p_r$  with  $U \in R^\times$  and  $P_i$  irreducible

Suppose  $p_1 \dots p_r = q_1 \dots q_s$  with  $p_i, q_i$  irreducible then  $r = s$  and we can renumber so that  $q_i = Up_i$  with  $U \in R^\times$ .

The  $3^{rd}$  condition is equivalent to if  $p \in R$  is irreducible and  $p|ab$  then  $p|a$  or  $p|b$ .

**Lemma 1.5.** *Descent Lemma: Let  $R$  be a UFD (Unique Factorisation Domain) and let  $a, b, c \in R$  with  $a^n = bc$  and  $b, c$  coprime. Then  $b = ur^n$  and  $c = vs^n$  with  $u, v \in R^\times$*

*Proof.* If  $a$  is a unit then  $b$  and  $c$  are units, so the result is true.

If  $a = 0$  then  $b = 0$  or  $c = 0$ .

WLOG assume  $b = 0 = 1 * 0^n$ . But  $b$  and  $c$  are coprime  $\implies c$  must be a unit (since it is a common factor of  $b$  and  $c$ ).

In other cases  $a = p_1 \dots p_r$  with  $p_i$  irreducible. So

$$\begin{aligned} b &= (\text{a unit}) * p_1^{s_1} \dots p_r^{s_r} & s_i + t_i &= n \forall i \\ c &= (\text{a unit}) * p_1^{t_1} \dots p_r^{t_r} \end{aligned}$$

But we're assuming  $b, c$  are coprime so:

$\implies$  each  $s_i$  is either 0 or  $n$

$\implies b = (\text{a unit}) * (\text{some } n^{th} \text{ power}) \implies c = (\text{a unit}) * (\text{some } n^{th} \text{ power})$  □

### Reminder about quadratic rings

Let  $d \neq 1$  be a square free integer and  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \{x + y\alpha : x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

$$\alpha = \alpha_d = \begin{cases} \sqrt{d} & d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{1 + \sqrt{d}}{2} & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

If  $A = x + y\sqrt{d}$  then  $\bar{A} = x - y\sqrt{d}$  and  $N(A) = A\bar{A} = x^2 - dy^2$ .

Similarly  $N(x + y\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}) = x^2 + xy + \frac{1-d}{4}y^2$ .

The ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is norm-Euclidean if for all  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  with  $B \neq 0$ ,  $\exists Q, R \in \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  such that  $A = QB + R$  and  $|N(R)| < |N(B)|$ .

**Proposition 1.6.** *If  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is norm-Euclidean then  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is a UFD.*

*Proof.* (Sketch)

We'll show that if  $p \in \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is irreducible and  $p|AB$  then  $p|A$  or  $p|B$ .

If  $p \nmid A$  then  $\text{hcf}(A, p) = 1 \implies 1 = HA + KP$  by the Euclidean algorithm.

$$B = \underbrace{HAB}_{\text{multiple of } p} + \underbrace{KPB}_{\text{multiple of } p} \implies p|B$$

□

**Theorem 1.7.** *Disappointing Theorem:  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha_d]$  is norm-Euclidean in the following cases  $d = 2, 3, 5, 13, -1, -2, -3, -7, -11$ . Conjecturally there are infinitely many real quadratic rings which are UFD.*

## 2 Materials from other courses on rings, ideals and fields

Mainly from Galois Theory, Commutative Algebra and Groups and Rings. In this course,

- All rings are commutative with 1
- A field is a ring with  $1 \neq 0$
- If  $x \neq 0$ ,  $x$  is a unit

**Definition 2.1.** An ideal  $I$  in a ring  $R$  is a subset of  $R$  such that:

- $(I, +)$  is a subgroup of  $R$
- $\forall x \in R, y \in I \implies xy \in I$

Examples: If  $x \in R$  then we define  $(x) = \{xy : y \in R\}$ . This set  $(x)$  is an ideal in  $R$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Ideals of the form  $(x)$  are called principal ideals.  $(x)$  is the principle ideal generated by  $x$ .

$(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \{x_1y_1 + \dots + x_ny_n : y_i \in R\}$  this is also an ideal.

**E.g.** in  $\mathbb{Z}$   $(4, 6) = (2)$  and in general  $(n, m) = (\text{hcf}(n, m))$

**Definition 2.3.** A principal ideal domain is an integral domain such that all ideals are principal. A Noetherian ring is a ring in which ideals are finitely generated.

To show that  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \subseteq I$ , it is equivalent to showing  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in I$

**E.g.** in  $\mathbb{Z}$   $(4, 6) = (2)$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{array}{ll} (4, 6) \subseteq (2) & (2) \subseteq (4, 6) \\ 4 = 2 * 2 \in (2) & 2 = 2 * 4 + (-1) * 6 \in (4, 6) \\ 6 = 2 * 3 \in (2) & \end{array}$$

□

**Definition 2.4.** A principal ideal domain is an integral domain in which every ideal is principal

**E.g.**  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a PID

*Proof.* Suppose  $I \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$  is an ideal.

If  $I = \{0\}$  then  $I = (0)$ .

If  $I \neq \{0\}$  choose  $x \in I$  with  $|x|$  as small as possible with  $x \neq 0$ .

Claim  $I = (x)$ ,  $x \in I \implies x \subseteq I$ .

Conversely, suppose  $y \in I$  with  $y = qx + r$  such that  $|r| < |x|$ . This means that  $r = y - qx \in I \implies r = 0 \implies y = qx \in (x)$  which means  $I \subseteq (x)$ .  $\square$

**E.g.** If  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is a norm-Euclidean quadratic ring then  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is a PID.

*Proof.* Replace  $|x|$  by  $|N(A)|$  for  $A \in \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ .  $\square$

**E.g.** If  $k$  is a field then  $k[x]$  is a PID.

*Proof.* Replace  $|x|$  by  $\deg(f)$  for  $f \in k[x]$ .  $\square$

## 2.1 Quotient Rings

Let  $I$  be an ideal in  $R$ , we'll say  $x = y \in (I)$  if  $x - y \in I$ .

$R/I = \{\text{Congruency classes of elements of } R\}$

**Lemma 2.5.** If  $x \equiv x' \pmod{I}$  and  $y \equiv y' \pmod{I}$  then  $x + y \equiv x' + y' \pmod{I}$  and  $xy \equiv x'y' \pmod{I}$

This means we can make  $R/I$  into a ring.

*Proof.* If  $x - x' \in I$  and  $y - y' \in I$  then:

$$(x + y) - (x' + y') = (x - x') + (y - y') \in I$$

$$\begin{aligned} xy - x'y' &= xy - xy' + xy' - x'y' \\ &= x(y - y') + (x - x')y \in I \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

**E.g.** If  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $I = (n)$  and  $x \equiv x' \pmod{I} \Leftrightarrow x \equiv x' \pmod{n} \implies R/I = \mathbb{Z}/n$

**E.g.** If  $k$  is a field and  $f \in k[x]$  with degree  $d$  and  $I = (f)$ , every element of  $k[x]$  is congruent to a unique polynomial of degree  $< d$ . (The remainder after dividing by  $f$ ).

$\therefore R/I = \{a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_{d-1}x^{d-1} : a_i \in k\}$

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings. A ring homomorphism is a function  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  such that:

- $\phi(x + y) = \phi(x) + \phi(y)$
- $\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y)$



- $\phi(1_R) = 1_S$

$\ker(\phi) = \{x \in R : \phi(x) = 0\}$  and  $\ker(\phi)$  is an ideal of  $R$  (trivial to prove)  
 $\text{im}(\phi) = \{\phi(x) : x \in R\}$  and  $\text{im}(\phi)$  is a subring of  $S$

## 2.2 1st Isomorphism Theorem for Rings

Let  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  be a ring homomorphism. Then there is an isomorphism:

$$R/\ker(\phi) \cong \text{im}(\phi) \text{ by the mapping } (x \text{ mod } \ker(\phi)) \rightarrow \phi(x)$$

## 2.3 Maximal Ideals

**Definition 2.7.** Let  $R$  be a ring. An ideal  $M \subseteq R$  is maximal if:

- $M \neq R$
- If  $M \subseteq I \subseteq R$  with  $I$  an ideal then  $I = M$  or  $R$

**Proposition 2.8.** Suppose  $R$  is a PID, an ideal  $(x)$  is maximal if and only if  $x$  is irreducible.

*Proof.* Algebra 4 □

Note that the difference between a field and a ring is that if  $x \neq 0$  then  $xx^{-1} = 1$  and  $1 \neq 0$ .

**Proposition 2.9.** In any ring  $R$ ,  $M$  is maximal if and only if  $R/M$  is a field

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ) Assume  $M$  is maximal therefore  $M \neq R$  and  $1 \notin M$  and  $1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{M}$ .

Assume  $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{M}$ , let  $I$  be the ideal generated by  $M$  and  $x$ , then  $I \supsetneq M$  which means  $I = R$ .

$$I = \{m + xy : m \in M, y \in R\} \implies 1 = m + xy \text{ and } 1 \equiv xy \pmod{M}$$

( $\impliedby$ ) Assume  $R/M$  is a field so  $1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{M}$ .

$\therefore 1 \notin M$  so  $M \neq R$ .

Suppose  $M \subsetneq I$ , want to show  $I = R$ . Choose  $x \in I, x \notin M$  so  $x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{M}$

So  $\exists y$  such that  $xy \equiv 1 \pmod{M}$  and by the definition of existence of  $x^{-1}$ ,  $1 \in I \implies I = R$  □

**Corollary 2.10.** Let  $k$  be a field and  $f \in k[x]$ , then  $k[x]/(f)$  is a field if  $f$  is irreducible over  $k$

*Proof.*  $f$  irreducible  $\iff (f)$  is maximal  $\iff k[x]/(f)$  is a field.

(Polynomial ring is ideal) □

## 2.4 Field extensions

**Definition 2.11.** If  $k$  and  $l$  are fields with  $k \subseteq l$  then  $k$  is a subfield of  $l$ .

$l$  is called a field extension of  $k$ , e.g.  $\mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$

When  $l$  is an extension of  $k$ , we can think of  $l$  as a vector space over  $k$ .

**E.g.**  $\mathbb{C}$  has basis  $\{1, i\}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$

The degree of the extension  $[l : k]$  is the dimension of  $l$  as a vector space over  $k$

**E.g.**  $[\mathbb{C} : \mathbb{R}] = 2$

**E.g.**  $\mathbb{Q}(i) = \{x + iy : x, y \in \mathbb{Q}\}$

This is an extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  with basis  $\{1, i\} \implies [\mathbb{Q}(i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$

**E.g.** Let  $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  be irreducible  $\implies \mathbb{Q}[x]/(f) = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{d-1}x^{d-1}\}$  is a field.

This is an extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and has degree  $d = \deg(f)$ .

$\{1, x, \dots, x^{d-1}\}$  is a basis, so  $[\mathbb{Q}[x]/(f) : \mathbb{Q}] = d = \deg(f)$ .

**Notation:** Let  $l$  be an extension of  $k$  and let  $\alpha \in l$ , then:

**Definition 2.12.**  $\alpha$  is called "algebraic over  $k$ " if there exists a non-zero  $f \in k[x]$  such that  $f(\alpha) = 0$ . Otherwise  $\alpha$  is transcendental.

**E.g.**  $\sqrt{2}$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$  since it is a root of  $x^2 - 2$

For any  $\alpha \in l$   $k[\alpha] = \{g(\alpha) : g \in k[x]\}$ , the ring generated by  $k$  and  $\alpha$ .

$k(\alpha) = \{\frac{g(\alpha)}{h(\alpha)} : g, h \in k[x], h(\alpha) \neq 0\}$ , the field generated by  $k$  and  $\alpha$ .

**Proposition 2.13.** Let  $\alpha$  be algebraic over  $k$ . Then there is a unique monic polynomial  $m(x) \in k[x]$  such that:

- $m(\alpha) = 0$
- $f(\alpha) = 0 \iff m|f$

$m$  is the only monic irreducible polynomial over  $k$  such that  $m(\alpha) = 0$ .

**Definition 2.14.** This polynomial is called the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $k$

**E.g.**  $i$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{R}$  with minimal polynomial  $x^2 + 1$

$i$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with minimal polynomial  $x^2 + 1$

$i$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{C}$  with minimal polynomial  $x - i$

**Corollary 2.15.** Let  $\alpha$  be algebraic over  $k$ , then  $k[\alpha] = k(\alpha)$ , i.e.  $k[\alpha]$  is a field and there is an isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} k[x]/(m) &\cong k(\alpha) \\ (g(x) \bmod m) &\mapsto g(\alpha) \\ a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{d-1}x^{d-1} &\mapsto a_0 + a_1\alpha + \dots + a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1} \end{aligned}$$

where  $m$  is the minimal polynomial and has degree  $d$ .

$\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$  forms a basis for  $k(\alpha)$  and  $[k(\alpha) : k] = d = \deg(m)$

*Proof.* We have a homomorphism (surjective)  $k[x] \rightarrow k[\alpha] \implies k[x]/(m) \cong k[\alpha]$  and  $g \mapsto g(\alpha)$ . (Field because  $m$  is irreducible)

Kernel =  $\{g : g(\alpha) = 0\} = (m)$ , therefore  $k[\alpha] = k(\alpha)$  the isomorphism takes  $(g(x) \bmod m)$  to  $g(\alpha)$ .

$\{1, x, \dots, x^{d-1}\}$  is a basis for  $k[x]/(m)$

So  $\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$  is a basis for  $k(\alpha)$  □

**E.g.**  $i$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{R}$  with minimal polynomial  $x^2 + 1$

$\mathbb{R}[x]/(x^2 + 1) \cong \mathbb{R}(i) = \mathbb{C}$  with the map  $a + bx \mapsto a + bi$   $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

Similarly  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 1) \cong \mathbb{Q}(i)$  with  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$  with the map  $a + bx \mapsto a + bi$

**E.g.**  $\alpha = \sqrt[3]{2}$  This is a root of  $x^3 - 2$  and so  $\alpha$  is algebraic (over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ).

$\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^3 - 2) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  with the mapping  $a + bx + cx^2 \mapsto a + b\alpha + c\alpha^2$ .

The degree of the extension  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$  with  $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$  a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

## 2.5 Finding Minimal Polynomials

We need methods to check that a polynomial is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Lemma 2.16.** *Gauss Lemma: Suppose  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  and  $f = gh$   $g, h \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , then there exists  $c \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  such that  $cg$  and  $c^{-1}h$  are in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .*

**Lemma 2.17.** *Monic Gauss Lemma: Let  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be monic, if  $f = gh \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  both monic then  $g, h \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .*

**Corollary 2.18.** *If  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is monic the  $f$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q} \iff$  irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}$*

**Corollary 2.19.** *Let  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be monic. Let  $\bar{f}$  be the reduction of  $f \bmod n$ , i.e.  $\bar{f} \in (\mathbb{Z}/n)[x]$ . If  $\bar{f}$  is irreducible then  $f$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}$  and over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Note that  $n$  doesn't need to be prime*

## 2.6 Eisenstein's Criterion

Let  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  and let  $p$  be prime. Let  $f(x) = a_d x^d + \dots + a_0$ , if  $p \nmid a_d$  and  $f(x) \equiv a_d x^d \pmod{p}$  and let  $f(0) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$  then  $f$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}/p^2$  and over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**E.g.**  $\alpha = 10^{\frac{1}{11}} \implies \alpha^{11} = 10$ .

$\alpha$  is a root of  $x^{11} - 10$

$x^{11} - 10$  is irreducible by Eisenstein's Criterion (either with  $p = 2$  or  $p = 5$ )

So  $m_\alpha(x) = x^{11} - 10$

**E.g.**  $\alpha = 2^{\frac{2}{3}}$

$\alpha^3 = 4$

$\alpha$  is a root of  $m(x) = x^3 - 4$

To show that  $m$  is the minimal polynomial, we must show that  $m$  is irreducible.

$$m(x+1) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x - 3$$

$m(x+1)$  is irreducible by Eisenstein's criterion with  $p = 3 \implies m(x)$  is irreducible.

**E.g.**  $\alpha = 3^{\frac{2}{3}}$

$$\alpha^3 - 9 = 0$$

$\alpha$  is a root of  $m(x) = x^3 - 9$ . Note that  $\deg(m) = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}]$ . To show that  $m$  is the minimal polynomial it's sufficient to show that  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \geq 3$

$$\alpha = 3\beta \text{ where } \beta = 3^{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{3}\alpha^2 \text{ so } \beta \in \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \implies \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$$

$\beta$  has minimal polynomial  $x^3 - 3$  (by Eisenstein's criterion)

$$\therefore [\mathbb{Q}(\beta) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$$

$$\therefore m(\alpha) \text{ has degree } \geq 3$$

$$\therefore m_\alpha = x^3 - 9$$

Alternatively suppose  $x^3 - 9$  factorises over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . By the Monic Gauss lemma,  $x^3 - 9 = (x - a)(x^2 + bx + c)$ . By comparing coefficients,  $ac = 9$ , which means  $a = \pm 1$  or  $\pm 3$  or  $\pm 9$  and  $a^3 = 9$  because  $a$  is a root.  $\nexists$

**E.g.**  $\alpha = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^2 &= 2 + 2\sqrt{6} + 3 & (\alpha^2 - 5) - 24 &= 0 \\ &= 5 + 2\sqrt{6} \end{aligned}$$

So  $\alpha$  is a root of  $m(x) = x^4 - 10x^2 + 1$

Suppose  $m(x) = (x - a)(x^3 + bx^2 + cx + d)$  with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$

$a$  is a root of  $m$  and  $a$  is a factor of  $m(0) = 1$  so  $a = \pm 1$  which is a contradiction since  $m(\pm 1) = -8 \neq 0$ .

The other possible factorisation is  $m(x) = (x^2 + ax + b)(x^2 + cx + d)$ . Comparing coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= a + c \\ -10 &= b + d + ac & c &= -a & a^2 &= 10 \pm 2 = 8 \text{ or } 12 \nexists \\ 0 &= ad + bc \\ 1 &= bd & b &= d = \pm 1 \end{aligned}$$

## 2.7 Roots of Unity

Let  $n$  be a positive integer. An  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity is a complex number  $\zeta$  such that  $\zeta^n = 1$ . A primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity is an  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity which is not a  $d^{\text{th}}$  root of unity for any  $d < n$ .

$n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity:  $e^{2\pi i \frac{a}{n}}$  for  $a = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$

Primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity  $e^{2\pi i \frac{a}{n}}$  for  $a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n)^\times$ .

There are  $\phi(n)$  primitive  $n^{th}$  roots of unity.

The  $n^{th}$  cyclotomic polynomial is  $\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{\substack{\text{Primitive } n^{th} \\ \text{roots of unity}}} (x - \zeta)$

$$\deg(\Phi_n(x)) = \phi(n)$$

**Lemma 2.20.** For any  $n$ :  $\prod_{d|n} \Phi_d(x) = x^n - 1$ . We can use this to calculate  $\Phi_n$ .

**E.g.** If  $p$  prime then  $\Phi_1(x)\Phi_p(x) = x^p - 1$ .

$$\text{So } \Phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} = 1 + x + \dots + x^{p-1}$$

**Corollary 2.21.**  $\Phi_n(x)$  has coefficient in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Remark:** If  $\zeta$  is a primitive  $n^{th}$  root of unity then  $\zeta$  is a root of  $\Phi_n$

**Theorem 2.22.** Each  $\Phi_n$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . So  $\Phi_n$  is the minimal polynomial of a primitive  $n^{th}$  root of unity.

## 2.8 Tower Law

**Theorem 2.23.** Suppose  $k \subseteq l \subseteq m$  be fields. Then  $[m : k] = [m : l] * [l : k]$

*Proof.* Sketch: Let  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be a basis for  $l$  as a vector space over  $k$ .

Let  $\{c_1, \dots, c_m\}$  be a basis for  $m$  over  $k$ .

Then  $\{b_i, c_j\}$  is a basis for  $m$  over  $k$ . □

**E.g.**  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$

$[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$  and  $x^2 - 2$  is the minimal polynomial.

The minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt{3}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  is a factor of  $x^2 - 3$  so degree is 1 or 2.

From the Tower theorem, we know  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$  or 4.

$$\alpha = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$$

$$\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\alpha}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$$

deg 4 since  
 $\alpha$  has  
minimal  
polynomial  
 $x^4 - 10x^2 + 1$

By the Tower law  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}]$  is a multiple of 4.

$$\therefore [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4$$

$$\therefore [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})] = 2$$

$x^2 - 3$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$

Also  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] = 1$  i.e.  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$

This is an example of:

## 2.9 Primitive Element Theorem

**Theorem 2.24.** Suppose  $k$  is an extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of finite degree then there exists  $\alpha \in k$  such that  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$

*Proof.* Sketch:  $k$  has only finitely many subfields. Choose an  $\alpha \in k$  which is not in any of the proper subfields.

$\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is not contained in a proper subfield of  $k$  but  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is a subfield of  $k$ , therefore  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = k$ .  $\square$

## 2.10 Conjugates and Complex Field Embeddings

Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be algebraic numbers. Then  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are conjugates if  $m_\alpha = m_\beta$ . They have the same minimal polynomial over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**E.g.**  $\alpha = i, \beta = -i$  both have minimal polynomial  $x^2 + 1$ .

**E.g.**  $\zeta = e^{2\pi i \frac{1}{100}}$  This is a conjugate of  $\zeta^3$ , both have minimal polynomial  $\Phi_{100}$ .

**E.g.**  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$  has conjugates  $\pm\sqrt{2} \pm \sqrt{3}$

## 2.11 Galois Separability Lemma

**Lemma 2.25.** If  $\alpha$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$  then  $m_\alpha(x)$  has no repeated roots in  $\mathbb{C}$ , i.e.  $\alpha$  has exactly  $d$  conjugates in  $\mathbb{C}$  where  $d = \deg(m(x)) = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}]$

*Proof.* Suppose  $(x - \beta)^2 \mid m_\alpha(x)$  where  $m_\alpha$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

If  $(x - \beta) \mid m_\alpha$  then  $\alpha - \beta \mid m'_\alpha(x)$  but  $m'_\alpha$  has smallest degree than  $m_\alpha$ .  $\nmid$

$\square$

**Definition 2.26.** An algebraic number field is an extension  $k \supseteq \mathbb{Q}$  with  $[k : \mathbb{Q}]$

By the primitive element theorem  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  for some  $\alpha \in k$  so  $k \cong \mathbb{Q}[x]/(m)$  when  $m$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  and  $\deg(m) = [k : \mathbb{Q}]$ . The polynomial has exactly  $d$  roots in  $\mathbb{C}$  where  $d = \deg(m)$ . Call these roots  $\alpha_1, \alpha_d$ . Each  $\alpha_i$  has minimal polynomial  $m$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$\therefore \mathbb{Q}[x]/(m) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_i) \subseteq \mathbb{C}$

So for each conjugate  $\alpha_i$  of  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , there is a field homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_i : k &\rightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ k &\rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[x]/(m) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_i) \subseteq \mathbb{C} \end{aligned}$$

$$a_0 + a_1\alpha + \cdots + a_{d-1}\alpha \rightarrow a_0 + a_1x_1 + \cdots + a_{d-1}x^{d-1} \rightarrow a_0 + a_1\alpha_1 + \cdots + a_{d-1}\alpha_i^{d-1}$$

$$\sigma_i(a_0 + \cdots + a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1}) = a_0 + \cdots + a_{d-1}\alpha_i^{d-1}$$

**Proposition 2.27.**  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_d$  are all the field homomorphisms from  $k$  to  $\mathbb{C}$

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$

The conjugates of  $\sqrt{2}$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  are  $\pm\sqrt{2}$ .  $\alpha_1 = \sqrt{2}, \alpha_2 = -\sqrt{2}$

$$\sigma_1(x + y\sqrt{2}) = x + y\sqrt{2}$$

$$\sigma_2(x + y\sqrt{2}) = x - y\sqrt{2}$$

$k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  ,  $m(x) = x^3 - 2$  and  $\alpha_1 = 2^{\frac{1}{3}}, \alpha_2 = 2^{\frac{1}{3}}e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}, \alpha_3 = 2^{\frac{1}{3}}e^{\frac{4\pi i}{3}}$

### 3 Rings of Algebraic Integers

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $k$  be a field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  $\alpha \in k$  is an algebraic number if  $f(\alpha) = 0$  for some  $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

$\alpha$  is an algebraic integer if  $f(\alpha) = 0$  for some  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

**E.g.**  $\sqrt{2}$  is an algebraic integer  $f(x) = x^2 - 2$

**E.g.**  $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\alpha - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{5}{4} &= 0 \\ \alpha^2 - \alpha - 1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

So  $f(x) = x^2 - x - 1$

**E.g.**  $\zeta = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$  then  $f(x) = x^n - 1 \implies \zeta$  is an algebraic integer.

**Proposition 3.2.** Suppose  $\alpha$  is an algebraic number. Then  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer  $\iff m_\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  (minimal polynomial).

**E.g.**  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  is not an algebraic integer, it's minimal polynomial is  $x^2 - \frac{1}{2}$

*Proof.* ( $\Leftarrow$ ) if  $m_\alpha(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  then  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer  $m_\alpha(\alpha) = 0$  and  $m_\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is monic.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Assume  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer  $f(\alpha) = 0$ ,  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  monic.

$m_\alpha | f$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(x)$  by definition of  $m_\alpha$ , i.e.  $f = m_\alpha^\times q$ ,  $m_\alpha, q \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  monic.

By the Monic Gauss lemma,  $m_\alpha$  and  $q \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . □

**Corollary 3.3.** The algebraic integers in  $\mathbb{Q}$  are  $\mathbb{Z}$

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$ .  $m_\alpha(x) = x - \alpha$ .  $m_\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \iff \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ . □

Main aim of this chapter: Given an algebraic number field  $k$ , what are the algebraic integers in  $k$ ?

**Notation:**  $\mathcal{O}_k = \{\text{Algebraic integers in } k\}$ .

**E.g.**  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{Z}$  If  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$  then  $m_\alpha(x) = x - \alpha$

**Proposition 3.4.** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then all eigenvalues of  $A$  are algebraic integers.

*Proof.* The eigenvalues are roots of  $Ch_A(x) = \det(xI_n - A)$  □



**Notation:**  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \{f(\alpha) : f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]\}$  the ring generated by  $\alpha$

As a group  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is generated by  $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots\}$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots\}$

Sometimes  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is finitely generated as an additive group, i.e.  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{b_1, \dots, b_r\}$ .

**E.g.**  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{b_1, \dots, b_r\}$

**Proposition 3.5.**  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is finitely generated as an additive group  $\iff \alpha$  is an additive integer.

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ) Assume  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{b_1, \dots, b_r\}$  with  $b_i \in \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$

$$\alpha = a_{i1}b_1 + \dots + a_{1r}b_r \quad \text{for some } a_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha b_1 &= a_{11}b_1 + \dots + a_{1r}b_r \\ &\vdots \\ \alpha b_r &= a_{r1}b_1 + \dots + a_{rr}b_r \end{aligned} \quad \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_r \end{pmatrix} = (a_{ij}) \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_r \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\alpha$$

So  $\alpha$  is an eigenvalue of  $(a_{ij})$  and  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer.

( $\impliedby$ ) Assume  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer  $f(\alpha) = 0$  for some monic  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Let  $d = \deg(f)$ , claim  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$ .

Let  $R$  be a ring,  $f, g \in R[x]$  such that  $g = qf + r$  for  $q, r \in R[x]$  with  $\deg(r) < d$

$$\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \{g(\alpha) : g \in \mathbb{Z}[x]\}$$

$$g = qf + r, \quad \deg(r) < d, \quad q, r \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

$$g(\alpha) = q(\alpha)f(\alpha) + r(\alpha)$$

$$g(\alpha) = r(\alpha) = a_0 + a_1\alpha + \dots + a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1}$$

$$g(\alpha) \in \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\} \quad \square$$

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $\alpha, \beta \in k$  be both algebraic integers, then  $\alpha + \beta$ ,  $\alpha - \beta$ ,  $\alpha\beta$  are algebraic integers form a subring of  $k$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$   
 $\mathbb{Z}[\beta] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{1, \beta, \dots, \beta^{e-1}\}$

$$\alpha^i * \beta^j \in \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{\alpha^i \beta^j : i < d, j < e\}$$

$$\therefore \mathbb{Z}[\alpha, \beta] = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{\alpha^i \beta^j : i < d, j < e\}$$

So  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha, \beta]$  is finitely generated.

Let  $\gamma = \alpha + \beta$  or  $\alpha - \beta$  or  $\alpha\beta$  so  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}[\alpha, \beta]$

$\mathbb{Z}[\gamma] \subseteq \mathbb{Z}[\alpha, \beta] \implies \mathbb{Z}[\gamma]$  is finitely generated as an additive group.

$\implies \gamma$  is an algebraic integer. □

**E.g.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}) = \{x + y\sqrt{5} : x, y \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . What is  $\mathcal{O}_k$ ?

Let  $A = x + y\sqrt{5}$ , with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $y \neq 0$ .

Assume  $A \in \mathcal{O}_k$ ,  $k = \mathbb{Q}(A)$  and  $m_A(x)$  has degree 2.

$$(A - x)^2 - 5y^2 = 0$$

$$A^2 - 2xA - 5y^2 + x^2 = 0$$

$$\text{So } m_A(x) = X^2 - 2xX + x^2 - 5y^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} A \in \mathcal{O}_k &\iff m_A(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \\ &\iff 2x \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ and } x^2 - 5y^2 \in \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

This means the denominator of  $x$  is at most 2.

$$x = \frac{r}{2} \quad r \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ since } x^2 - 5y^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$y = \frac{s}{2} \quad s \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\frac{r^2 - 5s^2}{4} \in \mathbb{Z} \implies r^2 - 5s^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \quad (4)$$

$$r^2 \equiv s^2 \pmod{2} \quad (2)$$

$$r \equiv s \pmod{2} \quad (2)$$

$$r = s + 2t \quad t \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{r}{2} + \frac{s}{2}\sqrt{5} \\ &= \frac{s}{2} + t + \frac{s}{2}\sqrt{5} \\ &= t + s\left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

So every algebraic integer in  $k$  is actually in  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  where  $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ .

Conversely since  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_k$  we know  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$ .  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \{t + s\alpha : t, s \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

What is so special about the rings  $\mathcal{O}_k$ ? Why not just study  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}]$  instead of  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}]$ ?

**Proposition 3.7.** *Suppose  $R \subseteq k$  is a UFD subring of  $k$ . If  $A = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  is an algebraic integer in  $k$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in R$  then  $A \in R$ .*

This implies  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}]$  is not a UFD (take  $A = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ ).

*Proof.* Let  $A = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  be an algebraic integer. Without loss of generality assume,  $\alpha, \beta \in R$  are coprime.

To prove  $A \in R$  we'll show that  $\beta$  is a unit.

Suppose  $p|\beta$ ,  $p \in R$  is irreducible.

$$A \in \mathcal{O}_k \text{ so } A^d + \alpha_{d-1}A^{d-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0 \quad a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\frac{\alpha^d}{\beta^d} + a_{d-1}\frac{\alpha^{d-1}}{\beta^{d-1}} + \dots + a_0 = 0$$

Multiply by  $\beta^d$ :

$$\alpha^d + \underbrace{a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1}\beta + \dots + a_0\beta^d}_{\text{multiples of } p} = 0$$

So  $p|\alpha^d$  and  $p|\alpha$  since  $R$  is a UFD and  $p$  is irreducible.

$p$  is a common factor of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  $\nexists \beta$  has no irreducible factors so  $\beta$  is a unit.

□

### 3.1 The Standard Representation

**Definition 3.8.** *The map  $\beta \mapsto A_\beta$  is called the standard representation.*

Let  $k/\mathbb{Q}$  be an algebraic number field.

$$d = [k : \mathbb{Q}] \text{ for some } \alpha \in k$$

$$k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$$

$m = m_\alpha$  minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$

$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d \in \mathbb{C}$  the (distinct) complex roots of  $m_\alpha$ , i.e. conjugates of  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

For each  $\alpha_i$  we have a field embedding:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_i : k &\longrightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ \sigma_i(a_0 + a_1\alpha + \dots + a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1}) &= a_0 + a_1\alpha_i + \dots + a_{d-1}\alpha_i^{d-1} \\ \sigma_i(f(\alpha)) &= f(a_i) \quad f \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \end{aligned}$$

For an element  $\beta \in k$ , let  $A_\beta$  be the linear map  $k \rightarrow k$ ,  $A_\beta(x) = \beta x$ . After choosing a basis for  $k/\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $A_\beta$  is a  $d \times d$  matrix of rational numbers.

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ ,  $\beta = 3 + 2\sqrt{2}$

We find the matrix of  $A_\beta$  with respect to the basis  $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} A_\beta(1) &= (3 + 2\sqrt{2}) * 1 = 3 \cdot 1 + 2\sqrt{2} \\ A_\beta(\sqrt{2}) &= (3 + 2\sqrt{2}) * \sqrt{2} = 4 \cdot 1 + 3\sqrt{2} \end{aligned} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Remark :** We can recover  $\beta$  from  $A_\beta$  by  $\beta = A_\beta(1)$  and the map  $\beta \mapsto A_\beta$  is injective.

### 3.1.1 Properties of the Standard Representation

- $A_{\beta+\gamma} = A_\beta + A_\gamma \quad (\gamma, \beta \in k \quad x \in \mathbb{Q})$
- $A_{\beta\gamma} = A_\beta \cdot A_\gamma$
- $A_{x\beta} = xA_\beta$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\beta\gamma}(t) &= \beta\gamma t \\ &= A_\beta(\gamma t) \\ &= A_\beta(A_\gamma(t)) \end{aligned} \quad \text{so } A_{\beta\gamma} = A_\beta \circ A_\gamma$$

Other proofs are similar. □

**Corollary 3.9.** *If  $g \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \quad A_{g(\beta)} = g(A_\beta)$ . The polynomial = the linear map*

*Proof.* Let  $g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n \quad a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{g(\beta)} &= A_{a_0+a_1\beta+\cdots+a_n\beta^n} \\ &= A_{a_0} + A_{a_1\beta} + \cdots + A_{a_n\beta^n} \\ &= a_0A_1 + a_1A_\beta + \cdots + a_nA_{\beta^n} \\ &= a_0A_1 + a_1A_\beta + 1_2(A_\beta)^2 + \cdots + a_n(A_\beta)^n \\ &= g(A_\beta) \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 3.10.** *Let  $\beta \in k$  be the field polynomial  $F_\beta(x)$  is  $F_\beta(x) = \det(xI - A_\beta)$  i.e. the characteristic polynomial of  $\beta$ .*

$F_\beta$  is the monic polynomial of degree  $d$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

**Lemma 3.11.** *If  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  then  $F_\alpha(x) = m_\alpha(x)$ .*

*Proof.* By the Cayley-Hamilton ( $Ch_A(A) = 0$ ):  $F_\alpha(A_\alpha) = A_{F_\alpha(\alpha)} = \underline{0}$ . So  $F_\alpha(\alpha) = 0$  and  $F_\alpha$  is a multiple of  $m_\alpha$ . Since it has degree  $d$  and is monic,  $F_\alpha = m_\alpha$ . □

**Theorem 3.12.** For any  $\beta \in k$ , the matrix  $A_\beta$  is diagonalisable over  $\mathbb{C}$  with diagonal entries  $\sigma_1(\beta), \dots, \sigma_d(\beta)$  and  $F_\beta(x) = (x - \sigma_1(\beta)) \dots (x - \sigma_d(\beta))$

*Proof.* First prove in the case  $\beta = \alpha$ ,  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

The eigenvalues of  $A_\alpha$  are the roots of  $F_\alpha = m_\alpha$  (by the lemma)

These are  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d$ . By the Galois Separability lemma, we have  $d$  eigenvalues.

$$\therefore A_\alpha \text{ is diagonalisable over } \mathbb{C} \text{ and } P^{-1}A_\alpha P = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \alpha_d \end{pmatrix}$$

Now check for any  $\beta \in k$   $\beta = g(\alpha)$  for some  $g \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$

$$\begin{aligned} A_\beta &= A_g(\alpha) = g(A_\alpha)a \\ &= g\left(P \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \alpha_d \end{pmatrix} P^{-1}\right) \\ &= Pg\left(\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \alpha_d \end{pmatrix}\right)P^{-1} \\ &= P \begin{pmatrix} g(\alpha_1) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & g(\alpha_d) \end{pmatrix} P^{-1} \\ &= P \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\beta) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_d(\beta) \end{pmatrix} P^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

□

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{x + y\sqrt{2} : x, y \in \mathbb{Q}\}$   $d = 2$ .

Use the basis  $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$

$$A_{\sqrt{2}}(1) = \sqrt{2} \cdot 1 = 0 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \sqrt{2}$$

$$A_{\sqrt{2}}(\sqrt{2}) = 2 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot \sqrt{2}$$

$$A_{\sqrt{2}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } P = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } P^{-1}A_{\sqrt{2}}P = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } \beta = x + y\sqrt{2} \quad A_\beta = xI_2 + y \quad A_{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} x & 2y \\ y & x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P^{-1}A_{\beta}P = \begin{pmatrix} x+y\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & x-y\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\beta) & \\ & \sigma_2(\beta) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F_{\beta}(x) = (x - \sigma_1(\beta))(x - \sigma_2(\beta))$$

**Corollary 3.13.** For any  $\beta \in k$ ,  $[k : \mathbb{Q}(\beta)]$

*Proof.* Suppose  $p(x)$  is a monic irreducible factor of  $F_{\beta}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Want to show  $p = m_{\beta}$ .

The roots of  $F_{\beta}$  are  $\sigma_1(\beta), \dots, \sigma_d(\beta)$ . These are the conjugates of  $\beta$ , i.e. the roots of  $m_{\beta}$ .

Therefore the roots of  $p$  have minimal polynomial  $m_{\beta}$ .

$m_{\beta}|p$  so  $p = m_{\beta}$  and since  $F_{\beta}$  and  $m_{\beta}$  are both monic,  $F_{\beta} = m_{\beta}^r$  for some  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Also  $m_{\beta}$  has degree  $[\mathbb{Q}(\beta) : \mathbb{Q}]$ .

So by the Tower law,  $r = [k : \mathbb{Q}(\beta)]$ . □

**Corollary 3.14.**  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k \iff F_{\beta}(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ )

Suppose  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ ,  $m_{\beta} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  but  $F_{\beta}$  is a power of  $m_{\beta} \implies F_{\beta} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$

( $\impliedby$ ) Assume  $F_{\beta} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$   $F_{\beta}(\beta) = m_{\beta}(\beta)^{[k:\mathbb{Q}(\beta)]} = 0^Y = 0$  for some  $y$ . Therefore  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ . □

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(i)$   $\beta = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{7}i$

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\beta}(x) &= (x - \sigma_1(\beta))(x - \sigma_2(\beta)) \\ &= \left(x - \frac{3}{2} - \frac{5}{7}i\right)\left(x - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{7}i\right) \\ &= \left(x - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{25}{49} \notin \mathbb{Z}[x] \end{aligned} \quad \text{so } \beta \notin \mathcal{O}_k$$

**Corollary 3.15.** Let  $b \in k$  then  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  ( $n > 0$ ) such that  $n\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ .

*Proof.* Choose  $n$  so that  $nA_{\beta} = A_{n\beta}$  has entries in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $F_{n\beta} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  and so by the previous corollary  $n\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ . □

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha = 10^{\frac{1}{3}}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_k$  so  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$ .

$$\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \{x + y\alpha + z\alpha^2 : x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

Let  $\beta = \frac{1+\alpha+\alpha^2}{3}$  then  $A_{\beta} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 10 & 10 \\ 1 & 1 & 10 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  Is  $\beta$  an algebraic integer?

$$F_{\beta}(x) = \det(xI_3 - A_{\beta})$$

First calculate the standard representation:

$$\begin{aligned}
A_\alpha(1) &= \alpha = 0 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \alpha + 0 \cdot \alpha^2 \\
A_\alpha(\alpha) &= \alpha^2 = 0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot \alpha + 1 \cdot \alpha^2 \\
A_\alpha(\alpha^2) &= 10 = 10 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot \alpha + 0 \cdot \alpha^2
\end{aligned}$$

$$A_\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad A_\alpha^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_\beta = \frac{1}{3} \left( I_3 + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 10 & 10 \\ 1 & 1 & 10 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
F_\beta &= \det(xI_3 - A_\beta) \\
&= \det \left( \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 3x-1 & -10 & -10 \\ -1 & 3x-1 & -10 \\ -1 & -1 & 3x-1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{27} \left( ((3x-1)^3 - 100 - 10) - (3(10(3x-1))) \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{27} (27x^3 - 27x^2 - 81x - 81)
\end{aligned}$$

$$F_\beta(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 3x - 3 \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \quad \beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$$

$\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is not a UFD.

### 3.2 Norms and Traces

**Definition 3.16.** For an element  $\beta \in k$  we define  $N(\beta) = \det(A_\beta)$  to be the norm of  $\beta$  and  $Tr(\beta) = Tr(A_\beta)$  to be the trace of  $\beta$ .

Note that  $N(\beta)$  and  $Tr(\beta) \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

**E.g.**  $Tr \left( \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 7 & 3 \\ 4 & 7 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \right) = 3 + 7 + 3$

**Proposition 3.17.**  $N(\beta) = \sigma_1(\beta) \times \cdots \times \sigma_d(\beta)$   
 $Tr(\beta) = \sigma_1(\beta) + \cdots + \sigma_d(\beta)$

*Proof.*  $A_\beta \sim \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\beta) & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_d(\beta) \end{pmatrix}$

□

### 3.3 Properties of Norms and Traces

- $N(\beta\gamma) = N(\beta)N(\gamma)$  for  $\beta, \gamma \in k$
- $N(x\beta) = x^d N(\beta)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$
- $Tr(\beta + \gamma) = Tr(\beta) + Tr(\gamma)$
- $Tr(x\beta) = xTr(\beta)$

*Proof.*  $N(\beta\gamma) = \det(A_{\beta\gamma}) = \det(A_\beta A_\gamma) = N(\beta)N(\gamma)$  □

**Proposition 3.18.**  $F_\beta(x) = x^d - Tr(\beta)x^{d-1} + \cdots + (-1)^d N(\beta)$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} F_\beta(x) &= (x - \sigma_1(\beta)) \times \cdots \times (x - \sigma_d(\beta)) \\ &= x^d - (\sigma_1(\beta) + \cdots + \sigma_d(\beta))x^{d-1} + \cdots + (-1)^d (\sigma_1(\beta) \times \cdots \times \sigma_d(\beta)) \\ &= x^d - Tr(\beta)x^{d-1} + \cdots + (-1)^d N(\beta) \end{aligned}$$

□

**E.g.**  $\alpha = 10^{\frac{1}{3}}, \beta = \frac{1+\alpha+\alpha^2}{3}$

$$N(\beta) = 3, Tr(\beta) = 1 \text{ and } F_\beta(\alpha) = \alpha^3 - \alpha^2 - 3\alpha - 3$$

**Corollary 3.19.** If  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$  then  $N(\beta), Tr(\beta) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.*  $F_\beta \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  □

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(i), \beta = \frac{1+i}{2}$

$$N(\beta) = \frac{1+i}{2} * \frac{1-i}{2} = \frac{1+1}{4} = \frac{1}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$$

### 3.4 Integral Bases

**E.g.**  $\alpha = 10^{\frac{1}{3}}, k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \mathbb{Z}[\alpha] \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$

We also found another element  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k, \beta = \frac{1+\alpha+\alpha^2}{3}$  for  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha, \beta] \in \mathcal{O}_k$ .

Is this all of  $\mathcal{O}_k$  or are there more?

Eventually this process will end with the whole of  $\mathcal{O}_k$  which will be proved later.

**Definition 3.20.** Suppose  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  is a basis for  $k$  as a vector space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We call  $\beta$  an integral basis if:

$$\mathcal{O}_k = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\beta = \{x_1 b_1 + \cdots + x_d b_d : x_i \in \mathbb{Z}\})$$



**Theorem 3.21.** *There exists an integral basis in  $k$  and a method for finding it.*

*Proof.* (Sketch)

Start with any basis  $\{b_1, \dots, b_d\}$ .

After multiplying  $b_i$  by integer, we can assume  $b_i \in \mathcal{O}_k$ ,  $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{b_i\} \subset \mathbb{Q}$

If  $\text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{\mathcal{B}\} \neq \mathcal{O}_k$  then we can find an element  $\mathcal{O} \in \mathcal{O}_k$  with  $\mathcal{O} \notin \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\mathcal{B}$ .

Replace some  $b_i$  by  $\mathcal{O}$  to get a new basis  $\mathcal{C}$  and this new basis is "smaller" than  $\mathcal{B}$  but we need to explain what smaller means.  $\square$

**E.g.**  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$   $\mathcal{B} = \{1, i\}$  is an integral basis because  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

If  $\mathcal{B}$  is any basis then we define  $\Delta(\mathcal{B}) = \det(\text{Tr}(b_i b_j)) \in \mathbb{Q}$ . If  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  then  $\Delta\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

The symmetric matrix  $(\text{Tr}(b_i b_j))$  is the matrix of a symmetric bilinear form  $k \times k \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ .

$$(A, B) \mapsto \text{Tr}(AB) \quad A, B \in k$$

$$\text{Tr}((A + xC)B) = \text{Tr}(AB + xCB) = \text{Tr}(AB) + x\text{Tr}(CB) \quad x \in \mathbb{Q}$$

**Corollary 3.22.**  $\Delta\mathcal{B} \neq 0$  if  $\mathcal{B}$  is any basis

*Proof.* Suppose  $\Delta\mathcal{B} = 0$ , so 0 is an eigenvalue of the matrix of the bilinear form.

There exists  $A \in k$  ( $A \neq 0$ ) such that  $\text{Tr}(AB) = 0 \quad \forall B \in k$ .

Let  $B = \frac{1}{A}$ , thus  $\text{Tr}(1) = 0$  and  $d = 0$   $\nmid$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.23.** Suppose  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_i\}$   $\mathcal{C} = \{c_i\}$  are two bases. Let  $M = (m_{ij})$  be the transition matrix i.e.  $c_i = \sum_j m_{ij} b_j$  then  $\Delta\mathcal{C} = (\det(M))^2 \Delta\mathcal{B}$ .

*Proof.* Recall from Algebra 3,  $\text{Tr}(c_i c_j) = M^T \text{Tr}(b_i b_j) M$ .

Take the determinant  $\Delta\mathcal{C} = \det(M) \Delta\mathcal{B} \det(M)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.24.** Let  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_d\}$  be a basis for  $k/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{O}_k$ .

Assume  $\mathcal{B}$  is not an integral basis. Then there is a prime number  $p$  with  $p \mid \Delta\mathcal{B}$  and an element:

$$\theta = \frac{x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_d b_d}{p} \quad x_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\} \text{ not all } 0$$

such that  $\theta$  is an algebraic integer.

If  $x_i \neq 0$  then we can replace  $b_i$  by  $\theta$  to get a new basis  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\Delta(\mathcal{C}) = \left(\frac{x^i}{p}\right)^2 \Delta\mathcal{B}$

**Theorem 3.25.** *There is an integral basis in  $k$*

*Proof.* Choose a basis  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  with  $|\Delta\mathcal{B}|$  as small as possible.

Claim  $\mathcal{B}$  is an integral, suppose not. By the lemma there is a basis  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  such that  $\Delta\mathcal{C} = \left(\frac{x^i}{p}\right)^2 \Delta\mathcal{B}$  for  $|x_i| < p$ .

$$|\Delta\mathcal{C}| < |\Delta\mathcal{B}| \nmid$$

□

The lemma also give a method for finding an integral basis.

1. Start off with any basis for  $k/\mathbb{Q}$

For example if  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  we can take  $\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$

2. Multiplying the basis vectors by non-zero integers we can assume  $\{b_1, \dots, b_d\} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$
3. Calculate  $\Delta\{b_1, \dots, b_d\}$

For each element  $\theta = \frac{x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_d b_d}{p}$  where  $x_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$  not all 0,  $p$  prime and  $p|\Delta\mathcal{B}$

- If  $\theta$  is an algebraic integer then replace some  $b_i$  by  $\theta$  to get a new basis and go back to 3).
- If none of the  $\theta$  are algebraic integers then  $\mathcal{B}$  is an integral basis.

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$  Start with basis  $\{1, \sqrt{5}\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\{1, \sqrt{5}\} &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(1 * 1) & \text{Tr}(1 * \sqrt{5}) \\ \text{Tr}(\sqrt{5} * 1) & \text{Tr}(\sqrt{5} * \sqrt{5}) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 20 \\ &= 2^2 * 5 \end{aligned}$$

The only prime whose square divides this is  $p = 2$ .

So  $\theta = x + y\sqrt{5}$   $x, y \in \{0, 1\}$  not both 0.

The following combinations are possible,  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$  and  $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ . Trivially  $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \in \mathcal{O}_k$ .

So the new basis  $\mathcal{C} = \{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\}$  and  $\Delta(\mathcal{C}) = \frac{1}{2}^2 \Delta\mathcal{B} = 5$

There are no primes  $p$  such that  $p^2|\mathcal{B}$ . This means there are no more  $\theta$  to check  $\implies \mathcal{C}$  is an integral basis.

$$\mathcal{O}_k = \{x + y\alpha : x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad \alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

$$\text{Tr}(x + y\sqrt{5}) = 2x$$

*Proof.* Lemma 3.2.4

Assume  $\mathcal{B}$  is not an integral basis, then there exists an algebraic integer  $\Phi = y_1 b_1 + \dots + y_d b_d$   $y_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $y_i$  not all in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $N$  be the lowest common denominator of  $y_1, \dots, y_d$ . Replace  $\Phi$  by  $\frac{N}{p}\Phi$  where  $p$  is prime.

The denominators are the prime  $p$  factor of  $N$ .

Let  $\Psi = \lfloor y_1 \rfloor b_1 + \dots + \lfloor y_d \rfloor b_d \in \mathcal{O}_k$ .

$\theta = \Phi - \Psi \in \mathcal{O}_k$

The coefficients of  $\theta$  are in  $[0, 1)$ , not all 0 and with denominator  $p$ .

$$\theta = \frac{x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_d b_d}{p} \quad x_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$$

Suppose  $x_i \neq 0$ , let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the new basis with  $b_i$  replaced by  $\theta$ .

The new transition matrix is:

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= b_1 \\ c_2 &= b_2 \\ &\vdots \\ c_i &= \frac{x_i}{p} b_i + \dots + \frac{x_d}{p} b_d \\ &\vdots \\ c_d &= b_d \end{aligned} \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \frac{x_1}{p} \\ & 1 & & \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & \frac{x_i}{p} & & \\ & & & \vdots & \ddots & \\ & & & \frac{x_d}{p} & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ (0s elsewhere)}$$

So  $\Delta \mathcal{C} = \det(M)^2 \Delta \mathcal{B} = (\frac{x^i}{p})^2 \Delta \mathcal{B}$

$$p^2 \Delta \mathcal{C} = x_i^2 \Delta \mathcal{B} \quad x_i \in \{1, \dots, p-1\}, \ x_i \text{ coprime to } p^2 \text{ and } p^2 | \Delta \mathcal{B}$$

□

We found an integral basis,  $1, \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ .

We'll see methods which will find an integral basis in  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

**E.g.**  $\alpha^8 - 2 = 0$ , we need better methods for calculating discriminants.

**Lemma 3.26.** *If  $\{b_1, \dots, b_d\}$  is any basis then  $\Delta\{b_1, \dots, b_d\} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(b_1) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_1) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sigma_1(b_d) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_d) \end{pmatrix}^2$*

Here  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_d : k \mapsto \mathbb{C}$  are field embeddings.

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{n})$   $n$  not a square

$$\Delta\{1, \sqrt{n}\} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \sqrt{n} & -\sqrt{n} \end{pmatrix}^2 = (-2\sqrt{n})^2 = 4n$$

If  $n$  is square free then the only primes to consider in the algorithm is  $p = 2$ . So we'd consider the elements  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}, \frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2}$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(b_1) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_1) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sigma_1(b_d) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_d) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(b_1) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_1) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sigma_1(b_d) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_d) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(b_1 b_1) + \sigma_2(b_1 b_1) + \dots + \sigma_d(b_1 b_1) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_1 b_d) + \dots + \sigma_d(b_1 b_d) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sigma_1(b_d b_1) + \dots + \sigma_d(b_d b_1) & \dots & \sigma_d(b_d b_d) + \dots + \sigma_d(b_d b_d) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(b_1 b_1) & \dots & \text{Tr}(b_1 b_d) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(b_d b_1) & \dots & \text{Tr}(b_d b_d) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Take determinant of both sides  $\det(\sigma_i(b_j))^2 = \Delta\mathcal{B}$  □

Next we'll look at  $\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$ ,  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$

**Proposition 3.27.** *Let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d$  be the conjugate of  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then  $\Delta\{1, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\} = \prod_{i,j=1}^d (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)^2$*

*Proof.* By the previous lemma

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(1) & \dots & \sigma_1(\alpha^{d-1}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_d(1) & \dots & \sigma_d(\alpha^{d-1}) \end{pmatrix}^2 & \sigma_i(\alpha) = \alpha_i \\
&= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_1 & \alpha_1^2 & \dots & \alpha_1^{d-1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \vdots \\ 1 & \alpha_d & \alpha_d^2 & \dots & \alpha_d^{d-1} \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \left( \pm \prod_{i,j=1}^d \alpha_i - \alpha_j \right)^2
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 3.28.**  $\Delta\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\} = (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} N(m'(\alpha))$  where  $m$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$ ,  $m'(x)$  is the derivative.

**E.g.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  where  $\alpha^8 - 2 = 0$

$$m_\alpha(x) = x^8 - 2 \quad (\text{Eisenstein's criterion with } p = 2)$$

$$m'_\alpha(x) = 8x^7$$

By the proposition:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^7\} &= (-1)^{\frac{8 \cdot 7}{2}} N(8\alpha^7) \\
&= (-1)^{\frac{8 \cdot 7}{2}} N(8) N(\alpha)^7 \\
&= 1 * 8^8 * -2^7 \\
&= -2^{31}
\end{aligned}$$

$$N(\beta) = \det(A_\beta) = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & & & \\ & 8 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 8 \end{pmatrix} \text{ (0s elsewhere)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
N(\alpha) &= \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_8 \\
&= \text{constant term in } m_\alpha(x) = (x - \alpha_1) \dots (x - \alpha_8) \\
&= -2
\end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* From the previous proposition:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta &= \prod_{i,j=1}^d \prod_{i < j} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)^2 \\
&= \prod_{i,j=1}^d (\alpha_i - \alpha_j) * (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) * -1 \quad \# \text{ of terms} = \frac{d(d-1)}{2} \\
&= (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} \prod_{i,j=1}^d \prod_{i \neq j} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)
\end{aligned}$$

$$m(x) = (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_d).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
m'(x) &= (x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_d) + (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_3) \dots (x - \alpha_d) + \dots + (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_{d-1}) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^d \prod_{j \neq i} (x - \alpha_j)
\end{aligned}$$

$$m'(a_k) = \sum_{i=1}^d \underbrace{\prod_{j \neq i} (\alpha_k - \alpha_j)}_{=0 \text{ unless } i=k}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
N(m'(\alpha)) &= \prod_i \sigma_i(m'(\alpha)) \\
&= \prod_i m'(\alpha_i) \\
&= \prod_i \prod_{j \neq i} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \Delta = (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} N(m'(\alpha)).$$

□

$$\textbf{Note: } F(x) = (x - \sigma_1(\theta)) \dots (x - \sigma_d(\theta)) = x^d - \text{Tr}(\theta)x^{d-1} + \dots + (-1)^d N(\theta)$$

### 3.5 Quadratic Fields

$k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{n})$  for  $n \neq 1$  and square-free.

**Theorem 3.29.**  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  where  $\alpha \begin{cases} \sqrt{n} & d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2} & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$ , and  $\{1, \alpha\}$  is an integral basis, then

$$\Delta\{1, \alpha\} = \begin{cases} 4n & n \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ n & n \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $n \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and let  $\mathcal{B} = \{1, \sqrt{n}\}$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\mathcal{B} &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(1) & \sigma_1(\sqrt{n}) \\ \sigma_2(1) & \sigma_2(\sqrt{n}) \end{pmatrix}^2 \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{n} \\ 1 & -\sqrt{n} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 4n\end{aligned}$$

In the algorithm we get  $p = 2$ , the only prime whose square divides  $4n$ .

$$\theta = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2} \text{ or } \frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2}$$

We know  $\frac{1}{2} \notin \mathcal{O}_k$  and  $N(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}) = -\frac{n}{4} \notin \mathbb{Z}$  because  $n$  is square free so  $\frac{\sqrt{n}}{2} \notin \mathcal{O}_k$ .

Also  $N(\frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2}) = \frac{1}{4} \notin \mathbb{Z}$  so  $\frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2} \notin \mathcal{O}_k$  so  $\{1, \sqrt{n}\}$  is an integral basis.

Suppose  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  so  $\frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2} \in \mathcal{O}_k$ . Then  $\mathcal{B} = \{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2}\}$  and  $\Delta\mathcal{B} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1+\sqrt{n}}{2} \\ 1 & \frac{1-\sqrt{n}}{2} \end{pmatrix} = n$

Since  $n$  is square free  $\mathcal{B}$  is an integral basis, there are not primes whose square divides  $\Delta\mathcal{B}$ . □

### 3.6 Cubic Fields

Suppose  $k$  is a cubic field, i.e.  $[k : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$ . Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  with  $m_\alpha(x) = x^3 + cx^2 + \dots$

If we let  $\beta = \alpha + \frac{c}{3}$  so  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ , the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$  has no  $x^2$  term

$$\begin{aligned}m_\beta(x) &= m_\alpha(x - \frac{c}{3}) \\ &= (x - \frac{c}{3} + c(x - \frac{c}{3})^2 + \dots \\ &= x^3 - cx^2 + \dots + cx^2 + \dots\end{aligned}$$

Let's assume that the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  is  $x^3 + ax + b$ .

**Proposition 3.30.**  $\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -27b^2 - 4a^3$

We can use this to find an integral basis in  $k$ .

**E.g.**  $m_\alpha(x) = x^3 + x + 1$

$m(1) \neq 0$  and  $m(-1) \neq 0$  so  $m_\alpha$  is irreducible.

$k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is a cubic field,  $\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -27 - 4 = -31$ .

This is square free so  $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$  is an integral basis i.e.  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ .

**E.g.**  $m_\alpha(x) = x^3 - 2x + 3$ .

It is irreducible since plugging in  $\pm 1, \pm 3$  does not give 0.

By the proposition  $\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -27b^2 - 4a^3 = -243 + 32 = -211$ .

211 prime so  $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$  is an integral basis i.e.  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ .

*Proof.*

$m_\alpha(x^3) = x^3 + ax + b$  and we proved last time that  $\Delta\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\} = (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} N(m'(\alpha))$ .

$$m'(x) = 3x^2 + a$$

$$\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -N(3\alpha^2 + a)$$

Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{C}$  be the conjugates of  $\alpha$ ,  $m(x) = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)(x - \gamma)$ .

By comparing coefficients:

- $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0$
- $\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = a$
- $\alpha\beta\gamma = -b$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} &= -N(3\alpha^2 + a) \\ &= -(3\alpha^2 + a)(3\beta^2 + a)(3\gamma^2 + a) \\ &= -(27\alpha^2\beta^2\gamma^2 + 9a(\alpha^2\beta^2 + \beta^2\gamma^2 + \gamma^2\alpha^2) + 3a^2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2) + a^3) \end{aligned}$$

Using

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^2\beta^2\gamma^2 &= b^2 \\ \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 &= \underbrace{\alpha + \beta + \gamma}_0 - \underbrace{2(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha)}_a = -2a \\ \alpha^2\beta^2 + \beta^2\gamma^2 + \gamma^2\alpha^2 &= (\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha)^2 - 2(\alpha\beta\beta\gamma + \beta\gamma\gamma\alpha + \gamma\alpha\alpha\beta) \\ &= a^2 - 2\alpha\beta\gamma(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -27b^2 + 9aa^2 + 3a^2(-2a) + a^3 = -27b^2 - 4a^3 \quad \square$$

**Proposition 3.31.** Suppose  $m_\alpha(x)$  satisfies Eisenstein's criterion with prime  $p$ .

Let  $\theta = \frac{x_0 + x_1\alpha + \dots + x_d\alpha^d}{p}$  for  $x_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$  not all 0.

Then  $\theta$  is not an algebraic integer.

*Proof.* Assume  $\theta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ , let  $x_i$  be the first non-zero coefficient.

$$\theta = \frac{x_i\alpha^i + x_{i+1}\alpha^{i+1} + \dots + x_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1}}{p}$$



Multiply by  $\alpha^{d-i-1}$ :

$$\alpha^{d-i-1}\theta = \frac{x_i\alpha^{d-1} + \text{multiples of } \alpha^d}{p}$$

By Eisenstein's criterion  $\alpha^d$  is a multiple of  $p$  in  $\mathcal{O}_k$ :

$$\underbrace{\alpha^{d-i-1}\theta}_{\text{an algebraic integer}} = \frac{x_i\alpha^{d-1}}{p} + \text{an algebraic integer}$$

$\therefore \frac{x_i\alpha^{d-1}}{p}$  is an algebraic integer. So  $N(\frac{x_i\alpha^{d-1}}{p}) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

But  $N(\frac{x_i\alpha^{d-1}}{p}) = \frac{x_i^d N(\alpha)^{d-1}}{p^d}$  but  $x_i \in \{1, \dots, p-1\}$  coprime to  $p$ .

Also by Eisenstein's criterion  $N(\alpha)$  is not a multiple of  $p^2$ , only a multiple of  $p$ .  
Therefore  $x_i^d N(\alpha)^{d-1}$  is a multiple of  $p^{d-1}$  but not  $p^d$ .  $\zeta$  □

**E.g.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$   $\alpha = 2^{\frac{1}{8}}$   $m(x) = x^8 - 2$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^7\} &= (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} N(m'(\alpha)) \\ &= 1 * N(8\alpha^7) \\ &= 8^8 * \underbrace{N(\alpha)^7}_{-2} \\ &= -2^{31} \end{aligned}$$

**E.g.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$   $\alpha$  has minimal polynomial  $m(x) = x^3 + 4x + 2$

Irreducible by Eisenstein's criterion with  $p = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} &= -27b^2 - 4a^3 \\ &= -27 * 4 - 4 * 64 \\ &= 2^2 * 7 * 13 \end{aligned}$$

The only prime whose square divides this is  $p = 2$ . Therefore  $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$  is an integral basis  
i.e.  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ .

**E.g.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  with minimal polynomial  $m(x) = x^3 - 2$ .

$$\Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -27b^2 - 4a^3. \quad a = 0, b = -2, \alpha = 2^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

If  $p = 2, 3$  then  $p^2 | \Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$ , by the proposition we can forget about 2.

$$m(x-1) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 3$$

$m(x+2) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 12x + 6$  satisfies Eisenstein's criterion for  $p = 2, 3$

$m(x+2)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha - 2 = \beta$  and  $\Delta\{1, \beta, \beta^2\} = \Delta\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\} = -2^3 * 3^3$

**Proposition 3.32.** Suppose  $\beta = \alpha + 1$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $\Delta\{1, \beta, \beta^2, \beta^{d-1}\} = \Delta\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}\}$

By the proposition we can forget about 2 and 3, so  $\{1, \beta, \beta^2\}$  is an integral basis.

$\therefore \mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\beta] = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha - 2] = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$

$\therefore \{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$  is also an integral basis.

*Proof.*  $m_\beta(x) = m_\alpha(X - x)$ .

By the chain rule:

$$m_\beta(x) = m_\alpha(X - x)$$

$$m_\beta(\beta) = m'_\alpha(\beta - x) = m'_\alpha(\alpha)$$

$$\Delta\{\beta^i\} = (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} N(m'_\beta(\beta)) = \Delta\{\alpha^i\}$$

□

### 3.7 Cyclotomic Fields

$\zeta = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  primitive root of unity.

**Theorem 3.33.** The minimal polynomial of  $\zeta$  is the cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_n$  with degree  $\varphi(n)$ .

*Proof.* Easy to prove when  $n$  is a power of a prime.  $\Phi_{n+1}(x)$  will satisfy Eisenstein's criterion. For  $n = p^a$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^{p-1} &= \prod_{d|p^a} \Phi_d(x) \\ &= \underbrace{\Phi_1 \Phi_p \dots \Phi_{p^{a-1}}}_{x^{p^{a-1}} - 1} \Phi_{p^a} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Phi_{p^a}(x) = \frac{x^{p^a} - 1}{x^{p^{a-1}} - 1} = \underbrace{1 + x^{p^{a-1}} + \dots + x^{(p-1)p^{a-1}}}_{p \text{ terms}}$$

Claim  $\Phi_{p^a}(x + 1)$  satisfies Eisenstein's criterion with the prime  $p$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (x^{p^{a-1}} - 1)\Phi_{p^a}(x) &= x^{p^a} - 1 \\ ((x + 1)^{p^{a-1}} - 1) &= (x + 1)^{p^a} - 1 \\ (x^{p^{a-1}} + 1^{p^{a-1}} - 1) &\equiv x^{p^a} + 1^{p^a} - 1 \pmod{p} \quad (*) \\ \Phi_{p^a}(x + 1) &= x^{p^a - p^{a-1}} \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

(\*) Using that in any ring  $(a + b)^p \equiv a^p + b^p \pmod{p}$  and by induction

$$(a + b)^{p^n} \equiv a^{p^n} + a^{p^{n-1}}b + \dots + b^{p^n} \pmod{p}$$

So all coefficients apart from the leading coefficient are multiples of  $p$ . Constant coefficient of  $\Phi_{p^n}(x+1)$  is  $\Phi_{p^a}(1) = 1 + 1^{p^{a-1}} + 1^{2p^{a-1}} + \dots + 1^{(p-1)p^{a-1}} = p$ .

This is not a multiple of  $p^2$  and so  $\Phi_{p^a}(x+1)$  satisfies Eisenstein's criterion. □

**Theorem 3.34.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta)$  and  $\zeta = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$  then  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta]$

*Proof.* Only in the case where  $n = p$  is a prime number.

Notation, let  $\lambda = \zeta - 1$ .

Recall that  $m_\lambda(x) = \Phi_p(x+1)$  which satisfies Eisenstein's criterion with the prime  $p$ . □

**Lemma 3.35.**  $N(\zeta) = 1$ ,  $N(\lambda) = p$ ,  $[k : \mathbb{Q}] = p - 1$

*Proof.* Minimal polynomial of  $\zeta$  is  $\Phi_p(\alpha) = 1 + \alpha + \dots + \alpha^{p-1} = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1}$

$$N(\zeta) = (-1)^{p-1} * \Phi_p(0) = 1$$

$$[k : \mathbb{Q}] = \deg(\Phi_p) = p - 1$$
 □

**Theorem 3.36.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta)$ ,  $\zeta = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$  then  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta]$

*Proof.* When  $n$  is prime

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\{1, \lambda, \dots, \lambda^{p-2}\} &= \Delta\{1, \zeta, \dots, \zeta^{p-2}\} && \text{by the useful trick} \\ &= (-1)^{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} N(\Phi'_p(\zeta)) \\ &= (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} N(\Phi'_p(\zeta)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_p(x) &= \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} \\ \Phi'_p(x) &= \frac{px^{p-1}(x-1) - x(x^p - 1)}{(x-1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi'_p(\zeta) &= \frac{p\zeta^{p-1}\lambda - \overbrace{\zeta^p - 1}^0}{\zeta^2} \\ &= \frac{p\zeta^{p-1}}{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta\{1, \zeta, \dots, \zeta^{p-2}\} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{p^{p-1}}{p} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p^{p-2}$$

The only prime whose square divides this is the prime  $p$  but  $m_\lambda$  satisfies Eisenstein's criterion with  $p$ , therefore  $\{1, \lambda, \dots, \lambda^{p-2}\}$  is an integral basis.

So  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\lambda] = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta] \implies \{1, \zeta, \dots, \zeta^{p-2}\}$  is an integral basis. □

The proof generalises to the case  $n = p^a$  but not to general  $n$ .

**E.g.**  $n = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20}) & \zeta_{20} &= e^{\frac{2\pi i}{20}} \\ m &= \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5) & \zeta_5 &= e^{\frac{2\pi i}{5}} = \zeta_{20}^4 \\ &\mathbb{Q} \end{aligned}$$

We can prove using  $\Delta\{1, \zeta_5, \zeta_5^2, \zeta_5^3\}$  that  $\{1, \zeta_5, \zeta_5^2, \zeta_5^3\}$  is an integral basis in  $m$ . We can also define the discriminant of a basis is for  $k$  as vector space over  $m$ .

$$\Delta_{k/m}\{1, i\} = -4$$

**Useful Trick:**  $N(x - \alpha) = m(x)$

## 4 Factorisation in Rings of Algebraic Integers

Let  $k$  be a number field,  $\mathcal{O}_k$  might or might not have unique factorisation but  $\mathcal{O}_k$  has unique factorisation if ideal.

The main tool for splitting factors of elements in  $\mathcal{O}$  is the norm,  $N(AB) = N(A)N(B)$ .

$$\text{This shows that } \underbrace{A|B}_{\text{in } \mathcal{O}} \implies \underbrace{N(A)|N(B)}_{\text{in } \mathbb{Z}}$$

**Proposition 4.1.** *For any  $A \in \mathcal{O}$ ,  $A|N(A)$*

*Proof.* Want to show that  $\frac{N(A)}{A}$  is an algebraic integer.

If  $\sigma_1(A) = A$  then  $\frac{N(A)}{A} = \sigma_2(A) \dots \sigma_d(A)$  and each  $\sigma_i(A)$  is an algebraic integer so  $\frac{N(A)}{A}$  is an algebraic integer.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{O}$ . Then  $A$  is a unit iff  $N(A) = \pm 1$*

*Proof.*  $(\implies)$   $A$  is a unit  $\implies A|1 \implies N(A)|N(1) = 1 \implies N(A) = \pm 1$

$(\impliedby)$  If  $N(A) = \pm 1 \implies A|\pm 1 \implies A$  is a unit  $\square$

**Corollary 4.3.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{O}$ . If  $N(A) = \pm p$  then  $A$  must be irreducible.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $A = BC$ ,  $N(B)N(C) = \pm p \implies N(B), N(C) = \pm 1$ . So  $B$  or  $C$  is a unit  $\square$

There are also many irreducible elements whose norm is not prime,

**E.g.**  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[i]$ ,  $k = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ .

Let  $p = 2 + 3i$ ,  $N(p) = 2^2 + 3^2 = 13$ , so  $2 + 3i$  is irreducible by corollary.

**E.g.** Let  $Q = 3$ , then  $N(Q) = 9$  but  $Q$  is also irreducible.

This is because there are no elements of norm 3,  $N(x + iy) = x^2 + y^2 = 3 \nmid$

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{O}$  and not a unit, then  $A = P_1 \dots P_r$  for irreducible elements  $P_i$*

*Proof.* By induction on  $|N(A)|$ . If  $|N(A)| = 2$  then  $A$  is irreducible.

Suppose true for elements  $B$  with  $|N(B)| < |N(A)|$

If  $A$  is irreducible then we're done, if not then  $A = BC$  and  $|N(B)| < |N(A)|$ ,  $|N(C)| < |N(A)|$ .

So  $B$  and  $C$  factorise into irreducibles hence so does  $A$ .  $\square$

### Examples of non unique factorisation

$$k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-10}), \quad -10 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$\text{So } \mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-10}]$$

Note that  $10 = 2 * 5 = \sqrt{10} * \sqrt{-10}$  and  $2, 5, \pm 10$  are all irreducible.

$$N(2) = 4$$

$$N(5) = 25$$

$$N(\pm\sqrt{10}) = \sqrt{-10} * -\sqrt{-10} = 10$$

Are there any elements with norm 2 or 5?

$$N(x + y\sqrt{-10}) = x^2 + 10y^2 \neq \pm 2 \text{ or } \pm 5$$

$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{10}]$  does not have unique factorisation, although  $2, 5, \sqrt{-10}$  are all irreducible elements. The ideals  $(2), (5), (\sqrt{-10})$  all factorise.

Although  $2, \sqrt{-10}$  are coprime as elements and the only common factor is a unit, it's not true that:

$$1 = H * 2 + K * \sqrt{-10} \text{ for } H, K \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-10}]$$

$$\text{i.e. } (2, \sqrt{-10}) \neq \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-10}]$$

$$\text{Let } P = (2, \sqrt{-10}) \text{ and } Q = (5, \sqrt{-10})$$

$$\begin{aligned} P^2 &= (2, \sqrt{-10}) * (2, \sqrt{-10}) \\ &= (2 * 2, 2 * \sqrt{-10}, -10) \\ &= (4, -10, 2\sqrt{-10}, 2) \\ &= (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q^2 &= (5, \sqrt{-10}) * (5, \sqrt{-10}) \\ &= (25, 5\sqrt{-10}, -10) \\ &= (25, 5\sqrt{-10}, -10, 5) \\ &= (5) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} PQ &= (10, 2\sqrt{-10}, 5, \sqrt{-10}, -10) \\ &= (10, 2\sqrt{-10}, 5, 5\sqrt{-10}, -10, \sqrt{-10}) \\ &= (\sqrt{-10}) \end{aligned}$$

Recall  $10 = 2 * 5 = \sqrt{-10} * \sqrt{-10}$  in terms of ideals.

$$(10) = (2)(5) = (-\sqrt{10})^2 = P^2 Q^2 = (PQ)^2$$

Often  $\mathcal{O}$  is not a UFD and not a PID.

Instead of factorising elements of  $\mathcal{O}$ , we factorise ideals.

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $I$  be a non-zero ideal of  $\mathcal{O}$ , then there exists maximal ideals  $P_1, \dots, P_r$  of  $\mathcal{O}$  unique up to reordering such that  $I = P_1 \dots P_r$ .*

The proof will involve:

- The norm of an ideal, this is useful for factorising an ideal
- It will also give us a way of proving theorems about ideals by induction

**Definition 4.6.** *Let  $I \subset \mathcal{O}$  be a non-zero ideal. The norm of  $I$  is  $N(I) = |\mathcal{O}/I|$*

**Proposition 4.7.** *If  $I$  is a non-zero ideal of  $\mathcal{O}$  then  $N(I)$  is finite.*

*Proof.* Choose a non-zero element  $\beta \in I \implies (\beta) \subseteq I \implies |\mathcal{O}/(\beta)| \geq |\mathcal{O}/I|$  □

**Proposition 4.8.** *If  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}$  is non-zero then* 
$$\underbrace{N((\beta))}_{\text{norm of ideal}} = \underbrace{|N(\beta)|}_{\text{norm of element}}$$

**Lemma 4.9.** *(From Commutative Algebra)*

*Let  $A$  be a  $d \times d$  matrix with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\det(A) \neq 0$ . Then  $|\mathbb{Z}^d/A\mathbb{Z}^d| = |\det(A)|$ .*

*Proof.* (Prop 4.8)

Let  $\beta$  be an integral basis, this gives us an isomorphism of additive groups,  $\mathbb{Z}^d \cong \mathcal{O}$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto x_1 b_1 + \dots + x_d b_d$$

Multiplication by  $\beta$  on  $\mathcal{O}$  corresponds to multiplication by  $A_\beta$  on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  where  $A_\beta$  is the standard representation with respect to  $\beta$ .

Then  $\mathbb{Z}^d/A_\beta \mathbb{Z}^d \cong \mathcal{O}/(\beta)$ .

So by the lemma:

$$\begin{aligned} N((\beta)) &= |\mathcal{O}/(\beta)| \\ &= |\mathbb{Z}^d/A_\beta \mathbb{Z}^d| \\ &= |\det(A_\beta)| \\ &= |N(\beta)| \end{aligned}$$

□

*Proof.* (Sketch of lemma)

We can do integer row and column operations to  $A$  to reduce it to diagonal form.

$A = PDQ$   $P, Q$  are integer matrices with determinant:

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} e_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & e_d \end{pmatrix} \quad P\mathbb{Z}^d = \mathbb{Z}^d$$

$$Q\mathbb{Z}^d = \mathbb{Z}^d$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}^d / a\mathbb{Z}^d &= \mathbb{Z}^d / PD \underbrace{Q\mathbb{Z}^d}_{\mathbb{Z}^d} \\ &= P\mathbb{Z}^d / PD\mathbb{Z}^d \\ &= \mathbb{Z}^d / D\mathbb{Z}^d \\ &\equiv \mathbb{Z}/e_1\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}/e_d\mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbb{Z}^d / A\mathbb{Z}^d| &= |e_1 \cdots e_d| \\ &= |\det(D)| \\ &= |\det(A)| \end{aligned}$$

□

#### 4.1 Prime ideals and Maximal ideals

Let  $R$  be any commutative ring with 1. An ideal  $P \subseteq R$  is called a prime ideal if:

- $P \neq R$
- If  $xy \in P \implies x \in P$  or  $y \in P$

Recall  $R$  is an integral domain if:

- $1 \neq 0$  in  $R$
- If  $xy = 0$  then  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$

**Proposition 4.10.** *Let  $P$  be an ideal in  $R$  then  $P$  is prime  $\iff R/P$  is an integral domain.*

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} P \neq R &\iff 1 \in P \\ &\iff 1 \neq 0 \text{ (P)} \quad 1 \text{ and } 0 \text{ are different in } R/P \end{aligned}$$

$$xy \equiv 0 \text{ (P)} \iff xy \in P$$

$$x \equiv 0 \text{ (P)} \text{ or } y \equiv 0 \text{ (P)} \iff x \in P \text{ or } y \in P$$

□

**Proposition 4.11.** Recall  $I \subseteq R$  is maximal  $\iff R/I$  is a field

**Corollary 4.12.** Every maximal ideal is prime

*Proof.* Every field is an integral domain. □

There are prime ideals which are not maximal.

**E.g.**  $(0) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$  is a prime ideal but not maximal,  $\mathbb{Z}/(0) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  which is an integral domain but not a field

**E.g.**  $(x) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[x, y]$  is prime but not maximal,  $\mathbb{C}[x, y]/(x) \cong \mathbb{C}[y]$  is an integral domain but not a field.

$$f(x, y) \mapsto f(0, y)$$

Recall every finite integral domain is a field.

**Corollary 4.13.** If  $P$  is a prime ideal in  $\mathcal{O}$  then either  $P = (0)$  or  $P$  is maximal.

*Proof.* Suppose  $P$  is a non-zero prime ideal  $\mathcal{O}_k/P$  is an integral domain and is finite because  $N(P)$  is finite.

Therefore  $\mathcal{O}_k/P$  is a field so  $P$  is maximal. □

*Proof.* (of proposition)

Let  $R$  be a finite integral domain. Let  $x \in R$  with  $x \neq 0$ .

The powers  $x^n$  are not all distincts.

This implies  $x^n = x^{n+m}$  for some  $m, n$ .

By the cancellation property  $1 = x^m$ .

Therefore  $x^{m-1}$  is an inverse of  $x$ . □

**Lemma 4.14.** Let  $I \subseteq R$  be an ideal, then  $I$  is prime iff:

- $I \neq R$
- Suppose  $JK \subseteq I$  for ideals  $J, K$ , then  $J \subseteq I$  or  $K \subseteq I$

**Definition 4.15.** A prime ideal is one such that:

- $I \neq R$
- $xy \in I \implies x \in I$  or  $y \in I$

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ )

Assume  $I$  is prime and assume  $J \subseteq I$ . We'll show that  $K \subseteq I$ .  
Choose  $x \in J \setminus I$ .

For  $y \in K$  we have  $xy \in JK \subseteq I \implies y \in I$ .

( $\impliedby$ )



Assume the property of the lemma, suppose  $xy \in I$ . Then  $(x)(y) = (xy) \subseteq I$ .

By the property in the lemma  $(x) \subseteq I$  or  $(y) \subseteq I$ , so  $x \in I$  or  $y \in I$  □

**Remark:** Suppose  $M_1, \dots, M_r$  and  $M'_1, \dots, M'_s$  are maximal ideals and  $M_1 \dots M_r = M'_1 \dots M'_s$ .

Also  $M_1 \supset M'_1 \dots M'_s$  but  $M_1$  is prime so by the lemma,  $M_1 \supseteq M'_i$  for some  $i$  and without loss of generality,  $M \supseteq M'_1$ .

## 4.2 Fractional Ideals and Unique Factorisation

If  $M_1 \dots M_r = M'_1 \dots M'_s$  then  $M_1 = M'_i$  for some  $i$ , we want a way of cancelling ideals in order to prove uniqueness of factorisation. To give ideal inverses we need something more general than an ideal.

**Definition 4.16.** Let  $k$  be a number field,  $\mathcal{O}_k$  the ring of algebraic integers in  $k$ . A fractional ideal in  $k$  is a subset  $I \subseteq k$  such that there exists  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}$ ,  $\beta \neq 0$  such that  $\beta I$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

**E.g.** If  $k \in \mathbb{Q}$   $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}$  the fractional ideals have the form:

$$(x) = \{xy : y \in \mathbb{Z}\} \text{ with } x \in \mathbb{Q}$$

We can multiply fractional ideals in the same way as ideals.

$$IJ = \left\{ \sum_{i,j} x_i y_j : x_i \in I \ y_j \in J \right\}$$

This is clearly associative and  $(1) = \mathcal{O}_k$  is the identity element.

## 4.3 Tricky Lemma

**Lemma 4.17.** Let  $P \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  be a maximal ideal. Then there is a fractional ideal  $P^{-1}$  such that:

- If  $I$  is any ideal,  $I \subseteq P$  then  $P^{-1}I$  is also an ideal which has smaller norm than  $I$ . In other words  $P^{-1}I$  is an ideal containing  $I$  but not equal to  $I$
- $PP^{-1} = (1)$

Using this we'll prove some theorems.

**Theorem 4.18.** The non-zero fractional ideals form a group with the operation  $\times$ .

*Proof.* Remains to show that every element has an inverse.

We'll first show that all ideals have inverses. By induction on  $N(I) = 1$  then  $I = \mathcal{O}_k = (1)$ .

Assume all ideals with norm smaller than  $I$  have inverses.

Let  $P$  be a maximal ideal containing  $I$ , by the tricky lemma,  $P^{-1}I$  is an ideal with norm smaller than  $I$ .

$P^{-1}I$  has an inverse  $J$ .  $\underbrace{(JP^{-1})}_{\text{inverse of } I} I = (1)$

Now let  $I$  be any fractional ideal (non-zero).  $\beta I = J$  is an ideal for non-zero  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ . Therefore  $J$  has an inverse  $J^{-1}$ .  $\underbrace{\beta J^{-1}}_{\text{inverse of } I} I = J^{-1}J = (1)$

□

**Theorem 4.19.** *Every non-zero ideal  $I \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  can be factorised as  $I = P_1 \dots P_r$  with  $P_i$  maximal, unique up to reordering.*

*Proof.* By induction on  $N(I)$ , if  $N(I) = 1$  then  $I = (1)$  so true with  $r = 0$ .

Assume all ideals with smaller norm than  $I$  can be factorised into maximal ideals.

Let  $P$  be a maximal ideal containing  $I$ , by the tricky lemma,  $P^{-1}I$  is an ideal with smaller norm than  $I$ .

Therefore  $P^{-1}I = P_1 \dots P_r$  ( $P_i$  maximal) and  $I = PP_1 \dots P_r$ .

(Uniqueness of factorisation)

By induction on  $N(I)$ , if  $N(I) = 1$  then  $I = (1)$  and nothing to prove.

Assume all ideals with smaller norm than  $I$  have a unique factorisation.

Suppose  $I = P_1 \dots P_r = Q_1 \dots Q_s$  for  $P_i, Q_i$  maximal.

Let  $P_1$  be prime and  $P_1 \supseteq Q_1 \dots Q_s$ . So  $P_i \supset Q_i$  for some  $i$ .

Without loss of generality  $P_1 \supseteq Q_1$  but  $Q_i$  is maximal so  $P_1 = Q_1$ .

Multiply the equation by  $P_1^{-1} \implies P_1^{-1}I = P_2 \dots P_r = Q_2 \dots Q_s$

By the tricky lemma,  $P_1^{-1}I$  is an ideal with smaller norm than  $I$ .

Therefore  $P_1^{-1}I$  has only maximal ideals  $\implies$  after reordering  $P_i = Q_i$  and  $r = s$ . □

A subset  $I \subset k$  is a fractional ideal if  $I = \beta^{-1}J$  for  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$ ,  $\beta \neq 0$  and  $J$  is an ideal.

**E.g.** in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $(\frac{1}{2}) = \{\frac{n}{2} : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

**Remark:** If  $I$  is a fractional ideal then  $I$  is an ideal  $\iff I \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ) trivial

( $\impliedby$ )  $\beta I$  is an ideal so closed under  $+$  and scalar multiplication.

$I$  is closed under  $+$ , scalar multiplication  $\implies I$  is an ideal. □

**Definition 4.20.** Let  $I, J$  be ideals, we'll say  $I|J$  if  $J = II'$  for some ideal  $I'$

**Corollary 4.21.**  $I|J \iff I \supseteq J$

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ )  $J = II' \quad I' \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  then  $J \subseteq I\mathcal{O}_k = I$

( $\impliedby$ ) Suppose  $I \supseteq J$ . Let  $I' = I^{-1}J \implies J = II'$ . Remains to show that  $I' \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$ .

$$J \subseteq I$$

$$\text{Therefore } I' = I^{-1}J \subseteq I^{-1}I = (1) = \mathcal{O}_k$$

$I'$  is an ideal.

□

**Definition 4.22.**  $P^{-1} = \{x \in k : xP \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k\}$

Let  $\beta \in P$ ,  $\beta \neq 0$ . We'll see that  $\beta P^{-1} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  and is an ideal.

If  $x \in P^{-1}$  then  $xP \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$

$$\implies x\beta \in \mathcal{O}$$

$$\implies \beta P^{-1} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$$

Let  $x, y \in P^{-1}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathcal{O}_k$ , need to check  $x + \lambda y \in P^{-1}$ .

Let  $\delta \in P$

$$\implies x\delta \in \mathcal{O}_k \text{ and } y\delta \in \mathcal{O}_k$$

$$\implies x\delta + \lambda y\delta \in \mathcal{O}_k$$

$$\implies (x + \lambda y)\delta \in \mathcal{O}_k$$

$$\implies x + \lambda y \in P^{-1}$$

**Definition 4.23.**  $P^{-1} = \{x \in k : xP \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k\} \implies P^{-1} \text{ is a fractional ideal.}$

Before proving the tricky lemma we'll need:

**Lemma 4.24.** *Let  $I \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  for  $I \neq 0$ . Then there exists ideals  $P_1, \dots, P_r$  with  $I \subseteq P_1 \dots P_r$*

*Proof.* By induction on  $N(I)$ .

If  $N(I) = 1$  then  $I = \mathcal{O}_k$ . Assume true for ideals smaller norm than  $I$ .

If  $I$  is maximal then let  $P_i \in I$ .

If  $I$  is not maximal then  $I$  is no prime. Then there exists  $x, y \in \mathcal{O}_k$ ,  $xy \in I$  and  $x \notin I$ ,  $y \notin I$ .

$$\text{Let } J = I + (x) \text{ and } K = I + (y)$$

These are bigger than  $I$  so they have smaller norm.

$$J \supseteq P_1 \dots P_t \text{ for } P_i \text{ maximal}$$

$$K \supseteq P_{i+1} \dots P_r$$

$$\text{Then } JK = \underbrace{I * I}_{\subseteq I} + \underbrace{I * (y)}_{\subseteq I} + \underbrace{I(x)}_{\subseteq I} + \underbrace{(xy)}_{\subseteq I}$$

$$\implies JK \subseteq I$$

$$\implies P_1 \dots P_r \subseteq I$$

□

Note that  $P^{-1} \supseteq \mathcal{O}_k$ , if  $x \in \mathcal{O}_k$  then  $xP \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  therefore  $x \in P^{-1}$ .

The first step in the proof of the tricky lemma will be to show that  $P^{-1} \supsetneq \mathcal{O}_k$ .

*Proof.* (Tricky Lemma)

**Step 1:** Show that  $P^{-1} \supsetneq \mathcal{O}_k$ .

Choose  $a \in P$ ,  $a \neq 0$  such that  $(a) \supseteq P_1, \dots, P_r$ , by the previous lemma with  $P_1, \dots, P_r$  maximal.

We'll do this with  $r$  minimal.

$$P_1 \dots P_r \subseteq (a) \subseteq P$$

Since  $P$  prime,  $P \supseteq P_i$  for some  $i$ , without loss of generality,  $P \supseteq P_r$  but  $P_r$  is maximal.

$$\implies P = P_r$$

Since  $r$  is minimal  $(a) \supsetneq P_1 \dots P_{r-1}$  so we can choose  $b \in P_1 \dots P_{r-1}$  for  $b \in (a)$ .

Let  $x = \frac{b}{a}$ , we'll see that  $x \in P^{-1}$  and  $x \in \mathcal{O}_k$ .

$$xP = \frac{b}{a}P \subseteq \frac{1}{a}(P_1 \dots P_{r-1})P = \frac{1}{a}P_1 \dots P_r \subseteq \frac{1}{a}(a) = \mathcal{O}_k$$

$$\therefore x \in P^{-1}$$

Also  $b \in (a)$  so  $b$  is not a multiple of  $a$ , i.e.  $\frac{b}{a} \in \mathcal{O}_k$ .

**Step 2:** Let  $I \subseteq P$  an ideal, want to show that  $P^{-1}I$  is an ideal bigger than  $I$ .

$P^{-1}I \subseteq P^{-1}P \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$ , from the definition of  $P^{-1}$ .

$\therefore P^{-1}$  is an ideal and  $P^{-1} \supseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  so  $P^{-1}I \supseteq \mathcal{O}_k I = I$

Suppose  $P^{-1}I = I$ . Let  $x \in P^{-1}$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{O}_k$  then by step 1:

$$xI \subseteq I$$

$$I = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{b_1, \dots, b_d\}$$

$$xb_1 = m_{i1}b_1 + \dots + m_{id}b_d \qquad x \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_d \end{pmatrix} = (m_{ij}) \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_d \end{pmatrix}$$

So  $x$  is an eigenvalue of  $(m_{ij})$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{O}_k \nmid$

**Step 3:** Let  $I = P$ , by step 2,  $P^{-1}P$  is a bigger ideal than  $P$  but  $P$  is maximal.  $P^{-1}P = \mathcal{O}_k$

□

**Theorem 4.25.** If  $k$  is a number field and  $\mathcal{O}_k$  is the ring of algebraic integers in  $k$ , then every non-zero ideal  $I$  has a unique factorisation  $I = P_1 \dots P_r$  for maximal ideal  $P_i$ .

We'll now concentrate on these questions:

1. Given  $I$ , how do we find  $P_1, \dots, P_r$ ?
2. How do we find  $N(I)$ ?
3. What are the maximal ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_k$ ?

#### 4.4 Norms of ideals

**Definition 4.26.**  $N(I) = |\mathcal{O}_k/I|$

$$N((\beta)) = |N(\beta)|$$

**Theorem 4.27.** Let  $I, J$  be non-zero ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_k$  then  $N(IJ) = N(I)N(J)$ .

We can use the theorem to calculate  $N(I)$  if  $I$  is not a principal ideal.

**Remark:** Suppose  $\sigma : k \rightarrow k$  is a field homomorphism.

If  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_k$  then  $\sigma(\beta) \in \mathcal{O}_k$  because they have the same minimal polynomial, i.e.  $\sigma(\mathcal{O}_k) = \mathcal{O}_k$

If  $I$  is an ideal, then  $\sigma(I)$  is also an ideal.

Also  $N(\sigma I) = |\mathcal{O}_k/\sigma(I)| = |\sigma(\mathcal{O}_k)/\sigma(I)| = |\mathcal{O}_k/I| = N(I)$

**E.g.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  because  $-5 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

$I = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  and  $\sigma(x + y\sqrt{-5}) = x - y\sqrt{-5}$  then:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma(I) &= (2, 1 - \sqrt{-5}) \\ I * \sigma(I) &= (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(2, 1 - \sqrt{-5}) \\ &= (4, \cancel{2 - 2\sqrt{-5}}, \cancel{2 + 2\sqrt{-5}}, \emptyset) \\ &= (2)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}N(I)^2 &= N(I * \sigma(I)) = N((2)) \\ &= |N(2)| \\ &= 4\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore N(I) = 2$$

**Theorem 4.28.**  $N(IJ) = N(I)N(J)$

*Proof.* Sufficient to prove when  $J = P$  is a maximal ideal.

$$N(IP) = |\mathcal{O}_k/IP|$$

$$\mathcal{O}_k \cong (\mathcal{O}_k/IP) / (I/IP)$$

$$\therefore N(I) = \frac{N(IP)}{|I/IP|}$$

So we want to prove  $|I/IP| = N(P) = |\mathcal{O}_k/P|$ .

We'll find an isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_k/P \cong I/IP$  such that  $IP \subsetneq I$ .

Choose  $a \in I$  such that  $a \notin IP$ .

Define  $\Phi : \mathcal{O}_k \rightarrow I/IP$  by:

$$x \rightarrow ax \pmod{IP}$$

Then this means  $IP \subsetneq IP + (a) \subseteq I$ .

Since  $P$  is maximal,  $IP + (a) = I$ .

$\therefore$  Every element of  $IP$  is congruent mod  $IP$  to a multiple of  $a$ .

$\therefore \Phi$  is surjective.

$\ker(\Phi)$  is an ideal, not just a subgroup of  $\mathcal{O}_k$ . If  $ax \equiv 0 \pmod{IP}$  then for all  $y \in \mathcal{O}_k$ :

$$axy \equiv 0 \pmod{IP}$$

So  $x \in \ker \implies xy \in \ker$ .

If  $x \in P$  then  $ax \in IP$ , since  $a \in I$ .

So  $\Phi(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{IP}$  i.e.  $x \in \ker(\Phi)$  and  $\ker(\Phi)$  is an ideal containing  $P$ .

Since  $P$  maximal,  $\ker(\Phi) = P$  or  $\mathcal{O}_k$ .

But  $\Phi$  is surjective  $\implies \Phi \neq 0 \implies \ker(\Phi) \neq \mathcal{O}_k$ .

Therefore  $\ker(\Phi) = P$  and by the first isomorphism theorem:

$$\mathcal{O}_k/P \cong I/IP \text{ so } N(P) = |I/IP|$$

□

**Corollary 4.29.** *If  $I \subseteq \mathcal{O}_k$  is a non-zero ideal and  $N(I)$  is a prime number then  $I$  is maximal.*

**E.g.** In  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ , the ideal  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  has norm 2 so is maximal.

*Proof.*  $I = P_1 \dots P_r$  for  $P_i$  maximal and by the theorem:

$$N(P_1)N(P_2) \dots N(P_r) \text{ is prime}$$

Note that for all  $N(P_i)$ ,  $N(P_i) > 1$ .

$\therefore r = 1$  so  $I = P_1$

□

**Lemma 4.30.**  $N(I) \in I$

*Proof.* Let  $n$  be the order of 1 in the additive group  $\mathcal{O}/I$ . So

$$n = \underbrace{1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots + 1}_n \equiv 0 \pmod{I}$$

By corollary to Lagrange's theorem,  $n|N(I)$  so  $N(I) \equiv 0 \pmod{I}$ , i.e.  $N(I) \in I$ . □

**Corollary 4.31.** *There are only finitely many ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_k$  with any given norm.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $N(I) = n$ , then  $n \in I$  by the lemma. Therefore  $(n) \subseteq I$  and  $I$  is factor of  $(n)$ .

By uniqueness of factorisation  $(n)$  has only finitely many factors. □

**Lemma 4.32.** *Let  $R \subseteq S$  be commutative rings. If  $P \subset S$  is a prime ideal then  $P \cap R$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $xy \in P \cap R$  with  $x, y \in R$ .  $xy \in P \implies x \in P$  or  $y \in P$ .

Since  $x, y \in R$ , we have  $x \in P \cap R$  or  $y \in P \cap R$  □

Let  $P$  be a maximal ideal in  $\mathcal{O}_k$ . By the lemma  $P \cap \mathbb{Z}$  is a prime ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Also  $P \cap \mathbb{Z} \neq \{0\}$  because  $N(P) \in P$ .

Therefore  $P \cap \mathbb{Z} = (p)$  for some prime number  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ , i.e.  $P|(p)$ . We'll say " $P$  lies above  $p$ " and write  $P|p$ .

This means that to find all the maximal ideals of  $\mathcal{O}_k$ , we just factorise  $(P)$  for each prime number  $p$ .

**Corollary 4.33.** *If  $P \subset \mathcal{O}_k$  is maximal then  $N(P) = p^r$  for some  $r \leq [k : \mathbb{Q}]$  where  $P|p$*

*Proof.*  $P|(p)$ , therefore  $N(P)|N((p)) = p^{[k:\mathbb{Q}]}$  □

## 4.5 Dedekind's Criterion

Assume  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  and let  $m(x)$  be the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  and  $p$  be a prime number.

Suppose  $m(x) \equiv m_1(x)^{e_1} \cdots m_r(x)^{e_r}$  where  $m_i \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  are irreducible distinct, monic polynomials.

Then  $(p) = Q_1^{e_1} \cdots Q_r^{e_r}$  where  $Q_i = (p, m_i(\alpha))$ . The ideals  $Q_i$  are distinct and maximal and  $N(Q_i) = p^{\deg(m_i)}$ .

**E.g.**  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6})$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_k = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{6}]$ ,  $\alpha = \sqrt{6}$ ,  $m(x) = x^2 - 6$

$x$	$m(x) = x^2 - 6$
0	-6 = -2*3
$\pm 1$	-5
$\pm 2$	-2
$\pm 3$	3

$m(x) \equiv x^2 \pmod{(2)}$  so  $(2) = Q_2^2$  where  $Q_2 = (2, m_i(\sqrt{6}))$ .  
 $m_i(x) = x$  so  $Q_2 = (2, \sqrt{6})$

$m(x) \equiv x^2 \pmod{(3)}$   
 $(3) = Q_3^2$  where  $Q_3 = (3, \sqrt{6})$ .

$m(x) \equiv (x-1)(x+1) \pmod{(5)}$   
 $(5) = Q_5 Q'_5$  where  $Q_5 = (5, \sqrt{6}+1)$  and  $Q'_5 = (5, \sqrt{6}-1)$ .

$m(x) \equiv m(x) \pmod{(7)}$   
 $(7)$  is a maximal ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{6}]$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_k &= \mathbb{Z}[\alpha] \\ \mathcal{O}_k &\cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(m) \\ \alpha &\leftarrow x \pmod{m}\end{aligned}$$

For each  $Q_i$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_k/Q_i &\cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(m, p, m_i(x)) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(m, m_i) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(m_i) \text{ because } m_i | m \text{ in } \mathbb{F}_p[x]\end{aligned}$$

But  $m_i$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$

$$\begin{aligned}\implies (m_i) &\text{ is maximal in } \mathbb{F}_p[x] \\ \implies \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(m_i) &\text{ is a field} \\ \implies \mathcal{O}_k/Q_i &\text{ is a field} \\ \implies Q_i &\text{ is maximal}\end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned}N(Q_i) &= |\mathcal{O}_k/Q_i| \\ &= |\mathbb{F}_p[x]/(m_i)| \\ &= p^{\deg(m_i)}\end{aligned}$$

We'll next show that  $(p) = Q_1^{e_1} \dots Q_r^{e_r}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}Q_1^{e_1} \dots Q_r^{e_r} &= (p, m_1(\alpha))^{e_1} \dots (p, m_r(\alpha))^{e_r} \\ &= (m_1(\alpha)^{e_1} \dots m_r(\alpha)^{e_r}, \text{ multiples of } p)\end{aligned}$$

But  $m_1(\alpha)^{e_1} \dots m_r(\alpha)^{e_r} \equiv \underbrace{m(\alpha)}_0 \pmod{p}$



This shows that  $Q_1^{e_1} \dots Q_r^{e_r} = (\text{multiples of } p)$ , therefore  $Q_1^{e_1} \dots Q_r^{e_r} \subseteq (p)$

To show that they are equal, we'll show that they have the same norm:

$$\begin{aligned} N(Q_1^{e_1} \dots Q_r^{e_r}) &= N(Q_1)^{e_1} \dots N(Q_r)^{e_r} \\ &= (p^{\deg(m_1)})^{e_1} \dots (p^{\deg(m_r)})^{e_r} \\ &= p^{e_1 \deg(m_1) + \dots + e_r \deg(m_r)} \\ &= p^{\deg(m)} \\ &= N((p)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(p) = Q_1^{e_1} \dots Q_r^{e_r}$ .

Remains to show that  $Q_i$  are distinct  $\mathcal{O}_k/Q_i \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(m_i)$  with  $\alpha \mapsto x$ .

Suppose  $Q_i = Q_j$  then  $m_j(\alpha) \in Q_i$ .

Then  $m_j(\alpha) \equiv 0 \pmod{Q_i}$  and  $m_j(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{m_i}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ .

So  $m_i | m_j$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$

□

**E.g.** We'll factorise  $(12 + 7\sqrt{6})$  into maximal ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_k$

$$\begin{aligned} N((12 + 7\sqrt{6})) &= |12^2 - 6 * 7^2| \\ &= |144 - 294| \\ &= |150| \\ &= 2 * 3 * 5^2 \end{aligned}$$

Recall that

$$(2) = Q_2^2,$$

$$(3) = Q_3^2,$$

$$(5) = Q_5 Q'_5$$

with norms:

$$N(Q_2) = 2$$

$$N(Q_3) = 3,$$

$$N(Q_5) = N(Q'_5) = 5 \text{ where}$$

$$Q_2 = (2, \sqrt{6})$$

$$Q_3 = (3, \sqrt{6})$$

$$Q'_5 = (5, \sqrt{6} + 1)$$

$$Q_5 = (5, \sqrt{6} - 1)$$

and  $(7)^2$  is a prime ideal with norm  $7^2$ .

The ideals with norm 150 are  $Q_2Q_3Q_5^2$ ,  $Q_2Q_3Q_5Q'_5$  or  $Q_2Q_3Q_5'^2$ .

Note that (5) is not a factor of  $(12 + 7\sqrt{6})$ .

If  $Q_5$  is a factor then  $(12 + 7\sqrt{6}) = Q_2Q_3Q_5^2$

If  $Q'_5$  is a factor then  $(12 + 7\sqrt{6}) = Q_2Q_3Q_5'^2$

Is  $12 + 7\sqrt{6}$  in  $Q_5$  or  $Q'_5$ ?

$$12 + 7\sqrt{6} = 5 + 7(\sqrt{6} + 1) \in Q_5$$

In this case  $Q_2, Q_3, Q_5$  are all principal.

$$N(x + y\sqrt{6}) = x^2 - 6y^2$$

$$N(2 + \sqrt{6}) = -2$$

$$N(3 + \sqrt{6}) = 3$$

$$N(1 + \sqrt{6}) = -5$$

Therefore:

$$(2 + \sqrt{6}) = Q_2$$

$$(3 + \sqrt{6}) = Q_3$$

$$(1 + \sqrt{6}) = Q_5$$

$$(1 - \sqrt{6}) = Q'_5$$

**E.g.** Let  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\alpha})$ ,  $\alpha^3 = \sqrt{2}$ ,  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ ,  $m(x) = x^3 - 2$

$$m(x) = x^3 \quad (2)$$

$$= (x + 1) \equiv (x + 1)^3 \quad (3)$$

$$= (x + 2) \underbrace{(x^2 - 2x - 1)}_{\text{irreducible mod 5}} \quad (5)$$

$$= \text{irreducible mod 7}$$