

# Math 412

## Algebra 2: Electric Boogaloo

### \* Lord of the Rings ( $\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot$ )

def: A ring  $R$  is a set w/ 2 binops:  $+$  and  $\cdot$  that satisfy the following axioms:

- $(R, +)$  is an abelian group
- multiplication is associative
- distributivity laws:  $a(b+c) = ab + ac$   
 $(a+b)c = ac + bc$

$\rightarrow (a+b)+c = a+(b+c)$

$$a+b = b+a$$

exists: element  $0$  s.t.  $a+0 = 0+a = a$

$$\forall a \in R, \exists -a \text{ s.t. } a + -a = 0$$

Examples:  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$

$$(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$$

$$(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$$

$$(\mathbb{C}, +, \cdot)$$

$$\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{C}$$

def A subset  $S$  of a ring  $R$  is called a subring if  $S$  is a ring with respect to the same bin op  
e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Q}$

def A ring  $R$  is commutative if multiplication is also commutative

Remark:  $(R, \cdot)$  is almost never a group since  $0$  is not invertible : (

Non commutative Ring eg:  
 $n \times n$  matrices w/ coefficients in some ring  $R$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Mat}_n(R)$$

$a_{ij} \in R$

$$(a_{ij}) + (b_{ij}) = (a_{ij} + b_{ij})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} b_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ b_{nj} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}b_{1j} + \dots + a_{1n}b_{nj} \end{pmatrix}$$

why? Find counter example ...



# Rings of Functions

$$F = \{ \text{all functions } f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \}$$

$$(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$(f \cdot g)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$$

## Interesting Subrings:

polynomials

continuous / differentiable / analytic

Def  $R$  is a ring w/ unity  $1$  if  $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a \quad \forall a \in R$

Example of a ring without unity?

even numbers

Very important Ring:  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +, \cdot)$

↑  
remainders mod  $n$   
addition and multiplication mod  $n$

Recall  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$  is cyclic abelian group with generator  $1$   
 $1$  is also unity for modular multiplication

## • Direct Product of Rings:

$R, S$  rings

$$R \times S = \{ (r, s) : r \in R \quad s \in S \}$$

$$(r, s) + (r', s') = (r + r', s + s')$$

$$(r, s)(r', s') = (rr', ss')$$

Th: 1.  $0 \cdot a = a \cdot 0 = 0$

2.  $a(-b) = (-a)b = -(ab)$

3.  $(-a)(-b) = ab$

PS

1.  $0 \cdot a = (0 + 0)a = 0 \cdot a + 0 \cdot a$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \cdot a + -(0 \cdot a) = 0 \cdot a + 0 \cdot a - (0 \cdot a)$$

$$\therefore 0 = 0 \cdot a$$

$a \cdot 0$  follows same pf

2.  $a \cdot -b + a \cdot b = a \cdot (-b + b) = a \cdot 0 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow a \cdot -b = -(ab)$$

$-a \cdot b$  follows similar pf

3.  $(-a)(-b) = -(-a \cdot b) = -(-(ab)) = ab$



def A function  $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$  (between rings) is a homomorphism

if  $\forall a, b \in R \quad \varphi(a+b) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b)$

and  $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b)$

an isomorphism is a bijective homomorphism

Examples:  $\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathbb{Z}_n$

$$\varphi(k) = k \bmod n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(k+l) &= k+l \bmod n \\ &= \varphi(k) + \varphi(l) \end{aligned}$$



mod 'addition

$$\varphi(kl) = \varphi(k)\varphi(l)$$

multiply in  $\mathbb{Z}$       multiply in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$

eg let's say  $S$  is a subring of  $R$   
the inclusion function  $\varphi: S \hookrightarrow R$  is homomorphism

$$\text{eg } F = \{f: R \rightarrow R\}$$

we have a homomorphism  $F \rightarrow R$  'evaluation'

$$f(x) \mapsto f(\pi)$$

$$f(x) + g(x) \mapsto f(\pi) + g(\pi)$$

$$f(x)g(x) \mapsto f(\pi)g(\pi)$$

are there homomorphisms from  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$

$$\varphi(1) \rightarrow (1, 2) \quad \text{Is it a homomorphism?}$$

$$\text{no } \varphi(1 \cdot 1) \neq (1, 2) \cdot (1, 2) = (1, 4)$$

$$\varphi(1) = (a, b), \quad a, b = 0, 1$$

Kernel of a homomorphism  $\varphi$  is the set of elements  $x$   
s.t.  $\varphi(x) = 0$

$\text{Ker } \varphi$  also forms a subring. Ignoring multiplication, is just  
the kernel of homomorphism of abelian groups.

Consider ring of integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\varphi(n) := 2n$ .

$$\varphi \text{ is bijective, } \varphi(x+y) = 2(x+y) = 2x+2y = \varphi(x) + \varphi(y)$$

$\Rightarrow \varphi$  is an isomorphism of abelian groups

$$\text{but } \varphi(xy) = 2xy \neq \varphi(x)\varphi(y) = 4xy$$

Example: Important Isomorphism in Number Theory

Let  $r$  and  $s$  be coprime integers

$$\varphi: \mathbb{Z}_{rs} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_r \times \mathbb{Z}_s$$

$$x \bmod rs \rightarrow x \bmod r, x \bmod s$$

(1)  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism  
(preserves modular arithmetics)

(2)  $\varphi$  is bijective

$\therefore \varphi$  is an isomorphism

If we ignore multiplication, this is an isomorphism of cyclic groups.

Surjectivity of  $\mathbb{Z}_{rs} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_r \times \mathbb{Z}_s$  has a name:

given  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_r, y \in \mathbb{Z}_s$ , there exists  $n$  s.t.

$$\begin{cases} x = n \bmod r \\ y = n \bmod s \end{cases}$$

AKA Chinese Remainder Theorem

def Suppose  $R$  is a ring w/ 1

An element  $x \in R$  is called a unit if it has a multiplicative inverse.

def A commutative ring w/ 1 s.t. that every non-zero element is a unit is called a field.



def A ring w/ 1 s.t. every non-zero element is invertible is called a division ring eg. Quaternions

def If  $a$  and  $b$  are non-zero elements of the ring s.t.  $ab=0$  then  $a$  and  $b$  are called zero divisors (or division of 0)

eg in  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ ,  $2 \cdot 2 = 0$  so 2 is a zero-divisor

Thm let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $a \neq 0$   
then  $a$  is a zero-divisor  
 $\Leftrightarrow \gcd(a, n) \neq 1$

and  $a$  is a unit  
 $\Leftrightarrow \gcd(a, n) = 1$

Corollary  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is a field if  $p$  is prime  
because  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ ,  $a \neq 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \gcd(a, p) = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow a$  is invertible by the thm.

Pf Take  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $a \neq 0$ , suppose  $\gcd(a, n) = d > 1$   
 $a \cdot \frac{n}{d} = \frac{a}{d} \cdot n \equiv 0 \pmod n$   
(both integers)

$a, \frac{n}{d} \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ , neither is 0 but  $a \cdot \frac{n}{d} = 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$   
 $\Rightarrow a$  is a zero-divisor

Lets show that  $a$  is not a unit. Argue by contradiction. Suppose  $a \cdot b = 1$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$

$$\frac{n}{d} \cdot a \cdot b = \frac{n}{d} \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$0 = \frac{n}{d} \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_n$$

This is a contradiction

To summarize, if  $\gcd(a, n) > 1$

$\Rightarrow a$  is a zero-divisor and is not a unit

Next, suppose  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$

linear combination theorem:  $\gcd$  of 2 integers is their linear combination,

$$1 = ab + nc$$

Modular:  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$

$\Rightarrow a$  is a unit

It remains to prove that  $a$  is not a zero-divisor

By contradiction, suppose  $ac = 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $c \neq 0$

$$abc = b \cdot 0 = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$abc = 1 \cdot c = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_n$$

$$c = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_n \text{ contradiction}$$

$\Rightarrow$  every non-zero element of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is either a unit or a zero-divisor depending on whether  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$  or not.

def a commutative ring  $R$  with 1 and without zero division is called an integral domain.  
eg all fields.



(similar arg.  $ab=1$  but  $ac=0$ , then multiply  $ac=0$  by  $b$   
 $abc=0 \Rightarrow 1 \cdot c=0, c=0$  so  $a$  is not a zero-divisor)

$\mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain but not a field

also: ring of polynomials in 1 variable w/ real coefficients

Solving equations:

$$x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$$

Here  $x$  can be in some ring  $R$

Solution set depends on  $R$

- $R = \mathbb{R}$  3, 2

$$x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x-3)(x-2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x=3 \text{ or } x=2$$

we use here that  $R$  is an integral domain

- $R = \mathbb{Z}_7$

$$(x-3)(x-2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x=3 \text{ or } x=2$$

- $R = \mathbb{Z}_{12}$  - not integral domain

$x=2, 3$  are still solutions

Are there other solutions?

$$(x-2)(x-3) = 0 \text{ but } x \neq 2 \quad x \neq 3$$

$$x=6 \quad 4 \cdot 3 = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_{12}$$

$$k(k+1) = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}_{12}$$

$k=8$  also works

so  $X = 2, 3, 6, 11$

def Let  $R$  be a ring. The smallest positive integer  $n$ , s.t.  $n \cdot a = 0$  for every  $a \in R$

repeatedly add  $a$ ,  $n$  times

is called the characteristic of  $R$

If no such  $n$  exist the characteristic is 0.

eg  $\text{char}(\mathbb{Q}) = 0$

$\text{char}(\mathbb{Z}) = p$