

# MATH 412: RINGS AND MODULES

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## 1 RINGS AND FIELDS

**Definition 1.** A Ring  $R$  is a set with 2 binary operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  that satisfy the following axioms

1.  $(R, +)$  is an abelian group: associative, commutative, existence of identity and inverses
2. Multiplication is associative
3.  $\forall a, b, c \in R : a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$  (left distributive) and  $(a + b) \cdot c = a \cdot c + b \cdot c$  (right distributive)

**Definition 2.** A subset  $S$  of a ring  $R$  is called a subring if  $S$  is a ring with respect to the binary operations of  $R$

**Definition 3.** A ring  $R$  is commutative if multiplication is also commutative

*Remark 4.*  $(R, \cdot)$  is almost never a ring since  $0$  (the general additive identity) is almost never invertible with respect to  $\cdot$

**Example 5** (Non-commutative rings).  $\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$  with generic element, addition, and multiplication defined as

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

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

$$(a_{i1} \quad \dots \quad a_{in}) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} b_{1j} \\ \vdots \\ b_{nj} \end{pmatrix} = (a_{i1}b_{1j} + \dots + a_{in}b_{nj})$$

**Example 6** (Rings of functions).  $F = \{f|f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$

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

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

**Definition 7.**  $R$  is a ring with unity  $1$  if  $\forall a \in R : a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a$

Note that rings don't necessarily have unity. For example,  $(2\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  has no unity, but satisfies all ring axioms

*Remark 8.*  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$  is cyclic abelian group with generator  $1$ .  $1$  is also unity for modular multiplication

**Definition 9** (Direct Product of Rings). For  $R, S$ , rings, we define the direct product of  $R$  and  $S$

$$R \times S = \{(r, s) | r \in R, s \in S\}.$$

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

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

**Definition 10.** For rings  $R, S$  a function  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  is a homomorphism if  $\forall a, b \in R, \phi(a + b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b)$  and  $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$ . An isomorphism is a bijective homomorphism.

## 2 FERMAT'S AND EULER'S THEOREMS

**Definition 11.** Define  $R$  as a ring with unit  $1$ .  $a \in R$  is called a unit if  $ab = ba = 1$  for some  $b \in R$ .

For example, take  $R = \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$ .  $R$ 's unity is the identity matrix  $\text{Id}$ .

$A \in R$  is a unit  $\iff AB = BA = \text{Id}$  for some  $B \in \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{R})$

$\iff A$  is an invertible matrix

$\iff \det A \neq 0$

If  $R = \mathbb{Z}_p$ ,  $p$  prime,  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  is a unit  $\iff x \neq 0$

**Exercise 12** (HW).  $R^* = \{a \in R | a \text{ is a unit}\}$ .  $R^*$  is a group w/ respect to multiplication

For example,  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  is a group of order  $p - 1$ . In every finite group  $G$ , the order of every element divides the order of the group (Lagrange Corollary)

$a^n = 1$  if  $n = \text{order}(G)$

**Corollary 13** (Fermat's Little Theorem).  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p^* \implies x^{p-1} = 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ .

Equivalently,  $x \in \mathbb{Z}, \gcd(x, p) = 1 \implies x^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

Equivalently,  $x \in \mathbb{Z} \implies x^p \equiv x \pmod{p}$ . If  $\gcd(p, x) = 1$ , multiply both sides of the result of Fermat's Little Theorem by  $p$ . Otherwise,  $\gcd(p, x) > 1$ ,  $x \nmid p$  since  $p$  prime, so  $p|x \implies x \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , therefore  $x^p \equiv 0 \equiv x \pmod{p}$ .

**Example 14.** Show that  $n^{33} - n$  always divisible by 15 for all  $n$ .

We want to show that  $n^{33} - n$  is divisible by both 3 and 5 individually, which will then imply it is divisible by 15.

If  $3|n$ , then  $n^{33} - n$  is trivially divisible by  $n$ . Else,  $\gcd(n, 3) = 1$  since 3 is prime, so by FLT,

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &\equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ (n^2)^{16} &\equiv 1^{16} \pmod{3} \\ n^{32} &\equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ n^{33} &\equiv n \pmod{3} \\ n^{33} - n &\equiv 0 \pmod{3} \end{aligned}$$

The proof is same for 5: if  $5|n$ , then it is trivial, else we apply FLT to say that  $n^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ , raise both sides to the 8th power, multiply by  $n$ , and subtract by  $n$ .

**Example 15.** For  $R = \mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  is a unit  $\iff \gcd(x, n) = 1$ .

**Definition 16.** The order of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$  is  $\phi(n)$ .

Here,  $\phi(n)$  is the Euler totient function, or the number of integers up to  $n$  that are coprime to  $n$ . This goes with the preceding example, since this will count exactly the number of elements  $\in \mathbb{Z}_n$  such that  $\gcd(x, n) = 1$ , which are therefore exactly the number of units.

For  $p$  prime,  $\phi(p) = p - 1$ , since no  $d \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  may divide  $p$ , since  $p$  is prime.  $\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$  since the elements that are not coprime to  $p^k$  are  $\{p, 2p, \dots, p^{k-1}p\}$ . There are  $p^{k-1}$  such values, so the remaining  $p^k - p^{k-1}$  values are coprime to  $p^k$ .

**Theorem 17.**  $n = rs$ ,  $r, s$  coprime,  $\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}_r \times \mathbb{Z}_s$  (as rings). Implies Chinese Remainder Theorem

**Theorem 18.**  $R$  and  $S$  are rings with unity  $1 \implies (R \times S)^* \cong R^* \times S^*$

$(a, b) \in R \times S$  is a unit  $\iff (a, b) * (c, d) = (c, d) * (a, b) = (1, 1)$  unity in  $R \times S$  for some  $(c, d)$

$\iff ac = ca = 1$  and  $bd = db = 1$

$\iff a \in R^*$  and  $b \in S^*$

$\iff (a, b) \in R^* \times S^*$

**Corollary 19.**  $r, s$  coprime,  $n = rs \implies \mathbb{Z}_n^* \cong \mathbb{Z}_r^* \times \mathbb{Z}_s^*$

**Corollary 20.**  $r, s$  coprime  $\phi(n) = \phi(r)\phi(s)$  (multiplicative function)

If  $r, s$  are coprime, then the multiples of  $r$  and the multiples of  $s$  cannot intersect until  $rs$ . Therefore, the numbers coprime to  $rs$  will be products of numbers  $1 \leq x \leq r$  coprime to  $r$  and  $1 \leq y \leq s$  coprime to  $s$ , and we can use a combinatorial argument to say that there are  $\phi(r)\phi(s)$  such pairs.

**Corollary 21.** Write  $n = p_1^{k_1} \cdots p_r^{k_r}$ . Then  $\phi(n) = \phi(p_1^{k_1}) \cdots \phi(p_r^{k_r}) = (p_1^{k_1} - p_1^{k_1-1}) \cdots (p_r^{k_r} - p_r^{k_r-1})$

This is simply leveraging the preceding Corollary that  $\phi(n)$  is multiplicative, and pairwise breaking up  $n$  into separate  $\phi(p_i^{k_i})$  terms.

**Corollary 22** (Euler's Theorem).  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n^* \implies x^{\phi(n)} = 1 \in \mathbb{Z}$

Recall that  $\phi(n)$  is the order of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^*$ . For  $A = \text{order}(x)$ , by Corollary to Lagrange,  $o|\phi(n)$ , so  $\exists n : An = \phi(n)$ , and  $n^{\phi(n)} = n^{An} = (n^A)^n = 1^n = 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_n^*$ .

**Theorem 23.**  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  is a cyclic group

The proof will come later. For now, we can use this to say  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  has a generator or that  $\mathbb{Z}_7^*$  has a generator

**Example 24.** Determine existence of solutions for, and determine solutions of an equation (congruence)  $ax = b \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ .

MAGMA: `Solution(a, b, n)` returns sequence of solutions if they exist, and -1 if no solution.

To determine  $d := \gcd(a, n)$ ,  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n} \implies d|b$ . In other words,  $ax + ny = b \implies ax + ny \equiv 0 \equiv b \pmod{d}$ .

If  $d \nmid b$  then there are no solutions. Else,  $a = a'd, b = b'd, n = n'd$ .  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , so  $a'd \equiv b'd \pmod{n'd}$ . Divide the equivalent Diophantine equation by  $d$  to obtain  $a'x \equiv b' \pmod{n'}$ .  $\gcd(a', n') = 1$  (else  $d < \gcd(a, n)$ ) so  $a$  is invertible in  $\mathbb{Z}_{n'}$ .  $1 \equiv a'c'$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Multiply both sides of  $a'x \equiv b' \pmod{n'}$  by  $c'$  to get  $a'c'x \equiv x \equiv b'c' \pmod{n'}$ . This allows us to conclude that  $x$  is unique modulo  $n'$ , but not necessarily unique modulo  $n = n'd$ . Solutions modulo  $n$ :  $x, x + n', x + 2n', \dots, x + (d-1)n'$ . Therefore, the congruence will either have there are either 0 or  $d$  solutions.

### 3 FIELD OF FRACTIONS

$\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q}$ .  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain,  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a field. There is a little bit more than an integral domain being imbedded in a field, since  $\mathbb{Z}$  is also imbedded in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$ .

*Remark 25.*  $\forall q \in \mathbb{Q}$  can be written as  $\frac{n}{m}$ ,  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$

We can call this "the most economical field including  $\mathbb{Z}$ ."

**Theorem 26.** Let  $R$  be an integral domain. Then there exists a field  $K$ , called is the field of fractions of  $R$ , such that

1.  $R$  contained in  $K$
2.  $\forall x \in K$  can be written as  $x = \frac{r}{s}$ ,  $r, s \in R$

Understand  $R$  in terms of it's field of fractions.

Might be easier to solve Diophantine equations in terms of rationals, then make sense of integral solution.

To prove, we need to

1. Construct  $K$
2. Check that all conditions in the theorem are satisfied

Let  $S$  be the set of pairs  $(r, s)$ ,  $r, s \in R, s \neq 0$

Define an equivalence relation on  $S$ :  $(r, s) \sim (r', s')$  if  $rs' = r's$

Define  $K$  as set of equivalence classes of pairs  $(r, s)$

Check conditions of equivalence relation  $\sim$ :

$(r, s) \sim (r, s)$  since  $rs = rs$

$(r, s) \sim (r's') \iff (r', s') \sim (r, s)$  gives  $rs' = r's$  and  $r's = rs'$ , which are obviously the same

$(r, s) \sim (r', s')$  and  $(r', s') \sim (r'', s'') \xRightarrow{?} (r, s) \sim (r'', s'')$

$R$  integral domain  $\implies$  cancelation law

Define  $L$  as the set of equivalence classes of pairs  $(r, s)$

Let's define a fraction  $\frac{r}{s}$  as the equivalence class of that contains a pair  $(r, s)$

Define binary operations on  $K$

- $\frac{rs' + r's}{ss'}$
- $\frac{r}{s} \cdot \frac{r'}{s'} = \frac{rr'}{ss'}$

Need to check that these operations do not depend on which element of the equivalence classes that we select.

Need to check that  $K$  satisfies ring axioms

check field axioms

Need to imbedd  $R$

Every element of  $K$  is written as a  $rs^{-1}$ , with  $r, s \in R$

Check distributivity, find what are 0 and 1 in  $K$ , check field unit axiom, Embed into  $K$  using  $i(r) := r/1$

## 4 POLYNOMIAL RINGS

**Definition 27.**  $R$  is a ring, then  $R[X] = \{\text{polynomials in } X \text{ with coefficients in } R\}$   
 $= \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots | a_i \in R, \text{ finitely many nonzero } a_i\}$

Every  $f \in R[X]$  determines a function  $R \rightarrow R$ ,  $r \rightarrow f(r) = a_0 + a_1r + a_2r^2 + \dots$

*Remark 28.* In algebra, two different polynomials can define the same function with coefficients in an arbitrary ring.

$x^p, x \in \mathbb{Z}_p[X]$ ,  $p$  prime. different polynomials, but the functions are the same  $\mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$  because  $r^p = r$  because  $\forall r \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  by FLT

Suppose  $R \subset S$  (subring).  $f(x) \in R[X]$ . We can also view  $f$  as an element of  $S[X] \implies$  we can evaluate  $f(s), s \in S$ . Therefore, we have to be careful to specify what ring we're working with for coefficients.

**Definition 29.**  $f(x) \in R[X]$ .  $r \in R$  is called a zero of  $f(x)$  if  $f(r) = 0$ . Alternatively called a root.

$x^2 + 1$  has no roots in  $\mathbb{R}[X]$ , but has two roots in  $\mathbb{C}[X]$ ,  $\pm i$

$x^2 - 2 = 0$  has no solution in  $\mathbb{Q}[X]$ , but has two roots in  $\mathbb{R}[X]$

**Definition 30** (Rational Zeros Theorem).  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ . If  $f(\frac{p}{q}) = 0$ ,  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$ , then  $p|a_0$  and  $q|a_n$ .

**Lemma 31.**  $R[X]$  is a ring

$$(a_0 + a_1x + \dots) + (b_0 + b_1x + \dots) = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + \dots$$

$(R, +)$  is an abelian group  $\implies (R[X], +)$  is an abelian group

$$(a_0 + a_1x + \dots)(b_0 + b_1x + \dots) = (a_0 + b_0) + (\sum_{i \geq 0} a_i x^i)(\sum_{j \geq 0} b_j x^j) = \sum_{i,j} a_i b_j x^{ij}$$

**Remark 32.** Fix  $r \in R$ .  $R[X] \rightarrow R$  evaluation map,  $f(x) \rightarrow f(r)$ , is not always a homomorphism unless the ring is commutative

$f(x) \rightarrow f(r), g(x) \rightarrow g(r), f + g \rightarrow f(r) + g(r)$  okay since  $+$  abelian, but  $fg \rightarrow f(r)g(r)$  may not work if we don't know commutativity holds.  $(a_0 + a_1r + \dots)(b_0 + b_1r + \dots) \iff (a_0 + a_1x + \dots)(b_0 + b_1x + \dots)$  with  $r$  placed in for  $x$  after multiplying polynomials,  $a_1rb_1r \neq a_1b_1r^2$  unless  $R$  is a commutative ring.

**Definition 33.** A factorization of  $f(x) \in R[X]$  is  $f(x) = p_1(x) \cdots p_k(x), p_i \in R[X]$ . Suppose  $R$  is commutative  $\implies p_i(r) = 0$  for some  $i \implies f(r) = 0$  (b.c  $fr = p_1(r) \cdots p_k(r)$ ).

If  $R$  is an integral domain  $\implies$  if  $f(r) = 0 \implies p_i(r) = 0$  for some  $i$

**Remark 34.** Fields are the easiest rings. The next "easiest" ring is  $F[X]$ , where  $F$  is a field

**Definition 35** (Long Division of Polynomials).  $F$  field,  $f, g \in R[X], g \neq 0 \implies$  we can write  $f = qg + r$ , where  $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$  or  $r = 0$ .

$\mathbb{Z}_5[X]$

## 5 GROUP WORK 2

**Remark 36.** If  $\phi_p(x)$  has a root in  $\mathbb{Z}_q$ , then  $\phi_p(x)$  factors as a product of linear factors.

$x^p - 1 = (x - 1)\phi_p(x) \implies \phi_p(x)$  has root 1 or has root  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_q, \alpha \neq 1$ .

If  $\phi_p(1) = 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 = p = 0 \pmod{q}$ , then  $p = q$ .  $x^p - 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_p[x] = (x - 1)^p \implies \phi_p(x) = (x - 1)^{p-1}$

$\phi_p(x)$  has root  $\alpha \neq 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ .  $\alpha^p = 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_q$ .  $\mathbb{Z}_q^*$  is a cyclic group of order  $q - 1$ .  $\langle \alpha \rangle \subset \mathbb{Z}_q^*$ , which has  $p$  elements, so  $p|q - 1$ . Has  $\alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{p-1}$ , all of which have order  $p$  by Corollary to Lagrange. So there are all roots of  $x^p - 1 \implies$  they are all roots of  $\phi_p(x) \implies \phi_p(x)$  factors as  $(x - \alpha)(x - \alpha^2) \cdots (x - \alpha^{p-1})$ , which is a product of linear factors.

Start with  $f(x) + x^d + \dots \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Assume  $f(x)$  is irreducible  $/\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Theorem** (Chebotarev density Theorem). Every type of the factorization is possible over some  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . This happens infinitely often.

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\# \text{ of all primes } \leq N \text{ with a specific factorization type}}{\# \text{ all primes } \leq N}$$

Irreducible polynomial  $x^d + \dots \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \rightarrow$  Galois group  $\subset S_d$ . Density of primes that give a complete factorization of  $f(x)$  into linear factors =  $\frac{1}{|\text{Galois group}|}$ .

$$G \subset S_5 \mid G \text{ divides } |S_5| = 120. \quad \frac{1}{|G|} \sim \frac{2}{95} \sim \frac{1}{47}.$$

$$x^5 + 2z + 2 \rightarrow \frac{9}{1040} \sim \frac{1}{115} \sim \frac{1}{120} \implies G = S_5$$

## 6 HOMOMORPHISMS, IDEALS, AND QUOTIENT RINGS

### 6.1 Homomorphisms

**Definition 37.**  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  is a homomorphism of rings iff

- $\phi$  is a homomorphism of abelian groups with respect to addition:  $\phi(a + b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b)$
- $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$

**Definition 38.** All the set of all elements  $r \in R$  such that  $\phi(r) = 0$  is called the **kernel**, which will be an abelian subgroup of the ring  $R$ .

Take  $r \in R, s \in \text{Ker}\phi$ . Then  $\phi(rs) = \phi(r)\phi(s) = \phi(r)0 = 0 = 0\phi(r) = \phi(s)\phi(r) = \phi(sr)$ , so  $rs, sr \in \text{Ker}\phi$ .

### 6.2 Ideals

**Definition 39.** A subset  $I \subset R$  is called an **ideal** if

- $I$  is an abelian subgroup with respect to addition
- If  $r \in R$  and  $s \in I \implies rs, sr \in I$ .

**Corollary 40.** For any homomorphism  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$ ,  $\text{Ker}\phi$  is an ideal

**Example.** The abelian subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are  $n\mathbb{Z}$ . If you take  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $s \in n\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $s = nk$ , and  $rs = rnk = n(rk) \in n\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Corollary 41.** All ideals in  $\mathbb{Z}$  are of the form  $I = n\mathbb{Z}$ .

$n\mathbb{Z}$  is the kernel of the homomorphisms  $\phi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  where  $\phi$  maps  $m \rightarrow m \pmod{n}$

**Example.**  $R_1 \times \{0\} = R_1 \times R_2$  is an ideal as well.  $(s, 0) \cdot (r_1, r_2) = (sr_1, 0)$ , and  $(r_1, r_2) \cdot (s, 0) = (r_1s, 0)$ . This is the kernel of  $\phi : R_1 \times R_2 \rightarrow R_2$ , where  $\phi$  maps  $(r_1, r_2) \rightarrow r_2$ .

Let  $R$  be any ring. Then  $R$  always has at least two ideals:  $R$  (improper ideal) and  $\{0\}$  (trivial ideal).

**Remark 42.** Every ideal of a field  $F$  is either  $F$  or  $\{0\}$ .

Let  $I \subset F$  be an ideal. If  $I = \{0\}$ , we're done. Suppose  $I \neq \{0\}$ . Then exists  $x \in I$ . So  $x^{-1} \in F \implies x^{-1}x = 1 \in I$ . Then take any  $y \in F, y \cdot 1 = y \in I$ . Therefore  $F = I$ .

**Corollary 43.**  $I \subset R$  is an ideal in a ring with unity.  $u \in I$  is a unit  $\implies I = R$ .

**Example.**  $R = R[x]$ ,  $F$  is a field.  $I = \{f \in R : f(1) = 0\}$ . This is an ideal, because  $f \in F$  and  $g \in I$ , then  $f(1)g(1) = f(1)0 = 0 \in I$ . Alternatively,  $\phi : F[X] \rightarrow F$  where  $\phi(f(x)) \rightarrow f(1)$ .

$f(x) \in I \iff f(1) = 0 \iff f(x) = (x - 1)g(x) \implies I = \{r(x) : f(x) = (x - 1)g(x)\} = (x - 1)F[x]$ . This looks a lot like  $n\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Definition 44.**  $R$  is a ring. Pick  $r \in R$ . Then the ideal  $I = rR := \{rs : s \in R\}$  is called a **principle ideal**.

$I$  is an abelian group since  $rs + rs' = r(s + s') \in I$ .

Closure since  $rsr' = r's = r(r's) \in I$

**Definition 45.** An integral domain is called a **principle ideal domain** (PID) if every ideal is principle.

Very good example here being  $\mathbb{Z}$ , where all ideals are  $I = n\mathbb{Z}$ .

Take  $F$  to be a field. Two ideals:  $\{0\}$  ( $0 \cdot F$ ) and  $F$  ( $1 \cdot F$ ), therefore both are principle.

**Theorem 46.**  $R = F[x]$  is a PID for every field  $F$ .

Take an ideal  $I \subset R$ . If  $I = \{0\}$ , then trivial.

Suppose  $I \neq \{0\}$ . What is the possible generator of  $I$ ? Choose polynomial  $f(x) \in I$  of the smallest possible degree.

**Claim:** Every  $g(x) \in I$  is a multiple of  $f(x) \implies I = f(x)R[x]$  principle ideal.

$g(x) = f(x)q(x) + r(x)$ . Either  $r(x) = 0$ , and we are done, or  $\deg(r) < \deg(f)$ . Then  $r(x)$  can be written as  $g(x) - f(x)q(x) \implies r(x)$  is in the ideal, but this contradicts  $r(x)$  having smaller degree than  $f(x)$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\deg(r) = 0 \implies g(x) = f(x)q(x)$ .

*Remark 47.*  $\phi$  is one to one  $\iff \text{Ker}\phi = \{0\}$

Because this is true for homomorphisms of abelian groups.

**Definition 48.** For ring  $R$  and ideal  $I \subset R$  such that  $I \neq R$ ,  $I$  is called **maximal** if every ideal  $J$  such that  $I \subset J \subset R$  is either  $I$  or  $R$ .

**Example.**  $\{0\} \subset F$  field,  $p\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Z}$  where  $p$  prime.

$F[x]$ , for  $F$  field, is a principle ideal domain. Take  $f(x)F[x] \subset F[x]$ , where  $f(x)$  is an irreducible polynomial  $\implies f(x)F[x]$  is a maximal ideal

**Example 49.** Compute  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)F[x]$ .

What are the cosets? Take  $g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}_2[x]$  and take its coset  $g(x) + x^2 + x + 1$ .

Claim: there are only four cosets. The ideal itself  $I$ ,  $1 + I$ ,  $x + I$ ,  $(1 + x) + I$

Take any coset  $g(x) + I$ . Perform long division  $g(x) = (x^2 + x + 1)q(x) + r(x)$ , where  $\deg(r) < 2$ . All possible  $r(x)$  are  $0, 1, x, x + 1$ .

## 7 UNIQUE FACTORIZATION DOMAINS

Define  $R$  to be an integral domain.

**Definition 50.** For  $p \in R$  irreducible, if  $p = ab \implies a$  or  $b$  is a unit

**Definition 51.** If  $(p) \subset R$  is a prime ideal, then  $p \in R$  prime.

Recall Euclid's Lemma:  $p|ab \implies p|a$  or  $p|b \forall a, b \in R$

*Remark 52.* If  $p$  is prime then  $p$  is irreducible

**Definition 53.** An integral domain  $R$  is called a unique factorization domain (UFD) if

- 1) Every element can be written as  $r = up_1p_2 \cdots p_r$  where  $u$  is a unit and  $p_i$  are irreducible elements
- 2) Suppose  $up_1 \cdots p_r = vq_1 \cdots q_s$ , with  $u, v$  unit, everything else irreducible, then  $r = s$  and after reordering  $q_1 \cdots q_s, p_i = q_i \cdot u_i$  for some unit  $u_i$

*Remark 54.* If  $R$  is a UFD, then every irreducible element is prime

$r \in R$  irreducible. Suppose  $r|ab$ , then  $ab = pc, c \in R$ . Apply factorization to  $a, b, c$ :  $(up_1 \cdots p_r)(vq_1 \cdots q_s) = p(wl_1 \cdots l_k)$ ,  $u, v, w$  are units

Uniqueness of factorization  $\implies p_i = \alpha p$  or  $q_i = \alpha p$  for some  $i$ , unit  $\alpha$ .

In the first case, then  $a = up_1 \cdots p_{i-1}(\alpha p)p_{i+1} \cdots p_r \implies p|a$

*Remark 55.* Suppose  $R$  is an integral domain where factorization exists.  $\implies$  one can conclude that, if every irreducible unit is prime, then  $R$  is a UFD

Suppose  $up_1 \cdots p_r = vq_1 \cdots q_s$ , with  $u, v$  unit. Then  $p_1|vq_1 \cdots q_s$ .  $p_1 \nmid u \implies p_1|q_i$  for some  $i$ . (Because  $p_1$  is irreducible, and here all irreducibles are prime). By rearranging,  $p_1|q_1$ , so  $p_1\beta = q_1$ .  $q_1$  irreducible implies  $\beta$  must be a unit. Cancel  $p_1$  using integral domain cancelation law:  $up_2 \cdots p_r = (v\beta)q_2 \cdots q_s$ . By induction, we are done.

**Example.**  $K[X]$  is a UFD if  $K$  is a field.

(1)  $f(x) \in K[x]$  is irreducible. We already checked that  $f(x)K[x]$  is maximal. But every maximal ideal is prime  $\implies f(x)$  is a prime element.

(2) Show existence of factorization: take polynomial  $f(x) \in K[x]$ . Argue by induction on  $\deg(f(x))$ . If  $f(x)$  is unit  $\iff \deg(f(x)) = 0 \implies$  factorization exists. If  $f(x)$  is irreducible  $\implies$  factorization exists. Else,  $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$  for  $0 < \deg(g(x)), \deg(h(x)) < \deg(f(x))$ . Both admit factorizations by induction, so combine them to get factorization.

Suppose  $r = r_1$  does not allow factorization  $\implies r_1$  is not a unit, not irreducible  $\implies r = ab$ , where  $a, b$  not units. One of them, say  $a = r_2$  does not allow factorization.  $r_1 = r_2 b_2$ ,  $b_2$  is not a unit. Can continue inducting, and get a sequence  $r_i = r_{i+1} b_{i+1}$  where all  $r_1, r_2, \dots$  do not allow factorization and  $b_1, b_2, \dots$  are not units.

Take  $(r_1)$  and  $(r_2)$ .  $(r_1) \subset (r_2) \subset (r_3) \subset \dots$ . Can it be that  $(r_1) = (r_{i+1})$ ? No. Then  $r_i = r_{i+1} b_{i+1}$  and  $r_{i+1} = r_i c_i \implies r_i = r_i b_{i+1} c_i \implies 1 = b_{i+1} c_i \implies b_{i+1}$  is a unit, contradiction.

$(r_1) \subsetneq (r_2) \subsetneq (r_3) \subsetneq \dots$

**Definition 56.** A commutative ring  $R$  is called Noetherian if there are no infinite ascending chains of ideals  $I_1 \subsetneq I_2 \subsetneq I_3 \subsetneq \dots$

**Corollary 57.** If  $R$  is Noetherian integral domain where irreducible elements are prime, then it's a UFD

## 8 FIELD EXTENSIONS

$K \subset F$ , towers of fields:  $K_1 \subset K_2 \subset K_3$

$K$  field,  $f(x) \in K[x]$  irreducible polynomial. Take  $I = (f(x))$  maximal ideal.  $F = K[X]/I$  is a field.

**Theorem 58.**  $K \rightarrow K[x] \rightarrow K[x]/I = F \implies K \rightarrow F$  by composition.  $f(x)$  has a root  $\alpha \in F$

**Corollary 59.** If you take any polynomial in  $f(x) \in K[x]$ , factors into linear factors in some field extension of  $K \subset F$

**Proof:**  $K \xrightarrow{\phi} F$ .  $\text{Ker } \phi$  is an ideal of  $K$ ,  $K$  is a field, either  $\text{Ker } \phi = \{0\}$  (and  $\phi$  is injective) or  $\text{Ker } \phi = K$ . But that can't happen because  $1 \in K \rightarrow 1 \in K[x] \rightarrow 1 + I$ , a unity in  $F$ , which is certainly not zero, so  $\phi(1) \neq 0$ , and  $I$  must be  $\{0\} \implies K \rightarrow F$

Claim:  $x + I = \alpha \in F$  is going to be a root of  $f(x)$   $f(x + I) = f(x) + I = I = 0 \in F$ . If confused, try plugging in  $x + I$  and doing it out.

$x^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ ,  $I = (x^2 + 1)$ .  $\mathbb{R}[x]/I = \{p(x) + I\} = \{p(x) = I : \deg(p) < 2\}$ . Indeed  $p(x) = (x^2 + 1)q(x) + r(x) \implies p(x) + I = r(x) + I$  because  $p(x) - r(x) = q(x)(x^2 + 1) \in I$ . Moreover, every coset can be written uniquely as  $\{a + bx + I\}$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition 60.** Let  $K \subset F$  be a field extension. Choose some  $\alpha \in F$ .  $\alpha$  is **algebraic** over  $K$  if there exists  $f(x) \in K[x]$  such that  $f(\alpha) = 0$ .

**Definition 61.** Any element that is not algebraic is **transcendental** over  $K$

**Example.** Consider  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{C}$ . Algebraic  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  are called algebraic (transcendental) numbers.

**Theorem 62.**  $e, \pi$  are transcendental over  $\mathbb{Q}$

Very hard to prove. Much easier to prove numbers are algebraic

**Remark 63.** If you have a trivial field extension  $F \subset F$ , then all elements will be algebraic

In a real analysis context, algebraic and transcendental are with rational coefficients, so  $\pi$  and  $e$  are transcendental. For the extension  $\mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{C}$  both are now algebraic, since  $x - \pi = 0$  has  $\pi$  as a solution, and  $x - e = 0$  has  $e$  as a solution.

**Lemma 64.** Suppose  $K \subset F$  field extension. Take  $\alpha \in F$  algebraic  $\implies$  there exists a unique minimal (aka irreducible) polynomial  $\text{irr}(\alpha, K)$  which is

- 1) irreducible and nonzero
- 2) has  $\alpha$  as a root
- 3) and monic

$\text{irr}(\alpha, K)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $K$ .

The main tool to prove this is the evaluation homomorphism.  $\phi : K[x] \rightarrow F$  which sends  $f(x) \rightarrow f(\alpha)$ .



$I = \text{Ker}(\phi) \subset K[x]$  ideal. By definition, it is  $= \{f \in K[x] : f(\alpha) = 0\}$ .  $I \neq 0 \iff \alpha$  is algebraic  $/K$ , and  $I = 0 \iff \alpha$  is transcendental  $/K$ .

**Case 1:**  $I \neq 0 \iff \alpha$  is algebraic. The ideal  $I$  is principle:  $I = (f)$ . Rescale  $f$  by a constant to make it monic. Why is it irreducible? If  $f(x) = a(x)b(x)$  with  $\deg(a), \deg(b) < \deg(f)$ .  $f(\alpha) = a(\alpha)b(\alpha) = 0$ , but then at least one of them has to be in the ideal, but they can't be since they have degree less than  $f$  (because we selected  $f$  to be the generating polynomial). Therefore  $\text{irr}(\alpha, K)$  exists.

Why is it unique? Suppose  $g(x)$  also satisfies the three conditions. Therefore,  $g(\alpha) = 0$ , so  $g(x)$  is in the ideal  $I = (f)$ . But then  $g(x) = f(x)q(x)$ . But  $g(x)$  is irreducible, so  $q(x)$  has to be a constant, else  $g(x)$  has a nontrivial factorization, and must be 1 else one of  $f(x)$  or  $g(x)$  isn't monic.

**Example.**  $\text{irr}(\sqrt{2}, \mathbb{Q}) = x^2 - 2$ ,  $\text{irr}(\sqrt{2}, \mathbb{R}) = x - \sqrt{2}$ .

**Definition 65.** Suppose  $K \subset F$  fields,  $\alpha \in F$ . A **simple field extension**  $K(\alpha)$  is the smallest subfield of  $F$  that contains  $K$  and  $\alpha$ . Generalization:  $K(\alpha, \beta)$  contains  $K$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $\beta$ .

$\phi : K[x] \rightarrow F$ ,  $I = \text{Ker}\phi$ .  $I \neq 0 \iff \alpha$  algebraic  $/K$   
 $\implies I = (f)$ , where  $f = \text{irr}(\alpha, K)$

Apply the first isomorphism theorem:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K[x] & \xrightarrow{\phi} & F \\ \downarrow & & \uparrow \\ K[x]/I & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \text{Im}\phi \end{array}$$

$\implies \text{Im}\phi$  is a subfield, isomorphic to  $K[x]/I$ , contains  $J$ ,  $\alpha = \phi(x)$ .

**Claim:**  $\text{Im}(\phi) = K(\alpha)$ . Why is it the smallest? Suppose  $N$  is a subfield of  $F$  that contains  $K$  and  $\alpha$ . Is  $\text{Im}(\phi) \in N$ ? Yes,  $\phi(a_0 + \dots + a_n x^n) = a_0 + \dots + a_n \alpha^n \in N$

**Case 2:**  $\phi : K[x] \rightarrow F$  which sends  $p(x) \rightarrow p(\alpha)$ .  $I = \text{Ker}\phi = 0 \implies \phi$  is injective.

$K[x] \xrightarrow{\phi} F \implies K(x) = \left\{ \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} : p, q \in K[x] \right\}$  is also contained in  $F \implies K(\alpha) \cong K[x]$

## 9 LINEAR ALGEBRA OVER A FIELD $K$

Vector space of column vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $a_i \in K$

Two operations:  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + b_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n + b_n \end{bmatrix}$

and  $k \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ka_1 \\ \vdots \\ ka_n \end{bmatrix}$

These operations satisfy axioms of vector space  $/K$ .

Set  $V$  with 2 operations:

$V \times V \rightarrow V$ , sends  $u, v \rightarrow u + v$ , and  $K \times V \rightarrow V$  sending  $k, v \rightarrow kv$  subject to axioms:

- $(V, +)$  is an abelian group, in particular we have a zero vector  $0 \in V$
- distributivity  $k(u + v) = ku + kv$  and  $(k + k')u = ku + k'u$
- "action" or "associativity"  $l(ku) = (lk)u$ , and  $1 \cdot v = v$

**Example.** Suppose we have a field extension  $K \subset F$ . Then we have  $f_1 + f_2, f_1, f_2 \in F$ , and can compute  $kf$ , for  $k \in K$  and  $f \in F$ . Therefore, as a consequence of ring axioms,  $F$  satisfies the axioms of a vector space over a field  $K$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{C}$

View  $\mathbb{C}$  as a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , with basis vectors 1 and  $i$ .

*Remark 66.* We can imbed field  $K$  into a ring  $R$  and this still holds since we used ring axioms only.

**Definition 67.** Suppose we have  $V$  vector space/ $K$ , with  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$ . We say  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  **span**  $V$  if  $\forall v \in V$  can be written  $v = \sum a_i v_i$  for  $a_i \in K$ .

**Definition 68.**  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  are **linearly independent** if  $\sum a_i v_i = 0 \implies \forall a_i = 0$ .

**Definition 69.**  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is a **basis** if they span and are linearly independent.

**Lemma 70.**  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  span  $V$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_k$  are linearly independent, then  $k \leq n$ .

$u_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} v_j$ . Argue by contradiction. Suppose  $k > n$ . Leters try to find a nontrivial linear combination (all terms nonzero)  $x_1 u_1 + \dots x_k u_k = 0$   $x_i \in K$ .

$$\implies \sum_{i=1}^k x_i u_i = 0$$

$$\implies \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} v_j = 0$$

$$\implies \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^n x_i a_{ij} v_j = 0$$

Certainly true if  $\sum_{i=1}^k x_i a_{ij} = 0 \forall j = 1, \dots, n$ . We have a system of  $n$  homogeneous linear equations in  $k$  variables  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ , and  $k > n$ . Therefore, it has a nontrivial solution.

Run row reduction, we have  $> 0$  independent variables, which can take arbitrary values.

**Corollary 71.** If  $V$  has a finite basis with  $n$  vectors, then every other basis also has  $n$  vectors. This  $n$  is called the **dimension** of  $V$  over  $K$  (otherwise  $\dim V = \infty$ )

**Example.**  $\dim \mathbb{C}$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  is 2 with basis 1 and  $i$

$\alpha \in \mathbb{C}, \alpha = a \cdot 1 + b \cdot i, a, b \in \mathbb{R} \implies 1, i$  span  $\mathbb{C}$

$a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a + bi = 0 \implies a = b = 0 \implies 1$  and  $i$  are linearly independent.

**Definition 72.**  $K \subset F$  a field extension  $\implies F$  vector space/ $K$ . Then the dimension of  $F$  over  $K$  is called the **degree** of the field extension, notated  $[F : K]$

**Lemma 73.**  $f(x) \in K[x]$  irreducible of degree  $n$ .  $I = (f) \subset K[x], F = K[x]/I$ . Then  $[F : K] = n$ , easy to write a basis as well.

$\alpha = X + I \in F$ . Claim:  $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}$  is a basis of  $F$  over  $K$ , with dimension  $n$ .

$F = K[x]/I \implies$  elements of  $F$  are cosets  $p(x) + I, p(x) \in K[x]$ . Recall  $p(x) = f(x)q(x) + r(x)$ , degree of  $r < \text{degree } f$ .  $I = (f(x)), f(x)q(x) \in I, p(x) + I = r(x) + I$ .

If  $r(x)$  and  $r'(x)$  give the same coset, then  $r(x)$  must be equal to  $r'(x)$ , since  $r(x) - r'(x) \in I \implies r(x) - r'(x) = f(x)s(x) \implies \deg(r - r') < \deg(f) \implies r = r' \implies$  we can write every element of  $F$  as  $a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + I, a_i \in K$  uniquely.  $a_0 + a_1 \alpha + \dots + a_{n-1} \alpha^{n-1} = a_0(1 + I) + a_1(x + I) + \dots + a_{n-1}(x + I)^{n-1} =$  above.

Therefore,  $\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}\}$  is a basis, since every element of  $F$  is a unique linear combination of  $1, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}$  with coefficients in  $K$ .

**Corollary 74.**  $K \subset F$  field extension,  $\alpha \in F$  algebraic over  $K$  with minimal polynomial of degree  $n \implies [K(\alpha), K] = n$ , with basis  $\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}\}$ .

$f(x) = \text{irr}(\alpha, K)$ . Last time:  $K(\alpha) \cong F/(f)$  with  $\alpha$  matched with  $x + I$ .

**Example.**  $K = \mathbb{Q}, \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , study  $K(\alpha)$ ?

$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \text{irr}(\sqrt{2}) = x^2 - 2 \implies [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ , with basis  $1, \sqrt{2}$ .

Therefore,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  can be written uniquely as  $a + b\sqrt{2}$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{1+\sqrt{3}})$

$\alpha^2 = 1 + \sqrt{3} \implies \alpha^2 - 1 = \sqrt{3} \implies (\alpha^2 - 1)^2 = 3 \implies \alpha^4 - 2\alpha^2 - 2 = 0$ . Is irreducible by Eisenstein with  $p = 2$ .

Therefore,  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha), \mathbb{Q}] = 4$ , basis is  $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3$

How to write  $\frac{1}{1 + \alpha + \alpha^2}$  as linear combination?

$x_0 + x_1\alpha + x_2\alpha^2 + x_3\alpha^3$ , solve for  $x_0, \dots, x_4$ .  $1 = (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2)(x_0 + x_1\alpha + x_2\alpha^2 + x_3\alpha^3)$ .  $\alpha^4 = 2\alpha^2 + 2$ . Multiply out, and substitute in for  $\alpha^4$  at each step to only use powers of  $\alpha < 4$ . Gives a system of 4 equations in four variables.

## 10 ALGEBRAIC EXTENSIONS

**Definition 75.** A field extension  $K \subset F$  is called **algebraic** if every element  $\alpha \in F$  is algebraic/ $K$ .

**Theorem 76.** Every finite extension is algebraic

$[F : K] = n$ ,  $\alpha \in F$ . Basis  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n \in F$ . Take  $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^n$ . Are linearly dependent  $\implies x_0 + x_1\alpha + \dots + x_n\alpha^n = 0$  for some  $x_i \in K$ , not all 0, so  $P(\alpha) = 0$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3})$

$[\mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$  since  $x^3 - 2 = 0$ , irr by Eisenstein

$\implies \forall p \in \mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3})$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$

Take  $\beta = 1 + 2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3}$ . Basis of  $\mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3})$  is  $\{1, 2^{1/3}, 2^{2/3}\}$ . Compute  $1, \beta, \beta^2, \beta^3$  as linear combinations of  $1, 2^{1/3}, 2^{2/3} \implies$  set-up a linear combination with unknown coefficients  $x_0 + x_1\beta + x_2\beta^2 + x_3\beta^3$  in terms of the basis. Solve a SLE with 4 variables and 3 equations.

*Remark 77.* Suppose  $\alpha$  is algebraic over  $F$ . Then  $F(\alpha) \cong F[x]/(f)$  where  $f(x)$  is the irreducible polynomial. We have a basis of  $F(\alpha)$  over  $F$  given by  $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}$ , where  $n$  is the degree of  $f(x) = [F(\alpha) : F]$

**Theorem 78** (Transitivity of degree).  $F \subset K \subset L$  fields. Suppose  $L$  is a finite extension of  $F$ . Then  $[L : F] = [L : K][K : F]$

**Proof:** Choose a basis  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  of  $K$  as a vector space over  $F$ . Choose  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$  of  $L$  as a vector space over  $K$ . Claim  $\alpha_i\beta_j$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $j = 1, \dots, m$  is a basis of  $L$  over  $F$ .

Have to check that

(1) every element  $\gamma \in L$  can be written as a linear combination of  $\alpha_i\beta_j$  with coefficients in  $F$

(2) These vectors are linearly independent over  $F$ .

Well, the  $\beta$  terms being a basis of  $L$  over  $K$  means that  $\gamma = \sum_{j=1}^m k_j\beta_j$ . But the  $\alpha$  terms form a basis of  $K$  over  $F$ , so

each  $k_j = \sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij}\alpha_i$ . Therefore, you can substitute in the summations to get  $\gamma = \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij}\alpha_i\beta_j$ . so we have part

(1).

(2) Claim:  $\alpha_i\beta_j$  are linearly independent over  $F$ . Write  $\sum_{i,j} f_{ij}\alpha_i\beta_j = 0$ . To show linear independence, we must show that all  $f_{ij}$  are 0.

Well, this implies that  $\sum_{j=1}^m (\sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij}\alpha_i)\beta_j = 0$ , but the  $\beta$  terms form a basis, so are linearly independent with each summation term being in  $K$ , so each summation w.r.t  $j$  equals 0. Well, by the same logic, since  $\alpha$  are all linearly independent, all  $f_{ij}$  must be zero, and we are done.

**Corollary 79.** If  $[L : F]$  is prime, then either  $[L : K] = 1 \implies L = K$  or  $[K : F] = 1 \implies K = F$

**Example.**  $[\mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$

$\beta = 1 + 2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3}$ . Then, take  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ . Then either  $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$  or  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta) = \mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3})$ . The latter must be true, since  $\beta$  is not rational  $\implies \deg(\text{irr}(\beta, \mathbb{Q})) = [\mathbb{Q}(\beta) : \mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(2^{1/3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$

Has degree 2, since irreducible polynomial is  $x^2 - 2$ . Take  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}]$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$  has degree two because the irreducible polynomial is  $x^2 - 3$

Is this irreducible? Well if not, then there is a root, namely  $\sqrt{3}$  so then  $\sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$ , so  $\sqrt{3} = a + b\sqrt{2}$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Square both sides, get  $3 = a^2 + 2b^2 + 2ab\sqrt{2}$ , which can't be true unless  $a$  is zero or  $b$  is zero.

If  $b$  is zero, then  $\sqrt{3} = a$ , but we know it's irrational. If  $a$  is zero, then we have  $\sqrt{3} = b\sqrt{2}$ , or  $2b^2 - 3 = 0$ , which is irreducible by Eisenstein, so  $b$  is irrational if the two sides are indeed equal.

Therefore,  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})]$  has degree 4, with basis  $1, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{6}$ . This is a simple field extension, since we've already checked that  $x^4 - 10x^2 + 1$  is an irreducible polynomial with degree 4 with  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$  as a root.

Therefore, we have  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$ , where the first extension has degree 4, and the whole extension has degree 4, so the right two must be equal, and the last field must have degree 4 over  $\mathbb{Q}$

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt[3]{2})$

$F \subset K$  field extension. Consider  $L = \{\alpha \in L : \alpha \text{ is algebraic over } F\}$  If  $F \subset K$  is algebraic  $\implies L = K$ .

**Lemma 80.**  $L$  is a subfield of  $K$ , called an **algebraic closure** of  $F$  in  $K$

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{C}$ . Algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathbb{C}$  is denoted  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ , field of algebraic numbers

Proof of lemma:  $\forall, \alpha, \beta \in L$ , check that  $\alpha\beta$ ,  $\alpha - \beta$ , and  $\alpha/\beta$  is in  $L$ . Meaning, these three should also be algebraic over  $K$ .

Consider extension  $K \subset K(\alpha)$ , which is finite. Then extension  $K(\alpha) \subset K(\alpha, \beta)$ , which is also finite since  $\beta$  is algebraic over  $K$ . Therefore  $K \subset K(\alpha, \beta)$  is also finite with degree of product of the subdegrees. Because this extension is finite, it must be algebraic  $\implies \alpha \pm \beta, \alpha\beta, \alpha/\beta$  are algebraic over  $K$

*Remark 81.* How can we find a

**Example.**  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{C} : \alpha \text{ is algebraic over } \mathbb{Q}\}$  is an algebraic closure, and is therefore automatically a field without having to prove it specifically

**Definition 82.** An algebraic closure  $\overline{K}$  of a field  $K$  is a field extension of  $K$  such that

1.  $\forall \alpha \in \overline{K}$  is algebraic over  $K$
2.  $\overline{K}$  is algebraically closed, which means that every polynomial in  $\overline{K}[x]$  has a root in  $\overline{K}$

(2)  $\iff$  every polynomial in  $\overline{K}[x]$  factors into linear factors in  $\overline{K}[x]$

**Example.**  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed  $\implies \mathbb{C}$  is an algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{R}$

(1)  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed

(2)  $a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{R}$ ?  $(x - a - bi)(x - a + bi) = x^2 - 2ax + (a^2 + b^2)$

**Example.**  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  is algebraically closed

**Example.**  $c = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{10^{n!}}$

Last time:  $c$  is a Liouville number, which means that  $c \notin \mathbb{Q}$ , and  $\forall n \geq 1, \exists \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\left| c - \frac{p}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{q^n}$

**Lemma 83.** Liouville numbers are transcendental ( $\notin \mathbb{Q}$ )

Argue by contradiction> Suppose that a Liouville number  $\alpha$  is algebraic/ $\mathbb{Q}$ . Well, then there exists an irreducible polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  such that  $f(\alpha) = 0$ . Rescale the polynomial by the lcm of the denominators such that  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$

$f(\alpha) = 0$ , but  $f(\frac{p}{q}) \neq 0$  because  $f(x)$  is irreducible/ $\mathbb{Q}$

$f(x) = a_0x^m + a_1x^{m-1} + \dots + a_m$  with  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\left| f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \right| = \left| a_0 \frac{p^m}{q^m} + \dots + a_m \right| \geq \frac{1}{q^m} \text{ because } = \left| \frac{a_0p^m + a_1p^{m-1}q + \dots + a_mq^m}{q^m} \right|$$

Choose  $\frac{p}{q}$  such that  $\left| \alpha - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q^n}$ . Then  $f(\alpha) - f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = f'(x)\left(\alpha - \frac{p}{q}\right)$   $x$  between  $\alpha$  and  $\frac{p}{q}$

$$\left| f(\alpha) - f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \right| = |f'(x)| \left| \alpha - \frac{p}{q} \right|$$

$|x - \alpha| \leq 1$  because  $\left| \frac{p}{q} - \alpha \right| < \frac{1}{q^n} \leq 1$ . Let  $M$  be the  $\sup_{|x-\alpha| \leq 1} |f'(x)|$ , so

$$\frac{1}{q^m} \leq \left| f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \right| = \left| f(\alpha) - f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \right| \leq M \left| \alpha - \frac{p}{q} \right| \leq M \frac{1}{q^n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{q^m} \leq \frac{M}{q^n} \Rightarrow q^n \leq Mq^m \Rightarrow 2^{n-m} \leq q^{n-m} \leq M. \text{ This obviously can't be true for all } n$$

## 11 GEOMETRIC CONSTRUCTIONS

What can be constructed with a straightedge and a compass

Classical problems

1. Doubling the cube (basically, can we construct cube root of 3)
2. Trisect angle
3. Squaring the circle (circle with area  $A$  to square with area  $A$ )

Algebraic interpretation: Let's define field  $K \subset \mathbb{R}$  to be a field of all numbers  $x$  such that the segment of length  $x$  can be constructed with straightedge and compass starting with a segment of length 1.

You can take  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  and get  $\alpha + \beta$

Start with  $1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ . Easy.

Take  $a + 1$ , then half circle, then get altitude, which has length  $\sqrt{a}$ . Then we can adjoin  $\mathbb{Q}$  with any square root.

Let's call  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  constructible if it can be constructed using straightedge and compass.

**Theorem 84.**  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is constructible  $\iff$  there exists  $\mathbb{Q} = K_0 \subset K_1 \subset \dots \subset K_r$  such that  $K_r = K_{r-1}(\sqrt{\beta_r})$ , where  $\beta_r \in K_{r-1}$

We already just proved one direction.

For the other way, we can formalize "straightedge and compass" as we can create a series of points  $(x_n, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  with starting points  $(x_1, y_1) = (0, 0)$  and  $(x_2, y_2) = (1, 0)$ .

What can  $(x_n, y_n)$  be? Either  $(x_n, y_n)$  is an intersection point of a line passing through  $(x_i, y_i), (x_j, y_j)$  and a line through  $(x_k, y_k)$  and  $(x_l, y_l)$  for  $i, j, k, l < n$ , or we can use circles with center  $(x_i, y_i)$  and pass through  $(x_j, y_j), i, j < n$ .

Claim: we can compute  $(x_n, y_n)$  using  $x_i, y_i$  for  $i < n$  using  $+, -, \cdot, /$  and  $\sqrt{\phantom{x}}$

$$y - y_i = \frac{y_j - y_i}{x_j - x_i}(x - x_i) \text{ or } x = x_i \text{ if } x_i = x_j, \text{ so a line } y = kx + b \text{ or vertical lines.}$$

To intersect two lines  $y = kx + b$  and  $y = k'x + b'$ , we just have to solve the linear system of two equations in two variables, and we can find  $(x, y)$  using arithmetic operations  $+, -, \cdot, /$ .

From circle, have  $(x - x_i)^2 + (y - y_i)^2 = R^2 = (x_j - x_i)^2 + (y_j - y_i)^2$  and compute using  $+, -, \cdot$ .

Intersecting a line and  $(x - x_i)^2 + (y - y_i)^2 = R^2$ , solve for  $x, y$  by substituting the linear equation in for  $y$ , and solving the quadratic using the quadratic formula, which requires a square root

Finally, we can intersect two circles  $\begin{cases} (x - x_i)^2 + (y - y_i)^2 = R^2 \\ (x - x_j)^2 + (y - y_j)^2 = \bar{R}^2 \end{cases}$  If we subtract, the degree terms go away, and we are left with a linear equation in  $x$  and  $y$

**Corollary 85.** *If  $\alpha$  is constructable  $\implies \alpha$  is algebraic /  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and its degree is a power of 2.*

**Proof:**  $\alpha \in K_r$  like in theorem. Then  $[K_r : \mathbb{Q}] = [K_r : K_{r-1}][K_{r-1} : \mathbb{Q}] = 2[K_{r-1} : \mathbb{Q}] = 2^r$  by induction

On the other hand, we have  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \subset K_r$ . So again, by transitivity,  $2^r = [K_r : \mathbb{Q}] = [K_r : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)][\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \implies [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2^s$ , which is the degree of the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$ .

**Corollary 86.** *We can't double the cube.*

**Proof:** well if we can, then its side,  $\sqrt[3]{2}$ , is constructable. Therefore,  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  has degree  $2^s$ . But it has degree 3, since the minimal polynomial is  $x^3 - 2$ . Therefore, the cube can't be doubled.

**Corollary 87.** *We can't trisect a general angle.*

$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos(\alpha)\cos(\beta) - \sin(\alpha)\sin(\beta)$ . So  $\cos(3\phi) = \cos(2\phi)\cos(\phi) - \sin(2\phi)\sin(\phi) = [2\cos^2(\phi) - 1]\cos(\phi) - 2\sin^2(\phi)\cos(\phi) = 2\cos^3\phi - \cos\phi - 2(1 - \cos^2\phi)\cos\phi = 4\cos^3\phi - 3\cos\phi$

Claim:  $\cos(60^\circ) = \frac{1}{2}$  is constructable, but  $\cos(20^\circ)$  is not.  $\cos(20^\circ)$  is a root of  $8x^3 - 6x - 1$ , which is irreducible. Therefore, the degree of  $\cos(20^\circ)$  is 3, which is not a power of 2.

Why irreducible? Well, degree 3, so it has to have a root, and by rational roots theorem it has none in  $\{\pm 1, \pm 1/2, \pm 1/4, \pm 1/8\}$ , therefore it is irreducible.

**Corollary 88.** *You cannot square a circle*

If you want to create a square with area  $\pi$ , then you need to construct  $\sqrt{\pi}$ , which is transcendental /  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Suppose  $\sqrt{\pi}$  is algebraic /  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\sqrt{\pi}\sqrt{\pi}$  must also be algebraic, but in fact  $\pi$  is transcendental (by a difficult theorem proved by Lindemann ~ 1890)

## 12 FINITE FIELDS

$F$  is a field  $\implies F$  contains the smallest possible subfield. This field, known as a prime field, is either  $\mathbb{Q}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_p = \mathbb{F}_p$  for prime  $p$

$F$  a finite field  $\implies F \supset \mathbb{F}_p$  for  $p = \text{char} F \implies F$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}_p \implies |F| = p^n$ , where  $n = [F : \mathbb{F}_p]$

**Theorem 89.** *There exists a field with  $p^n$  elements  $\forall$  prime  $p, n \geq 1$*

Idea 1: prove existence of an irreducible polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  of degree  $n \implies \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(f) = F$  field with  $p^n$  elements. Counting gets harder for  $n \geq 2$

Idea 2: let  $F$  be a finite field with  $p^n$  elements. Then  $F^* = F \setminus \{0\}$  is a group with respect to multiplication with  $p^n - 1$  elements.

$\implies \forall x \in F^*, \text{ord}(x) | p^n - 1$  (Cauchy theorem)

$\implies x^{p^n - 1} = 1$  in  $F^*$

$\implies x^{p^n} = x \forall x \in F$  (a generalization of Little Fermat Theorem)

Very special polynomial  $x^{p^n} - x \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  with degree  $p^n$ . It's roots are exactly elements of  $F$ ,  $|F| = p^n$

**Theorem 90.** *Every field  $F$  has an algebraic closure,  $\bar{F}$ : a field containing  $F$ , algebraic over  $F$ , and algebraically closed*

**Corollary 91.**  $\mathbb{F}_p \subset \bar{\mathbb{F}_p}$  algebraically closed and algebraic over  $\mathbb{F}_p$

$$x^{p^n} - x \in \mathbb{F}_p[x] = \prod_{i=1}^{p^n} (x - \alpha_i), \alpha_i \in \bar{\mathbb{F}_p}$$

Claim: all of these roots are different.

Suppose we can factor  $x^{p^n} - x = (x - \alpha_1)^2 g(x) \in \bar{\mathbb{F}_p}[x]$ . Then take a derivative,  $(x^{p^n} - x)' = 2(x - \alpha_1)g(x) + (x - \alpha_1)^2 g'(x)$ . But the right side is divisible by  $x - \alpha_1$ . Well, the left side is  $p^n x^{p^n - 1} - 1 = -1$ . If we plug in  $x = \alpha_1$ , we're left with  $-1 = 0$ , which is obviously a contradiction

Claim:  $F = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{p^n}\}$  is a field, so then we have a field with  $p^n$  elements.

$F \subset \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$ . Now we just have to check closures. Take  $x, y \in F$ . Then  $(xy)^{p^n} = x^{p^n} y^{p^n} \implies xy \in F$

$(-x)^{p^n} = (-1)^{p^n} x^{p^n} = -x \implies -x \in F$

$(x+y)^p = x^p + y^p$ ,  $(x+y)^{p^2} = [(x+y)^p]^p = (x^p)^p + (y^p)^p = x^{p^2} + y^{p^2}$ . By induction,  $(x+y)^{p^n} = [(x+y)^{p^{n-1}}]^p = x^{p^n} + y^{p^n}$

Summary  $\mathbb{F}_p \subset F \subset \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$ .  $F = \mathbb{F}_{p^n} = \mathbb{F}_q$  where  $q = p^n$ . Is exactly the set of roots of  $x^{p^n} - x \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$

**Theorem 92.** Let  $F$  be a field with  $p^n$  elements  $\implies F = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$  for some  $\alpha \in F$

**Corollary 93.**  $F$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]/(f)$ , where  $(f)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$ . In particular, we see that there exists an irreducible polynomial of degree  $n$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$

In fact  $F^*$  is cyclic. Take  $\alpha \in F^*$  any generator, then  $F^* = \{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{p^n-1}\} \implies F$  is the smallest field that contains  $\alpha \implies F = \mathbb{F}(\alpha)$

The proof that  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$  works, because all we used was that the field is finite. If we assume  $F^*$  not cyclic, then all elements have order strictly less than  $p^n - 1$ , but that can't happen since we have  $p^n - 1$  roots

**Theorem 94.** If  $E$  and  $F$  are finite fields with  $p^n$  elements, then they are isomorphic

**Proof** Write  $E = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$  for  $\alpha \in F$ .  $f(x) = \text{irr}(\alpha, \mathbb{F}_p)$  irreducible of degree  $n$ . But we know that  $\alpha^{p^n} = \alpha \implies \alpha$  is a root of  $x^{p^n} - x = 0$ , therefore  $f(x)$  divides  $x^{p^n} - x$ .

Now consider  $F$ ,  $|F| = p^n$ .  $\forall x \in F \implies x^{p^n} - x = 0$ . Well, this factors as  $f(x)g(x)$ . Has  $p^n$  roots (all elements of  $F$  are roots). So, there exists some element  $\beta$  such that  $f(\beta) = 0$  since  $f$  has degree  $n$

$\mathbb{F}_p \subset \mathbb{F}_p(\beta) \subset F$ .  $\deg(\beta) = \deg(f) = n \implies [F : \mathbb{F}_p] = [\mathbb{F}_p(\beta) : \mathbb{F}_p] \implies F = \mathbb{F}_p(\beta)$ . So  $E = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$  and  $F = \mathbb{F}_p(\beta)$ , both of which have  $f$  as their minimal polynomial. Therefore,  $E \cong \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha) \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(f) \cong \mathbb{F}_p(\beta) \cong F$

*Remark 95.* Can it happen that  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^m}$ ?

Let's consider  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}^* \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^m}^*$ , well the left is a cyclic group of order  $p^n - 1$  and the right is a cyclic group of order  $p^m - 1$ . So we have  $p^n - 1 \mid p^m - 1$

Let's try long division.  $p^m - 1 = p^{m-n}(p^n - 1) + p^{m-n} - 1$ . Then we need  $p^n - 1 \mid p^{m-n} - 1$

**Theorem 96.**  $p^n - 1$  divides  $p^m - 1$  if and only if  $n \mid m$

$n \mid m \iff n \mid m - n \implies$  Induction on  $m \implies p^n - 1 \mid p^{m-n} - 1 \iff n \mid m$

**Corollary 97.** If  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^m} \iff n \mid m$

### 13 GROUP WORK 6

**Group 2** Let  $ax^2 + bx + c$  be a quadratic equation ( $a \neq 0$ ) with coefficients in a field  $K$  with characteristic  $\neq 2$ .

(1) Show that the usual quadratic formula gives roots of the equation either in  $K$  or in some field extension  $F$  of  $K$  such that  $[F : K] = 2$

**Proof**  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ . Because  $a \neq 0$ ,  $\text{char}(K) \neq 0$ , we know that  $2a \neq 0$

Case 1:  $b^2 - 4ac = d^2$ , ( $d \in K$ )  $x = -\frac{b \pm d}{2a}$ , so  $x$  is in  $K$

Case 2:  $b^2 - 4ac \neq d^2$ , take  $x^2 - D$  where  $D = b^2 - 4ac \in K$ , then take the field extension  $F(\alpha)$  where  $\alpha^2 = D$ . Then this is obviously degree two.

(2) Let  $F$  be a field extension of  $K$  such that  $[F : K] = 2$  and  $\text{char} K \neq 2$ . Show that there exists  $D \in K$  such that  $F = K(\sqrt{D})$

**Proof** Let  $\beta \in F, \beta \notin K$ . We now that  $[F : K] = 2$ , and  $[K(\beta), K] > 1$ . Then  $[F : K] = [F : K(\beta)][K(\beta) : K] = 2$ , so  $[F : K(\beta)]$  must be 1, and  $F = K(\beta)$

$\beta$  is the solution to  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , and  $\beta = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$ . Therefore,  $\sqrt{D} \in K(\beta)$  and  $K(\sqrt{D}) \subset K(\beta)$ , therefore  $K(\beta) = K(\sqrt{D})$ . Therefore  $F = K(\sqrt{D})$ , and we are done.

(3) Show that (1) can fail if  $\text{char} K = 2$  **Proof**  $[\mathbb{F}_4 : \mathbb{F}_2] = 2$ , but both of the elements of  $\mathbb{F}_2$  have square roots, the quadratics are reducible

**Group A** Let  $F \subset K$  be a field extension and let  $K_1, K_2 \subset K$  be subfields containing  $F$ , Let  $K_1 K_2 \subset K$  be the smallest subfield containing  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  Suppose  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are algebraic over  $F$

(1) Show that  $K_1 K_2$  is algebraic over  $F$

**Proof** "Looks like an orgy of greek letters and summation signs", will do next time

$\mathbb{Z}$  and  $k[X]$  where  $k$  is a field are principle ideal domains. Both have long division.

**Definition 98.** An integral domain  $D$  is a Euclidean domain if there exists a function (called norm)  $v : D \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ , such that for every  $a, b \in D$ , either  $a = bq$  or  $a = bq + r$ , where  $v(r) < v(b)$ , and  $v(ab) \geq v(a)$

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $v(a) = |a|$

**Example.**  $k[X]$ ,  $v(f) = \text{degree}$

**Theorem 99.** Every Euclidean domain is a PID [and therefore a UFD]

Take  $I \subset D$  ideal. If  $I = \{0\} \implies I$  is principal.  $I \neq \{0\} \implies$  pick  $a \in I$  to be the element of smallest norm.

Claim:  $I = (a)$ . Take  $b \in I$ . If  $b = aq$ , then great. If not, do  $b = aq + r$ , where  $r$  has to have norm less than that of  $a$ , but  $r = b - aq$ , both of which are in the ideal, so we've found an element of norm smaller than  $a$ , contradiction.

**Example.** Gaussian Integers  $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

Forms a grid graphically. This is definitely a commutative ring with 1.  $\mathbb{Z}[i] \subset \mathbb{C}$  subring, therefore it must be an integral domain.

Norm:  $a^2 + b^2$ . Take  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Draw  $(\beta) = \gamma\beta$  where  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ .  $\beta(a + bi) = a\beta + ib\beta$ . Plot for all  $a, b$

it could be the case that  $\alpha$  is already onto the grid. If not, then  $\alpha = \beta\gamma + \delta$  where  $v(\delta) < v(\beta)$ . So choose the square containing  $\alpha$ . Chose  $\beta\gamma$  to be the vertex of the square that  $\alpha$  is closest to. Then  $|\delta| < |\beta|$  since  $\beta$  is the side length. But quarter circles cover the square.