

Algebra Definition Theorem List

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Contents

1	Category Theory	4
2	Group Theory I	5
3	Group Theory II	9
3.1	Conjugation Action	9
3.2	Sylow	11
3.3	Series and Solvability	12
3.4	S_n and A_n	13
3.5	Product of Groups	14
3.6	Classification of Finite Abelian Groups	15
4	Ring Theory	17
4.1	Modules	20
4.2	Free Modules	21
5	Ring Theory II	24
5.1	UFD, PID, ED	25
5.2	$R(x)$ and Field of Fractions	26
5.3	Irreducibility	27
5.4	CRT	28
6	Linear Algebra I	30
6.1	basis, free modules, IBN	30
6.2	Homomorphisms $R^n \rightarrow R^m$	31
6.3	Invariants in Linear Transformations	32
6.4	The canonical form	34
7	Linear Algebra II	36
7.1	Tensor	36
7.2	Hom and Tensor	37
7.3	Multilinear Algebra: Wedge and Symmetric Product	38
8	Field Theory	41
8.1	Algebraic Closure	43
8.2	splitting, normal, separable	44
8.3	Finite fields	46
8.4	Cyclotomic	48
8.5	Galois I	50
8.6	52
9	Field Theory-Hilbert's Nullstellensatz	56

<i>CONTENTS</i>	3
10 Representation Theory of Finite Groups	57
10.1 Characters	59
10.2 Induction and Restriction	62
11 Semisimple Algebra	64

Chapter 1

Category Theory

Definition 1.1 (*initial, final*). Let \mathcal{C} be a category, then object I is initial if for every object A , there exists a unique morphism $I \rightarrow A$. We say F is final if for every A , there exists a unique morphism $A \rightarrow F$.

Chapter 2

Group Theory I

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter II.

Proposition 2.1. Let G be a group, for all $a, g, h \in G$, if

$$ga = ha$$

then $g = h$.

Corollary 2.1. If g is an element of finite order, and let $N \in \mathbb{Z}$, then

$$g^N = e \iff N \text{ is a multiple of } |g|$$

Proposition 2.2. Let $g \in G$ be of finite order, then g^m also has finite order, for all $m \geq 0$, and

$$|g^m| = \frac{\text{lcm}(m, |g|)}{m} = \frac{|g|}{\text{gcd}(m, |g|)}$$

Proposition 2.3. If $gh = hg$, then $|gh|$ divides $\text{lcm}(|g|, |h|)$.

Definition 2.1 (Dihedral Group). Let D_{2n} denote the group of symmetries of a n -sided polygon, consisting of n rotations and n reflections about lines through the origin and a vertex or a midpoint of a side.

Proposition 2.4. Let $m \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, then

$$|m| = \frac{n}{\text{gcd}(n, m)}$$

Corollary 2.2. The element $m \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ generates $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ if and only if $\text{gcd}(m, n) = 1$.

Definition 2.2 (Multiplicative $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$). The multiplicative group of $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ is

$$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times = \{m \in \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} : \text{gcd}(m, n) = 1\}$$

Proposition 2.5. Let $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ be a homomorphism, and let $g \in G$ be an element of finite order, then $|\varphi(g)|$ divides $|g|$.

For example, there is no nontrivial homomorphism from $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ to \mathbb{Z} .

Proposition 2.6. There is an isomorphism between D_3 and S_3 .

Proposition 2.7. Let $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$ be an isomorphism, for all $g \in G$, $|\varphi(g)| = |g|$, and G is commutative if and only if H is commutative.

Proposition 2.8. If H is commutative, then $\text{Hom}(G, H)$ is a group.

Definition 2.3. Let $A = \{1, \dots, n\}$, then the free abelian group on A is

$$\mathbb{Z} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus n}$$

Proposition 2.9. Let $\{H_\alpha\}$ be any family of subgroups of G , then

$$\bigcap_{\alpha} H_{\alpha}$$

is a subgroup of G .

Proposition 2.10. If $\varphi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is a group homomorphism, then if $H_2 \subset G_2$ is a subgroup, then

$$\varphi^{-1}(H_2)$$

is a subgroup of G_1 .

Proposition 2.11. Let $H \subset \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ be a subgroup, then H is generated by some m where m divides n .

Proposition 2.12. If $\varphi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ is a homomorphism, then $\ker(\varphi)$ is a normal subgroup.

Theorem 2.1. Let $\varphi : G_1 \rightarrow G_2$ be a surjective homomorphism, then

$$G_2 \cong \frac{G_1}{\ker \varphi}$$

Proposition 2.13. Let H_1, H_2 be normal subgroups of G_1, G_2 , then $H_1 \times H_2$ are normal subgroups of $G_1 \times G_2$, then

$$\frac{G_1 \times G_2}{H_1 \times H_2} \cong \frac{G_1}{H_1} \times \frac{G_2}{H_2}$$

For example,

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}}{\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

Proposition 2.14. Let H be a normal subgroup of G , then every subgroup K containing H , K/H can be identified with a subgroup of G/H .

Proposition 2.15. Let H be a normal subgroup of G , and N be a subgroup of G containing H , then N/H is normal in G/H if and only if N is normal in G , in this case

$$\frac{G/H}{N/H} = \frac{G}{N}$$

Proposition 2.16. Let H, K be subgroups of G , and if H is normal, then HK is a subgroup of G and H is normal in HK . Moreover, $H \cap K$ is normal in K , and

$$\frac{HK}{H} \cong \frac{K}{H \cap K}$$

Proposition 2.17. Let H be a subgroup of G , then for all $g \in G$, the function $H \rightarrow gH$ such that

$$h \mapsto gh$$

is a bijection.

Theorem 2.2 (Lagrange). If G is a finite group, and $H \subset G$ is a subgroup, then

$$|G| = [G : H] \cdot |H|$$

In particular, $|H|$ divides $|G|$.

Theorem 2.3 (Fermat's Little Theorem). Let p be a prime integer, and a be any integer, then

$$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

Proposition 2.18. Any group G acts on itself by left/right multiplications, and acts on the cosets G/H :

$$\varphi : g \mapsto (aH \mapsto gaH)$$

Definition 2.4 (orbit). The orbit of $a \in A$ of a group action by G is

$$O(a) = \{g \cdot a : g \in G\}$$

The stabilizer of a is the following

$$\text{Stab}_G(a) = \{g \in G : g \cdot a = a\}$$

Proposition 2.19. The orbits of an action form a partition on the set A , and G acts transitively on each orbit.

Definition 2.5 (transitive action, faithful action). An action of G on A is transitive if for all $a, b \in A$, there exists $g \in G$ such that

$$g \cdot a = b$$

In other words, the orbit of any element $a \in A$ is the entire set.

An action is faithful if for any $g \in G$,

$$g \cdot a = a \text{ for all } a$$

implies that $g = e$.

Proposition 2.20. Every transitive action of G on a set A is isomorphic to multiplication of G on G/H , where $H = \text{Stab}(a)$ for any $a \in A$.

Proposition 2.21. If $O(a)$ is an orbit of the action of a finite group G , then $O(a)$ is a finite and $|O|$ divides $|G|$. Moreover,

$$|G| = |O(a)| \cdot |\text{Stab}_G(a)|$$

For example, there is no transitive action of S_3 on the set of 5 elements.

Chapter 3

Group Theory II

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter IV.

Proposition 3.1. Every **transitive** action of a group G on a set S is isomorphic to the left multiplication on the cosets G/H . Here, H can be taken to be the stabilizer of any element $a \in S$.

Moreover, suppose G is finite, then

$$|G| = |O_a| \cdot |\text{Stab}(a)|$$

for any $a \in S$. (The size of the orbit must divide $|G|$.)

Proposition 3.2 (class formula). Let S be a finite set, and G act on S , then

$$|S| = |Z| + \sum_{a \in A} [G : \text{Stab}(a)] = |Z| + \sum_{a \in A} |O_a|$$

where $Z = \{a \in S : g \cdot a = a \text{ for all } g\}$, i.e., the fixed elements, and $A \subset S$ contains exactly one element from each nontrivial orbit of the action.

In other words, $|S|$ is the sum of the number of trivial orbits and each nontrivial orbit.

Proposition 3.3. Let G be a p -group that acts on a finite set S , then let Z be fixed elements of this action, then

$$|S| \equiv |Z| \pmod{p}$$



Warning 3.1. The important takeaway is that each summand on the right, $|O_a|$ divides $|G|$.

3.1 Conjugation Action

Definition 3.1 (fixed points, centralizer, conjugacy class). The fixed points under the conjugation action is the center of G . The centralizer $Z_G(g)$ where $g \in G$ is its stabilizer under conjugation:

$$Z_G(g) = \{h \in G : hgh^{-1} = g\}$$

The conjugacy class of $g \in G$ is the orbit $[g]$. (In other words, centralizer is the set of elements that commute with g .)

For arbitrary $a \in G$, we have

$$Z(G) \subset Z_G(a)$$

Moreover, a is the only element in $[a]$ iff $a \in Z(G)$.

Proposition 3.4. The center is the set of fixed points of G under the conjugation action, the conjugacy classes are the orbits.

Theorem 3.2. Let G be finite, and if $G/Z(G)$ is cyclic, then G is abelian.

Proof. One can show that every element $a \in G$ can be written as

$$a = g^r z$$

for some $z \in Z(G)$, then compute $ab = ba$. □

Proposition 3.5 (Class formula). Let G be finite, then

$$\begin{aligned} |G| &= |Z(G)| + \sum_{[a] \in A} |[a]| \\ &= |Z(G)| + \sum_a [G : Z_G(a)] \end{aligned}$$

where A contains one representative for each nontrivial conjugacy class.



Warning 3.3. There are many consequences of the class formula, showing center is nontrivial, etc. Mainly using the summand divides $|G|$!

Theorem 3.4. Let G be a nontrivial p -group, then G has a nontrivial center.

Proposition 3.6. Let G be a group of p^2 elements, where p is prime, then G is commutative.

Proposition 3.7. The only possibility for the class formula of a nonabelian group of order 6 is

$$6 = 1 + 2 + 3$$

The center must be trivial if G is nonabelian.

Proposition 3.8. Normal subgroups are unions of conjugacy classes. Thus, a noncommutative group of order 6 cannot have a normal subgroup of order 2.

It contains the identity, and there is no other conjugacy class of size 1.

Definition 3.2 (normalizer). Let $A \subset G$ be a subset. The normalizer $N_G(A)$ of A is

$$\text{Stab}_G(A) = \{g : gAg^{-1} = A\}$$

If H is subgroup of G , every conjugate gHg^{-1} is also a subgroup of G , and all conjugate groups have the same order.

The centralizer of A is the subgroup $Z_G(A) \subset N_G(A)$ fixing each $a \in A$:

$$Z_G(A) = \{g : gag^{-1} = a \text{ for all } a \in A\}$$

Proposition 3.9 (*). H is a normal in G if and only if $N_G(H) = G$. More generally, the normalizer $N_G(H)$ for any subgroup H is the largest subgroup such that H is normal in $N_G(H)$.

Proposition 3.10 (*). Let $H \subset G$ be a subgroup, then the number of subgroups conjugate to H is the size of the orbit=index of the stabilizer, which is $[G : N_G(H)]$.

Corollary 3.1. If $[G : H]$ is finite, then the number of subgroups conjugate to H is finite, and

$$[G : H] = [G : N_G(H)] \cdot [N_G(H) : H]$$

In other words, the number of subgroups conjugate to H divides the index $[G : H]$.

3.2 Sylow

Theorem 3.5 (Cauchy's Theorem). Let G be a finite group, and let p be a prime divisor of $|G|$, then G contains an element of order p .

Moreover, let N be the number of cyclic subgroups of order p , then

$$N \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Definition 3.3 (simple). A group is simple if it is nontrivial and its only normal subgroups are $\{e\}$ and G (has no nontrivial proper subgroup).

Definition 3.4 (p -Sylow subgroups). Let p be prime, a p -Sylow subgroup of a finite group G is a subgroup of order p^r , where $|G| = p^r m$, $\gcd(p, m) = 1$.

Theorem 3.6 (Sylow I). Every finite group contains a p -Sylow subgroup for all prime p . If p^k divides $|G|$, then G has a subgroup of order p^k .

Theorem 3.7 (Sylow II). Let G be finite, and P is a p -Sylow subgroup, let $H \subset G$ be a p -group, then H is contained in a conjugate of P . If P_1, P_2 are both p -Sylow subgroups, then they are conjugates to each other.

Theorem 3.8 (Sylow III). Let $|G| = p^r m$, and $\gcd(p, m) = 1$, then the number of p -Sylow subgroups is

$$n_p \mid m$$

and

$$n_p \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

Proposition 3.11. Let G be a finite group, let P be a p -Sylow subgroup, the number of p -Sylow subgroup n_p is

$$n_p = [G : N_G(P)]$$

by definition.

Proposition 3.12. Let G be a group of order mp^r , where p is prime and $1 < m < p$, then G is not simple.

Proposition 3.13 (*). Let $p < q$ be primes, let G has order pq , if $p \nmid (q - 1)$, then G is cyclic.

Proof. If G is abelian, use elements of orders p, q . If G not necessarily abelian, then use the conjugation action. \square

Proposition 3.14 (*). Let q be an odd prime, and G be a noncommutative group of order $2q$, then

$$G \cong D_{2q}$$

3.3 Series and Solvability

Definition 3.5 (composition series). A comp series for G is a normal series

$$\{e\} = G_0 \subset G_1 \subset \cdots \subset G_n = G$$

such that G_{i+1}/G_i is simple.

Definition 3.6 (commutator subgroup). Let G be a group, the commutator subgroup of G is the subgroup **generated** by all elements

$$ghg^{-1}h^{-1}$$

Proposition 3.15. Let $[G, G]$ be the commutator subgroup of G , then $[G, G]$ is normal in G , and the quotient, also called the abelianization of G ,

$$G^{\text{ab}} = \frac{G}{[G, G]}$$

is commutative.

If $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$, where H is commutative, then

$$[G, G] \subset \ker(\varphi)$$

Definition 3.7. A group G is solvable, if there exists a sequence such that

$$\{e\} = G_0 \subset \cdots \subset G_k = G$$

where G_i is normal in G_{i+1} , and G_{i+1}/G_i is abelian, or equivalently, cyclic.

Proposition 3.16. All p -groups are solvable!

Proposition 3.17. Let N be normal in G , then G is solvable if and only if $N, G/N$ are solvable.

3.4 S_n and A_n

Proposition 3.18. Disjoint cycles commute. For every $\sigma \in S_n$, σ can be written as disjoint nontrivial cycles, unique up to rearranging.

Proposition 3.19. Two elements in S_n are conjugate in S_n if and only if they have the same type. Hence the number of conjugacy classes is the number of partitions of n as a sum.

Proposition 3.20. Let $\sigma \in S_n$, and $(a_1 \dots a_n)$ is a cycle in S_n , then

$$\sigma(a_1 \dots a_n)\sigma^{-1} = (\sigma(a_1) \dots \sigma(a_n))$$

Proof: try $\varphi(a_1)$ on the left hand side.



Warning 3.9. Very useful!

Example 3.1. In S_4 , we have

$$(1234)(12)(1234)^{-1} = (23)$$

Definition 3.8 (Even permutation). Let $\sigma \in S_n$, then σ is even if

$$\prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j) = \prod_{i < j} (x_{\sigma(i)} - x_{\sigma(j)})$$

Proposition 3.21. A_n is always normal in S_n , because it is the kernel of the $\varepsilon : S_n \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ (determining parity).

Proposition 3.22. Let $\sigma \in A_n$, where $n \geq 2$, then the conjugacy class of σ in S_n splits into two conjugacy classes in A_n precisely if the type of σ consists of distinct odd numbers; or equivalently, the centralizer of σ is contained A_n . Otherwise, the conjugacy class stays the same.

Example 3.2. S_5 has even permutations 5, 3, 2+2, 1, and only 5-cycle of S_5 splits into 2 conjugacy classes in A_5 .

Proposition 3.23. The group A_5 is a simple noncommutative group of order 60.

Proposition 3.24. Every simple group of order < 60 is commutative, A_5 is the smallest simple group that is not commutative.

Proof. Any nontrivial normal subgroup consists of nontrivial conjugacy classes and $\{e\}$, the conjugacy classes of A_5 has the following size:

$$1, 15, 20, 12, 12$$

Thus any subgroup of G , i.e., order that divides 60 cannot be written as a sum of the numbers above. \square

Proposition 3.25. The alternating group is generated by 3-cycles.

Proposition 3.26. Let $n \geq 5$, if a normal subgroup of A_n contains a 3-cycle, then it contains all 3-cycles.

Proof. It suffices to note that the 3 cycles form a conjugacy class that doesn't split from S_n to A_n . \square

Proposition 3.27. The alternating group A_n is simple for $n \geq 5$. As a result, S_n is not solvable for $n \geq 5$.

3.5 Product of Groups

Proposition 3.28. Let N, H be normal subgroups of G , let $[N, H]$ be the commutator of N, H , then

$$[N, H] \subset N \cap H$$

Thus if $N \cap H = \{e\}$, then N, H commute with each other.

A stronger statement is the following:

Theorem 3.10. Let N, H be normal subgroups of G , such that $N \cap H = \{e\}$, then

$$NH \cong N \times H$$

Definition 3.9 (Split Short exact sequence). A short exact sequence of groups is a sequence:

$$1 \longrightarrow N \xrightarrow{\varphi} G \xrightarrow{\psi} H \longrightarrow 1$$

splits if H is identified with a subgroup of G such that

$$N \cap H = \{e\}$$

Definition 3.10 (semidirect product). Let N be a normal subgroup, and let $\theta : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$, then define an operator \cdot_θ on $N \times H$ as

$$(n_1, h_1) \cdot_\theta (n_2, h_2) = (n_1 \theta(h_1)(n_2), h_1 h_2)$$

The semidirect product of $N \rtimes_\theta H$ is the group $N \times H$ with operation \cdot_θ .

Proposition 3.29. Let N, H be subgroups, and N is normal, suppose that $N \cap H = \{e\}$, and $G = NH$, then let $\theta : H \rightarrow \text{Aut}(N)$ be $\theta \mapsto \theta_h$, and

$$\theta_h(n) = nhn^{-1}$$

Then

$$G \cong N \rtimes_{\theta} H$$

(Recall that the operation defined on $N \rtimes_{\theta} H$ is $(n_1, h_1) \cdot (n_2, h_2) = (n_1 \theta_{h_1}(n_2), h_1 h_2)$).

Proposition 3.30. Let G be a noncommutative group of order pq , then there is exactly one group up to isomorphism.

3.6 Classification of Finite Abelian Groups

Proposition 3.31. Let G be abelian, let H, K be subgroups such that $|H|, |K|$ are relatively prime, then

$$H + K \cong H \oplus K$$

Proof. Lagrange: $N \cap H = \{e\}$. □

Proposition 3.32. Every finite abelian group is a direct sum of its nontrivial Sylow subgroups.

Theorem 3.11. If G is finite and abelian, then G is a direct sum of cyclic p -groups.

Theorem 3.12. Let G be finite nontrivial abelian group, then there exists prime integers p_1, \dots, p_r , and positive integers $n_{i(j)}$ such that

$$G = \bigoplus_{i,j} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{p_i^{n_{i(j)}} \mathbb{Z}}$$

There exists positive integers $1 < d_1 \mid \dots \mid d_s$ such that $|G| = d_1 \dots d_s$, and

$$G \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{d_1 \mathbb{Z}} \oplus \dots \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{d_s \mathbb{Z}}$$

Example 3.3. Finite abelian group of order 360 has 6 isomorphism classes.

Theorem 3.13. Let F be a field, and G be a finite subgroup of the multiplicative group (F^{\times}, \cdot) , then G is cyclic.

Proof. Hard proof. Don't torture yourself. □



Warning 3.14. Next one is important.

Proposition 3.33. Let G be a finite group of order n , then G can be embedded into S_n .

Proof. G acts on itself by left multiplication. □

Proposition 3.34. The number of conjugacy classes of $D_n = \langle r, s : r^n = s^2 = e, rs = sr^{-1} \rangle$:

1. n = odd, then $\{e\}$ is its own conjugacy class, the pairs of rotations $\{r^k, r^{-k}\}$ are conjugacy classes, the reflections form ONE conjugacy class:

$$1 + \frac{n-1}{2} + 1 = \frac{n+3}{2}$$

conjugacy classes.

2. n = even, then $[e], [r^{n/2}]$ forms their own conjugacy classes, the remaining rotations $[r^k, r^{-k}]$, and there are TWO conjugacy classes of reflection:

$$1 + 1 + \frac{n-2}{2} + 1 + 1 = \frac{n+6}{2}$$

conjugacy classes.

Chapter 4

Ring Theory

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter III.

Definition 4.1 (free action). An action by G is free if there exists $x \in X$ such that $gx = x$ then $g = e$.

Definition 4.2 (faithful action). An action by G is faithful if $gx = x$ for all $x \in X$ implies that $g = e$.

Definition 4.3 (zero-divisor). An element $a \in R$ is a (left) zero-divisor if there exists $b \neq 0$ such that

$$ab = 0$$

Proposition 4.1. In a ring R , $a \in R$ is not a left zero-divisor if and only if the left multiplication by a is injective.

Definition 4.4 (integral domain). An ID is a nonzero commutative ring such that for all $a, b \in R$,

$$ab = 0$$

implies $a = 0$ or $b = 0$. In other words, IDs are commutative rings without zero divisors. Equivalently, if $a, b \neq 0$, then $ab \neq 0$.

Proposition 4.2. In a ring R :

1. u is left unit iff the left multiplication by u is surjective.
2. If u is a left unit, then the right multiplication by u is injective, i.e., u is not a right zero-divisor.

Notice that in a commutative ring, this means u is a unit iff multiplication by u is bijective.

Definition 4.5 (division ring, field). A division ring is a ring in which every nonzero element is a unit. A field is a nonzero commutative ring in which every nonzero element is a unit.

Proposition 4.3. The group of units in $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ is exactly the group $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$.

Proof. m is a unit iff multiplication by m is surjective, iff m generates $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$, iff $m \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^*$. □

Definition 4.6 (Power Series Ring). The power series ring

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$$

is denoted by $R[[x]]$.

Definition 4.7 (Monoid Ring). Given a monoid M and a ring R , the elements

$$\sum_{m \in M} a_m \cdot m$$

where $a_m \in R$ and $a_m \neq 0$ for finitely many terms, forms a ring denoted as $R[M]$.

Proposition 4.4. Assume R is a finite commutative ring, then R is an integral domain if and only if R is a field.

Proposition 4.5. $\text{End}_{\text{Ab}}(\mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, where $\text{End}_{\text{Ab}}(G) = \text{Hom}_{\text{Ab}}(G, G)$ where G is abelian.

Proof. $\varphi \mapsto \varphi(1)$. □

Theorem 4.1. Let I be a two-sided ideal of a ring R . Then for every ring homomorphism $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ such that $I \subset \ker \varphi$ there exists a unique ring homomorphism $\tilde{\varphi} : R/I \rightarrow S$ so that the diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & S \\ \pi \downarrow & \nearrow \tilde{\varphi} & \\ R/I & & \end{array}$$

Theorem 4.2. Let $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$ be a surjective ring homomorphism, then

$$S \cong \frac{R}{\ker(\varphi)}$$

Proposition 4.6. Let I be an ideal of a ring R , and let J be an ideal of R containing I , then J/I is an ideal of R/I , and

$$\frac{R/I}{J/I} = \frac{R}{J}$$

Definition 4.8 (Noetherian). A commutative ring R is Noetherian if every ideal of R is finitely generated. An ideal I is finitely generated if $I = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$, i.e., every element in I can be written as

$$r_1 a_1 + \dots + r_n a_n$$

for some $r_1, \dots, r_n \in R$.

Proposition 4.7. Let \bar{b} be the class of b in $R/(a)$, then

$$\frac{R/(a)}{(\bar{b})} \cong \frac{R}{(a, b)}$$

Proposition 4.8. \mathbb{Z} is a PID by taking the smallest positive element d in each ideal, obtaining (d) .

Definition 4.9. I is a prime ideal if R/I is an integral domain, and is a maximal ideal if R/I is a field.

Definition 4.10. Let I, J be ideals of R , then IJ is the ideal **generated** by elements $ij, i \in I, j \in J$.
Note that $IJ \subset I \cap J$.

Example 4.1. In \mathbb{Z} :

$$(4) \cap (3) = (12)$$

and

$$(4) \cap (6) = (12)$$

Definition 4.11 (Long division). Let $f(x) \in R[x]$ be monic, if $g(x) \in R[x]$ be another polynomial, then there exists unique $q, r \in R[x]$, where $\deg(r) < \deg(f)$, such that

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

Moreover,

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

as cosets of $(f(x))$.

Proposition 4.9. Let I be an ideal of commutative R , if R/I is finite, then I is prime if and only if maximal.

Proposition 4.10. Let R be a PID, a nonzero ideal I is prime if and only if it is maximal.

Proof. Is simple proof, you just do it. □

Theorem 4.3. Let R be commutative, let $f(x) \in R[x]$ be a monic polynomial of degree d , then

$$\varphi : R[x] \rightarrow R^{\oplus d}$$

where

$$\varphi : g(x) \mapsto r(x)$$

where $r(x)$ is the remainder $g(x) = f(x)q(x) + r(x)$ induces an isomorphism of **groups**:

$$\frac{R[x]}{(f(x))} \cong R^{\oplus d}$$

Ring Structure: can be induced by the map φ .

Example 4.2. Let $f(x) = x - a$ for some $a \in R$, then

$$\frac{R[x]}{(x - a)} \cong R$$

Example 4.3. Let $f(x) = x^2 + 1$, then there is isomorphism of groups:

$$R \oplus R \cong \frac{R[x]}{(x^2 + 1)}$$

note that elements on the right are of the form $a_0 + a_1x$. One can give a ring structure on $R \oplus R$ by φ .

Example 4.4. The ideal $(2, x)$ is maximal in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Example 4.5. The maximal ideals in $\mathbb{C}[x]$ are precisely

$$(x - a)$$

where $a \in \mathbb{C}$.

Definition 4.12 (Krull dimension). Let R be commutative, the Krull dimension is the length of the longest chain of prime ideals in R . For example, PIDs but not fields have Krull dimension 1.

$$(0) \subset (d)$$

has length 1.

Moreover, $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ have Krull dimension n :

$$(0) \subset (x_1) \subset (x_1, x_2) \subset \dots (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

4.1 Modules

Definition 4.13 (module). A R -module M is an abelian group with a ring action, satisfying:

1. $r(m + n) = rm + rn$
2. $(r + s)m = rm + sm$
3. $(rs)m = r(sm)$
4. $1m = m$.

A **submodule** N of M is an abelian group such that for all $r \in R, n \in N$,

$$rn \in N$$

A **homomorphism** of R -modules $\varphi : M \rightarrow M'$ is such that

$$\begin{cases} \varphi(m + n) = \varphi(m) + \varphi(n) \\ \varphi(rm) = r\varphi(m) \end{cases}$$

Let $R = k$ be a field, then R -modules are called vector spaces over k .

Definition 4.14. Let $r \in M$ be in the center of M , then

$$rM = \{rm : m \in M\}$$

is a submodule of M . If I is an ideal of R , then

$$IM = \left\{ \sum_i r_i m_i : r_i \in I, m_i \in M \right\}$$

i.e., generated by $rm, r \in I$ is a submodule.

Example 4.6. If R is not commutative, then R/I is not a ring, where I is a left ideal, but is defined as a left-module. The multiplication given by $r(a + I) = ra + I$.

Definition 4.15. An R -algebra is a ring with a ring R action.

Theorem 4.4. Suppose $\varphi : M \rightarrow M'$ be a surjective R -module homomorphism, then

$$M' \cong \frac{M}{\ker \varphi}$$

Proposition 4.11. Let N be a submodule of an R -module M , and let P be a submodule of M containing N . Then P/N is a submodule of M/N , and

$$\frac{M/N}{P/N} \cong \frac{M}{P}$$

Proposition 4.12. Let N, P be submodules, then $N + P$ is a submodule of M , and $N \cap P$ is a submodule of P , and

$$\frac{N + P}{N} \cong \frac{P}{N \cap P}$$

4.2 Free Modules

Definition 4.16. Let A be a set, then

$$F^R(A) \cong R^{\oplus A}$$

where $F^R(A)$ denotes the free modules over A . Every element is written as

$$\sum_{a \in A} r_a a$$

(always a finite sum). We say a module $M = \langle A \rangle$ is finitely generated if A is finite.

Example 4.7. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, when R viewed as a R -module over itself, it is finitely generated (by 1), by the ideal

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots)$$

as an R -module, is not finitely generated.

Definition 4.17 (Noetherian Modules). An R -module is Noetherian if every submodule of M is finitely generated as an R -module.

Proposition 4.13. Let M be an R -module, N be a submodule, then M is Noetherian iff $N, M/N$ are both Noetherian.

Definition 4.18 (finite, finite-type R -algebra). Let S be an R -algebra, it is called **finite** if it is finitely generated as an R -module; equivalently,

$$S \cong \frac{R^{\oplus n}}{M}$$

for some submodule M .

An R -algebra S is called **finite-type** if it is finitely generated as an R -algebra, i.e.,

$$S \cong \frac{R[x_1, \dots, x_n]}{I}$$

for some ideal I .

Elements in finite R -algebra is of the form:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n r_i s_i$$

where $S = \langle s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle$. Elements in finite-type R -algebra is of the form:

$$r_{11}s_1 + r_{12}s_1^2 + \dots + r_{21}s_2 + r_{22}s_2^2 + \dots + r_{nk}s_n^k$$

Proposition 4.14. The polynomial ring $R[x]$ is finite-type, not finite.

Proposition 4.15. Let R be a PID, and F be a finitely generated free module over R , and let $M \subset F$ be a submodule, then M is free.

Definition 4.19 (???). Let R be an integral domain, the rank of M is the maximal number of linearly independent elements of M .

Definition 4.20 (SES, split). A sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$$

is short exact iff f is injective, g is surjective, and

$$\ker(g) = \operatorname{im}(f)$$

A SES is said to **split** if it is isomorphic in a sense that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & C \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \uparrow \cong & & \uparrow \cong & & \uparrow \cong \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & A' & \longrightarrow & A \oplus C & \longrightarrow & C' \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Chapter 5

Ring Theory II

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter V.

Proposition 5.1. Let N be a submodule of M , where M is finitely generated, let $\langle m_1, \dots, m_k \rangle$ be the elements whose cosets generate M/N , then

$$M = N + \langle m_1, \dots, m_k \rangle$$

Proof. This is the same proof that if $N, M/N$ are finitely generated, then M is. □

Proposition 5.2. Let R be commutative, and M be an R -module, then TFAE:

1. M is **Noetherian**.
2. M satisfies the **ascending chain condition**. (sequence of submodules.)
3. Every nonempty family of submodules has a maximal element with respect to inclusion.

Proof. Noetherian implies acc: given $N_1 \subset N_2 \subset \dots$, then $N = \bigcup_i N_i$ is finitely generated. □

Proposition 5.3 (Hilbert's basis theorem). Let R be a Noetherian ring, then $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is Noetherian. This is the same as If R is Noetherian, then $R[x]$ is also Noetherian.

Proposition 5.4. Let $a, b \in R$, then $(a) = (b)$ iff $a = ub$ for some unit u .

Definition 5.1 (prime, irreducible elements). Let R be commutative

1. Let R be an integral domain, an element $a \in R$ is **prime** if the ideal (a) is prime.
2. An element $a \in R$ is **irreducible** if a is not a unit and

$$a = bc$$

implies b is a unit or c is a unit. Equivalently, a is irreducible if $(a) \subset (b)$ implies $(b) = (a)$ or $(b) = (1) = R$, i.e., (a) is maximal in principal ideals.

Proposition 5.5. Let R be an **integral domain**, then

$$\text{nonzero prime elements} \Rightarrow \text{irreducible}$$

Definition 5.2 (factorization). $r \in R$ has a factorization if there exists **finite** irreducibles q_1, \dots, q_n such that

$$r = q_1 \dots q_n$$

Proposition 5.6. Let R be an integral domain, and let r be a nonzero, nonunit element of R . Assume that every ascending chain of principal ideals,

$$(r) \subset (r_1) \subset (r_2) \dots$$

stabilizes. Then r has a factorization into irreducibles.

Of course if a ring is ACC, then factorizations exist.

Proposition 5.7. Factorization exists in Noetherian rings.

Example 5.1. A non-Noetherian ring but factorization still exists:

$$\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

Proposition 5.8. Let R be Noetherian and I be an ideal, then R/I is also Noetherian.

5.1 UFD, PID, ED

Definition 5.3 (gcd). Let $a, b \in R$, then the gcd of a, b is d such that (d) is the smallest principal ideal such that

$$(a, b) \subset (d)$$

Proposition 5.9. Let R be a UFD, and $a, b, c \in R$ be nonzero, then

$$(a) \subset (b) \iff m(b) \subset m(a)$$

where $m(a)$ is the multiset of irreducible factors of a . Moreover, the irreducible factors of bc are the collection of irreducible factors of b and c .

Proposition 5.10. Let R be a UFD, then gcd of any a, b exists.

Example 5.2. There exists Noetherian rings that are not UFD.

$$\frac{\mathbb{C}[x, y, z, w]}{(xw - yz)}$$

since $r = xw = yz$.

Proposition 5.11. In UFD, a is irreducible implies a is prime.

Proof. Assume $bc \in (a)$, then $(bc) \subset (a)$, hence the multiset of irreducible factors of a is contained in the multiset of b, c , but a is irreducible implies that a must be among the factors of b or c . \square

Theorem 5.1. An integral domain R is a UFD if and only if

1. The acc holds for principal ideals in R .
2. Every irreducible element of R is prime.

Proposition 5.12. If R is a PID, and $a, b \in R$, then $d = \gcd(a, b)$ iff $(a, b) = (d)$. In other words, there exists $r, s \in R$, such that

$$d = ra + sb$$

Example 5.3. UFD but not PID:

$$\mathbb{Z}[x]$$

Definition 5.4 (Euclidean domain). A Euclidean valuation on an integral domain R is an valuation: for all $a \in R$, and all nonzero $b \in R$, there exists q, r such that

$$a = qb + r$$

with either $r = 0$ or $v(r) < v(b)$. An integral domain is a ED if it admits a Euclidean valuation.

5.2 $R(x)$ and Field of Fractions

Theorem 5.2. Let R be a UFD, then $R[x]$ is also a UFD.

Example 5.4. $\mathbb{Z}[x], \mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ are UFD.

Definition 5.5 (Field of fractions). Let R be an integral domain, then the field of fractions is

$$\text{Frac}(R) = \left\{ \frac{a}{r} : a, r \in R, r \neq 0 \right\}$$

where $\frac{a}{r}$ is the equivalence given by $\frac{a}{r} \sim \frac{b}{s} \iff as = br$.

Definition 5.6. The field of fractions $R[x]$ is the field of rational functions with coefficients in R : elements are of the form

$$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}, q(x) \neq 0$$

denoted as $R(x)$.

Definition 5.7 (primitive). Let R be a UFD, f is primitive if and only if $\gcd(a_0, \dots, a_d) = 1$.

Proposition 5.13. Let R be a UFD, and K be its field of fractions, let $f \in R[x]$ be a nonconstant, irreducible polynomial, then f is irreducible in $K[x]$.

5.3 Irreducibility

Proposition 5.14. Let R be an ID, then $f \in R[x]$ of degree d can have at most d roots.

This is not true for non-ID, for example, $x^2 + 2$ over $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$.

Proposition 5.15. Let k be a field, then $f \in k[x]$ of degree 2 or 3 is irreducible iff it has no root in k .

Example 5.5. $t^2 + t + 1$ is irreducible over \mathbb{F}_2 (therefore over \mathbb{Q}).

Proposition 5.16 (rational root theorem). Let R be a UFD, and K be its field of fractions, let

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in R[x]$$

if $\frac{p}{q} \in K$ is a root, ($\gcd(p, q) = 1$), then

$$p \text{ divides } a_0, q \text{ divides } a_n$$

Proposition 5.17. Let k be a field, and $f(t) \in k[t]$ be a nonzero irreducible polynomial. Then

$$F = \frac{k[t]}{(f(t))}$$

is a field, where k embeds into F . Moreover, $f(x) \in k[x]$ has a root in F , which is

$$t + (f(t))$$

Proposition 5.18. A field is algebraically closed

- k is algebraically closed \iff all irreducible polynomials in $k[x]$ have degree 1
- \iff every nonconstant polynomial f factors completely into linear factors
- \iff every nonconstant f has a root in k

Proposition 5.19. Finite fields are not algebraically closed. In other words, if a field k is algebraically closed, then it is infinite.

Example 5.6. The nonconstant irreducible polynomials of $\mathbb{R}[x]$ are precisely those of degree 1 and quadratic $f = ax^2 + bx + c$ where $b^2 - 4ac < 0$.

Proposition 5.20. Let $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ be such that $\gcd(a_0, \dots, a_n) = 1$, and let p be prime. If $f \bmod p$ has the same degree as f , and is irreducible over \mathbb{F}_p , then f is irreducible over \mathbb{Z} .



Warning 5.3. This is important! We can show a polynomial is irreducible over \mathbb{Z} by showing it is irreducible over \mathbb{F}_p for some p .

Example 5.7. There exists reducible polynomial over \mathbb{Z} but irreducible over \mathbb{F}_p for every prime p : $x^4 + 1$. (Hint: Legendre symbol).

Proposition 5.21 (Generalized Eisenstein). Let R be a commutative ring, let p be a prime ideal in R , let $f \in R[x]$, assume that

1. $a_n \notin p$.
2. $a_i \in p$.
3. $a_0 \notin p^2$.

then f is not the product of polynomials with degree strictly less than $\deg(f)$.



Warning 5.4. Generalized Eisenstein works for commutative rings! Some examples:

$$\mathbb{C}[x, y], \frac{\mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]}{(x_1x_2 - x_3x_4)}$$

Example 5.8. For all n and all primes p , the polynomial $x^n - p$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Z} .

Example 5.9. Let p be a prime, then the cyclotomic polynomial $\Phi_p(x)$ is irreducible.

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{p-1}$$

Proof.

$$f(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} f(x + 1) = \frac{(x + 1)^p - 1}{x}$$

We see that coefficients are now

$$\binom{p}{k}, k = 1, \dots, p - 1$$

hence p divides all but leading coefficient. □

5.4 CRT

Theorem 5.5 (CRT). Let I_1, \dots, I_k be ideals of R such that $I_i + I_j = (1)$ for all $i \neq j$. Then

$$\frac{R}{I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_k} = \frac{R}{I_1 I_2 \dots I_k} \cong \frac{R}{I_1} \times \dots \times \frac{R}{I_k}$$

(It uses if $I_i + I_j = (1)$, then $I_1 \dots I_k = I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_k$).

Proposition 5.22 (CRT in PID). Let R be a PID, and let a_1, \dots, a_k be elements such that $\gcd(a_i, a_j) = 1$, let $a = a_1 \dots a_k$, then

$$\frac{R}{(a)} \cong \frac{R}{(a_1)} \times \dots \times \frac{R}{(a_k)}$$

Chapter 6

Linear Algebra I

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter VI, excluding Section 4-5.

6.1 basis, free modules, IBN

Proposition 6.1 (Zorn's). Every module M has maximal linearly independent set. In other words, let $S \subset M$ be a linearly independent subset. Then there exists a maximal linearly independent subset of M containing S .

Definition 6.1 (basis). A subset $S \subset M$ is a basis if it is linearly independent and generates M . Every element in M can be written as

$$m = \sum_{s_i \in S} r_i s_i$$

where only finitely many terms are nonzero.

((2) $\subset \mathbb{Z}$ is maximal but not a basis).

Proposition 6.2. Regarding basis,

1. An R -module M is free iff it admits a basis. (Any vector space is free as a k -module).
2. The converse holds when $R = k$: let B be a maximal linearly independent subset of $M = V$, then B is a basis.
3. When $R = k$, let S be a linearly independent subset, then there exists a basis B of V containing S . If B is a minimal generating set for V , then B is also a basis.

Proposition 6.3. Let R be an **integral domain**, and M a free R -module, let B be a maximal linearly independent subset of M . If S is any independent subset, then

$$|S| \leq |B|$$

Example 6.1. The basis $\mathbb{C}[x]$ over \mathbb{C} is $\{1, x, \dots\}$, hence an uncountable subset of $\mathbb{C}[x]$ is necessarily linearly dependent.

Proposition 6.4. Let R be an **integral domain**, let m, n be nonnegative integers,

$$R^m \cong R^n \iff m = n$$

If R satisfies the above, we say it satisfies the invariant basis number property. (All commutative rings satisfy this)!

Definition 6.2 (rank of a module). Let R be an integral domain, the rank of a free module M is the size of the maximal linearly independent subset of M .

Proposition 6.5. Let R be an integral domain, and let M be a free R -module, assume that M is generated by S : $M = \langle S \rangle$, then S contains a maximal linearly independent subset of M .

6.2 Homomorphisms $R^n \rightarrow R^m$

Proposition 6.6. Let $\alpha : M \rightarrow N$ be a homomorphism of finitely generated modules, and let P be a matrix representing it wrt any basis of M, N , then with respect to any other choice of bases of M, N , α is of the form

$$N_1 \cdot P \cdot N_2$$

where N_1, N_2 are invertible matrices.

Proposition 6.7. Two matrices $P, Q \in M_n(R)$ are equivalent if they are the same up to elementary operations, i.e., iff the same up to multiplications by elementary matrices. In other words, M, N are equivalent if there exists invertible P_1, P_2 such that

$$M = P_1 N P_2$$

Example 6.2. The matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

interchanges the second and fourth row of a $4 \times n$ matrix. Multiplying on the right by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

adds to the third column of a $m \times 3$ matrix the c -multiple of the first column.

Proposition 6.8. Let k be a field, then $\text{GL}_n(k)$ is generated by elementary matrices!

Proposition 6.9. Over a field, every $m \times n$ matrix is equivalent to a matrix of the form:

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} I_r & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

In other words, up to multiplying some invertible matrix N_1, N_2 on the left and right, every matrix is of the above form.

Proposition 6.10. Let R be commutative, a square matrix A is invertible iff $\det(A)$ is a unit in R ; The determinant is a homomorphism $\det : \text{GL}_n(R) \rightarrow (R^*, \cdot)$, and for $A, B \in M_n(R)$,

$$\det(AB) = \det(BA)$$

Proposition 6.11. The row rank of a matrix over a field is equal to its column rank, recall that every matrix is equivalent to a matrix of the form

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|c} I_r & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

From this we also know that

$$\dim V = \text{rank of } \alpha + \text{nullity of } \alpha$$

Definition 6.3 (adjoint matrix). Let M be an $n \times n$ matrix, the adjoint matrix $\text{adj}(A)$ is such that

$$A \cdot \text{adj}(A) = \text{adj}(A)A = \det(A)I_n$$

Proposition 6.12 (Nakayama's lemma). (Different versions of the same lemma).

1. Let R be a commutative ring, M and R -module, and let $a \in R$ be a nilpotent element, then

$$M = 0 \iff aM = M$$

2. Let J be the Jacobson radical of R , where M is finitely generated R -module. If $M = JM + N$, then $M = N$. (A special case is when R is a local ring and $\mathfrak{m} = J$).

6.3 Invariants in Linear Transformations

Definition 6.4 (similar matrix). Two matrices A, B are similarly iff there exists invertible P such that

$$A = PBP^{-1}$$

For example, A is similar to A^t .

Proposition 6.13. Similar implies equivalent, but equivalent does not imply similar.

Proposition 6.14. Let α be a linear transformation of R^n , a free R -module, then

$$\det(\alpha) \neq 0 \iff \alpha \text{ is injective}$$

Proposition 6.15. For $A, B \in M_n(R)$,

$$\operatorname{tr}(AB) = \operatorname{tr}(BA)$$

If A, B are similar, then

$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = \operatorname{tr}(B)$$

Definition 6.5 (characteristic polynomial). Let $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}(F)$, where $F = R^n$, then the characteristic polynomial of α is

$$P_\alpha(t) = \det(tI - \alpha)$$

Proposition 6.16. Let $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}(F)$, and $F = R^n$, let $P_\alpha(t) = t^n + a_{n-1}t^{n-1} \cdots + a_0$ be characteristic polynomial,

1. $P_\alpha(t)$ is of degree n .
2. $a_{n-1}t^{n-1}$ is such that $a_{n-1} = -\operatorname{tr}(\alpha)$.
3. $a_0 = (-1)^n \det(\alpha)$.
4. If α, β are similar, then $\det(\alpha) = \det(\beta)$.
5. We have

$$P_\alpha(t) = t^n - \operatorname{tr}(\alpha)t^{n-1} + \cdots + (-1)^n \det(\alpha)$$

Example 6.3. Having the same characteristic polynomial does not guarantee they are similar:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are not similar.

Definition 6.6 (annihilator ideal). Given $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}(F)$, and $f(x) \in R[x]$, the annihilator ideal of α is

$$\mathcal{A}(\alpha) = \{f \in R[x] : f(\alpha) = 0\}$$

Definition 6.7. Let k be a field, the minimal polynomial of α is the monic generator $m_\alpha(t)$ of $\mathcal{A}(\alpha) = ((m_\alpha(t)))$.

Proposition 6.17. If α, β are similar, then

$$\mathcal{A}(\alpha) = \mathcal{A}(\beta)$$

Proposition 6.18 (Cayley-Hamilton). Let $P_\alpha(t)$ be the characteristic polynomial of α , then

$$P_\alpha(\alpha) = 0$$

Proposition 6.19. If α, β are similar, then they have the same eigenvalues. Moreover, $\lambda \in R$ is an eigenvalue of α iff it is a root of the characteristic polynomial of α .

Proposition 6.20. If R is algebraically closed, then α has exactly n eigenvalues; more generally, it has at most n eigenvalues.

Proposition 6.21. The dimension of the eigenspace wrt λ is always less than or equal to its algebraic multiplicity $(t - \lambda)^k$. If for each λ , they are equal, then α is diagonalizable with respect to an eigenbasis.

6.4 The canonical form

Proposition 6.22. Recall: every finitely generated module over a PID $([x])$ is a direct sum of cyclic modules.

$$\frac{k[t]}{(f(t))}$$

is cyclic viewed as a $k[t]$ -module.

Proposition 6.23. There is a one-to-one correspondence

$$\{(V, \alpha) : \alpha : V \rightarrow V\} \leftrightarrow \{k[t] \text{ -- modules of } V\}$$

The isomorphism (\rightarrow) is given by

$$(V, \alpha) \mapsto (k[t] \rightarrow \text{End}(V) : t \mapsto \alpha)$$

and (\leftarrow) is given by

$$(\varphi : k[t] \rightarrow \text{End}(V)) \mapsto (V, \varphi(t))$$

Proposition 6.24. Let k be a field, and V finite dimensional vector space, let α be a linear transformation, endow V with the $k[t]$ -structure, there exists distinct monic irreducible polynomials $p_i(t) \in k[t]$ such that

$$V \cong \bigoplus_{i,j} \frac{k[t]}{(p_i(t)^{r_{ij}})}$$

as $k[t]$ -modules. Moreover, there exists monic f_1, \dots, f_m such that

$$V \cong \frac{k[t]}{(f_1(t))} \oplus \dots \oplus \frac{k[t]}{(f_m(t))}$$

as $k[t]$ -modules, where $f_1(t) \mid \dots \mid f_m(t)$. The characteristic and minimal polynomials are such that

$$P_\alpha(t) = f_1(t) \dots f_m(t) = \prod_{i,j} p_i(t)^{r_{ij}}$$

and

$$m_\alpha(t) = f_m(t)$$

Proposition 6.25. If $P_\alpha(t)$ factors completely over k , i.e.,

$$P_\alpha(t) = \prod_{i=1}^s (t - \lambda_i)^{m_i}$$

where λ_i are distinct eigenvalues of α , then

$$V \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \frac{k[t]}{(t - \lambda_i)^{m_i}}$$

where $m_i = \sum_j r_{ij}$ in the above expression. Moreover,

$$m_\alpha(t) = \prod_{i=1}^s (t - \lambda_i)^{\max_j \{r_{ij}\}}$$

Example 6.4. One use of the Jordan canonical form is the enumeration of all possible similarity classes of transformations with given eigenvalues. For example, there are 5 similarity classes of linear transformations with a single eigenvalue λ with algebraic multiplicity 4, over a 4-dimensional vector space: indeed, there are 5 different ways to stack together Jordan blocks corresponding to the same eigenvalue, within a 4×4 square matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proposition 6.26. Two matrices are similar if and only if they have the same Jordan form.

Proposition 6.27. The dimension of the eigenspace with respect to λ is the **number** of the Jordan blocks with respect to λ .

Proposition 6.28. Assume $P_\alpha(t)$ factors completely over k , then α is diagonalizable iff either of following :

1. The dimension of eigenspace=algebraic multiplicity of λ for all eigenvalues λ of α .
2. Minimal polynomial $m_\alpha(t)$ has no repeated roots.



Warning 6.1. This is important.

Proposition 6.29. Let k be algebraically closed, the minimal polynomial coincide with the characteristic iff the Jordan form has a single Jordan block for each distinct eigenvalue.

Chapter 7

Linear Algebra II

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter VIII. (Section 2.1, 2.2 Section 3 Section 4)

7.1 Tensor

Definition 7.1 (bilinear). Let M, N, P be R -modules. A function $\varphi : M \times N \rightarrow P$ is R -bilinear if

1. For all $m \in M, n \mapsto (m, n)$ is an R -module homomorphism $N \rightarrow P$.
2. For all $n \in N, m \mapsto (m, n)$ is an R -module homomorphism $M \rightarrow P$.

In other words,

$$\varphi(m, r_1 n_1 + r_2 n_2) = r_1 \varphi(m, n_1) + r_2 \varphi(m, n_2)$$

similarly for $M \rightarrow P$.

Proposition 7.1 (Tensor product). The tensor product can be constructed as follows:

1. Take the **free R -module** generated by symbols $\{m \otimes n \mid m \in M, n \in N\}$.
2. **Quotient** by the submodule generated by the relations (to enforce bilinearity):
 - $(m_1 + m_2) \otimes n = m_1 \otimes n + m_2 \otimes n,$
 - $m \otimes (n_1 + n_2) = m \otimes n_1 + m \otimes n_2,$
 - $(r \cdot m) \otimes n = m \otimes (r \cdot n) = r \cdot (m \otimes n)$ for $r \in R$.

Thus, elements of $M \otimes_R N$ are finite sums of the form $\sum_i m_i \otimes n_i$, subject to the above rules.

Key Properties of Tensor Products

1. **Bilinearity:** The map $\otimes : M \times N \rightarrow M \otimes_R N$ is R -bilinear.
2. **Functoriality:** If $f : M \rightarrow M'$ and $g : N \rightarrow N'$ are R -linear, there is an induced map:

$$f \otimes g : M \otimes_R N \rightarrow M' \otimes_R N', \quad (f \otimes g)(m \otimes n) = f(m) \otimes g(n).$$

3. **Associativity:** $(M \otimes_R N) \otimes_R P \cong M \otimes_R (N \otimes_R P)$.
4. **Commutativity:** $M \otimes_R N \cong N \otimes_R M$ (if R is commutative).
5. **Base Change:** If S is an R -algebra, then $M \otimes_R S$ is an S -module.

Proposition 7.2 (universal property). Every R -bilinear map $\varphi : M \times N \rightarrow P$ factors uniquely through the tensor product $M \otimes_R N$,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & P \\ \otimes \downarrow & \nearrow \exists! \bar{\varphi} & \\ M \otimes_R N & & \end{array}$$

in such a way that the map $\bar{\varphi}$ is unique.

Example 7.1. For all R -modules,

1. $R \otimes_R N \cong N$.
2. $M \otimes_R N \cong N \otimes_R M$.

Proposition 7.3. Let $\alpha, \beta : M \otimes N \rightarrow P$, if

$$\alpha(m \otimes n) = \beta(m \otimes n)$$

for all $m \in M, n \in N$, then $\alpha = \beta$. (This means it suffices to check on pure tensors).

7.2 Hom and Tensor

Proposition 7.4. Let $\alpha : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ be an R -module homomorphism, let N be an R -module, there is an induced R -linear map

$$\alpha \otimes N : M_1 \otimes_R N \rightarrow M_2 \otimes_R N$$

On pure tensors, this map is given by

$$m \otimes n \mapsto \alpha(m) \otimes \alpha(n)$$

Proposition 7.5. For all R -modules M, N, P , there is an isomorphism of R -modules

$$\text{Hom}_R(M, \text{Hom}(N, P)) \cong \text{Hom}_R(M \otimes_R N, P)$$

Proof. This says any bilinear map from $M \times N$ comes from $M \otimes_R N$. □

Proposition 7.6. For all R -modules, M_1, M_2, N , we have

$$(M_1 \oplus M_2) \otimes_R N \cong (M_1 \otimes_R N) \oplus (M_2 \otimes_R N)$$

The same statement is true for $\sum_{\alpha} M_{\alpha} \otimes N$. This also implies that

$$R^{\oplus n} \otimes_R R^{\oplus m} \cong R^{\oplus nm}$$

Proposition 7.7. Let M, N be free R -modules of rank m, n , then $M \otimes_R N$ has rank mn . (Let e_1, \dots, e_m generate M , v_1, \dots, v_n generate N , where M, N are free R -modules, then $M \otimes_R N$ is generated by $e_i \otimes v_j$, and these mn elements are the basis for $M \otimes_R N$.)

Proposition 7.8. Let N be an R -module, and I be an ideal of R , then

$$\frac{R}{I} \otimes_R N \cong \frac{N}{IN}$$

($R \otimes_R N \cong N$). Moreover, let $J \subset R$ also be an ideal, then

$$\frac{R}{I} \otimes_R \frac{R}{J} \cong \frac{R}{I+J}$$



Warning 7.1. The next example is important.

Example 7.2. We have

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{m\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{n\mathbb{Z}} \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{\gcd(m, n)}$$

(Recall that $(m) + (n) = \gcd(m, n)$ in \mathbb{Z} , and $(m) \cap (n) = (\text{lcm}(m, n))$). For example,

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{3\mathbb{Z}} = 0$$

So if $\gcd(m, n) = 0$, then

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{m\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{n\mathbb{Z}} = 0$$

Definition 7.2 (reduced ring). Let R be a ring, it is **reduced** if there are no nonzero nilpotent elements.

7.3 Multilinear Algebra: Wedge and Symmetric Product

Every $\varphi : M_1 \times \dots \times M_k \rightarrow P$ factors unique through $M_1 \otimes \dots \otimes M_k$, and we will denote

$$M^{\otimes k} := M \otimes_R \dots \otimes_R M \text{ } k \text{ times}$$

Definition 7.3 (symmetric and alternating map). Let $\varphi : M^k \rightarrow P$, then it is called **symmetric** if for all $\sigma \in S_k$, and all m_1, \dots, m_k , we have

$$\varphi(m_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, m_{\sigma(k)}) = \varphi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$$

And $\varphi : M^k \rightarrow P$ is called **alternating** if

$$\varphi(m_1, \dots, m_k) = 0 \text{ whenever } m_i = m_j \text{ for some } i \neq j$$

Proposition 7.9. Let $\varphi : M^k \rightarrow P$ be R -multilinear, then

1. If φ is alternating, then for all $\sigma \in S_k$,

$$\varphi(m_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, m_{\sigma(k)}) = (-1)^\sigma \varphi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$$

2. If 2 is a unit in R , and for all $\sigma \in S_k$, $\varphi(m_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, m_{\sigma(k)}) = (-1)^\sigma \varphi(m_1, \dots, m_k)$, then φ is alternating.

It suffices to reduce to the case where $k = 2$.

Definition 7.4 (Wedge product). The module $\bigwedge^k(M)$ is generated by pure alternating tensors:

$$e_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_k}$$

where $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq r$. For example, suppose $M = V$ is a 3-dimensional vector space, then $V \wedge V$ has a basis

$$v_1 \wedge v_2, v_1 \wedge v_3, v_2 \wedge v_3$$

The dimension of $V \wedge V$ is $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ if $\dim(V) = n$.

Next we generalize it.

Proposition 7.10. Let R be commutative, and M a free R -module of rank n , then

$$\bigwedge^k(M) \text{ is a free } R\text{-module of rank } \binom{n}{k}$$

Example 7.3. If M is a free module of rank n , then

$$\bigwedge^n(M) \cong R$$

where the isomorphism $\varphi : (e_{i_1}, \dots, e_{i_n}) \mapsto \begin{cases} \pm 1 & \text{if } i_1, \dots, i_n \text{ are distinct} \\ 0 & \end{cases}$

Proposition 7.11. Let $\text{Sym}^n(V)$ be the **symmetric product**. A basis for $\text{Sym}^n(V)$ is given by the **monomials**:

$$\left\{ e_1^{k_1} e_2^{k_2} \dots e_d^{k_d} \mid k_1 + \dots + k_d = n, k_i \geq 0 \right\},$$

where $e_i^{k_i}$ denotes the symmetric product $e_i \dots e_i$ (k_i times). The **Dimension** is the number of such monomials, $\binom{n+d-1}{d-1}$.

Proposition 7.12. Let V have dimension n with basis $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$, then $\text{Sym}^k(V)$ is spanned by basis:

$$\{e_{i_1} \dots e_{i_k}, 1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_k \leq n\}$$

(It contains the equality case compared to the wedge product). Moreover, the dimension of $\text{Sym}^k V$ is

$$\binom{n+k-1}{k}$$

Example 7.4. $\text{Sym}^2(V)$ for $\dim V = 2$ Let V have basis $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$. Then:

$$\text{Sym}^2(V) = \text{span}\{e_1 e_1, e_1 e_2, e_2 e_2\},$$

where:

$$e_1 \odot e_1 = e_1 \otimes e_1,$$

$$e_1 \odot e_2 = \frac{1}{2}(e_1 \otimes e_2 + e_2 \otimes e_1),$$

$$e_2 \odot e_2 = e_2 \otimes e_2.$$

Dimension: $\binom{2+2-1}{2-1} = 3$.

Definition 7.5 (determinant). Let F be a free R -module of rank n , then

$$\bigwedge^n F$$

is called the determinant of F , $\det(F)$. (In other words, it is the top exterior power). Recall that

$$\bigwedge^n F \cong R$$

since it is one-dimensional and spanned by $\{e_1 \wedge \dots \wedge e_n\}$.



Warning 7.2. Again, two matrices are similar if and only if they have the same jordan normal form!



Warning 7.3. Let M be an $n \times n$ matrix over k , then factor its characteristic polynomial $p(t)$ over its algebraic closure

$$p(t) = (t - \lambda_1) \dots (t - \lambda_d)$$

where λ_i are its eigenvalues in \bar{k} . Then

$$\text{tr}(M) = \sum_i \lambda_i, \quad \det(M) = \prod_i \lambda_i$$

Chapter 8

Field Theory

Aluffi Chapter VII.

Definition 8.1 (radical). The **radical** of an ideal $I \subset R$ is

$$\text{rad}(I) = \sqrt{I} = \{a \in R : a^n \in I \text{ for some } n\}$$

An ideal is called radical if for any $a \in R$, $a^n \in I$ for some n , then $a \in I$.

Proposition 8.1. The radical \sqrt{I} of an ideal I in R is an ideal. Moreover, \sqrt{I} is radical.

Example 8.1. The nilradical of R is $\sqrt{(0)}$, i.e., the radical of the zero ideal.

Proposition 8.2. Any ring homomorphism from a field to a nonzero ring is injective.

Proposition 8.3. The characteristic of a field is either 0 or a prime number. (This is also true for integral domains). Moreover, let $k \subset E$ be an extension, then $\text{char}(k) = \text{char}(E)$. Moreover, for such extension, E is a vector space over k .

Definition 8.2 (finite field extension). A field extension $k \subset F$ is finite of degree n , if F has is a dimension n vector space over k . We denote

$$[F : k] = \dim_k(F)$$

Example 8.2. Let k be a field, and f is an irreducible polynomial over k , then

$$K = \frac{k[t]}{(f(t))}$$

is an extension in which f has a root. (To see this is a field, we see $f(t)$ is irreducible, which is prime, which is maximal in $k[t]$).

Definition 8.3 (simple extension). A field extension $k \subset F$ is simple if there exists $\alpha \in F$ such that $F = k(\alpha)$, where $k(\alpha)$ is the smallest field containing α and k . If $k(\alpha)/k$ is a finite extension, then α is algebraic, if infinite, then α is called transcendental.

Example 8.3. The extension $k \subset \frac{k[t]}{(f(t))}$ is simple because

$$\frac{k[t]}{(f(t))} \cong k(\alpha)$$

for some α such that $f(\alpha) = 0$.

Proposition 8.4. Let $k \subset k(\alpha)$ be a simple extension, then consider the evaluation map

$$\varepsilon : f(t) \mapsto f(\alpha)$$

Then ε is not injective iff $k(\alpha)$ is a finite extension, i.e., α is algebraic, thus there exists a monic irreducible polynomial p such that

$$k(\alpha) = \frac{k[t]}{(p(t))}$$

And ε is injective iff α is transcendental.

Proposition 8.5 (lifting). Let $k_1 \subset k_1(\alpha_1), k_2 \subset k_2(\alpha_2)$ be two simple finite extensions, then let p_1, p_2 be the minimal polynomials of α_1, α_2 , let $i : k_1 \rightarrow k_2$ be an isomorphism such that

$$i(p_1(t)) = p_2(t)$$

Then there exists a unique isomorphism $j : k_1(\alpha_1) \rightarrow k_2(\alpha_2)$ such that $j = i$ on k_1 and

$$j(\alpha_1) = \alpha_2$$

This says that we can extend isomorphisms between fields into their simple extensions provided that this isomorphism agrees with the structure of the extensions.

Definition 8.4 (Aut group). Let $k \subset F$ be an extension, then the group of automorphisms of this extension, denoted $\text{Aut}_k(F)$ is the group of automorphisms $\varphi : F \rightarrow F$ that fixes k , $\varphi(x) = x$ for all $x \in k$, $\varphi \in \text{Aut}_k(F)$.

Proposition 8.6. Let $k \subset k(\alpha)$, and $p(x)$ be the minimal polynomial over k , then

$$|\text{Aut}_k(k(\alpha))| = \text{number of distinct roots of } p \text{ in } k(\alpha)$$

and

$$|\text{Aut}_k(k(\alpha))| \leq [k(\alpha) : k] = \deg(p)$$

with equality if and only if $p(x)$ factors over $k(\alpha)$ as a product of distinct linear factors.

Proposition 8.7. Let $k \subset k(\alpha) = F$, then $\text{Aut}_k F$ acts faithfully and transitively on the set of roots of $p(t)$ in F .

Definition 8.5 (algebraic extension). Let $k \subset F$, and $\alpha \in F$, then α is algebraic over k iff $k(\alpha)$ is a finite extension; this is equivalent to saying there exists a nonzero $f(x) \in k[x]$ such that $f(\alpha) = 0$. If $k(\alpha)/k$ is not finite, then α is transcendental.

If α is algebraic over k , then every element in $k(\alpha)$ can be written as a polynomial in α .

Proposition 8.8. Finite extensions are algebraic.

Proof. Let $k \subset F$ be finite, then consider $\alpha \in F$, we have $k \subset k(\alpha) \subset F$, hence $k(\alpha)$ is also finite. \square

Proposition 8.9. Let $k \subset E \subset F$, then $k \subset F$ is finite iff both E/k and F/E are finite, in this case

$$[F : k] = [F : E][E : k]$$

This implies: let $k \subset F$ be finite, and E be an intermediate field, then both $[E : k], [F : E]$ divide $[F : k]$.

Example 8.4. Let $k \subset F$, let $\alpha \in F$ be an algebraic element of odd degree over k . Then α can be written as a polynomial in α^2 . It suffices to show that $k(\alpha^2) = k(\alpha)$. We consider

$$k \subset k(\alpha^2) \subset k(\alpha)$$

We see that $k(\alpha)/k(\alpha^2)$ has degree at most 2 because $t^2 - \alpha^2$, and the degree must divide $[k(\alpha) : k]$, thus it must be 1.

Definition 8.6 (finitely generated field extensions). A field extension $k \subset F$ is finitely generated if there exists $\{\alpha_i\} \subset F$ such that

$$F = k(\alpha_1) \dots (\alpha_n)$$

Proposition 8.10. Let $k \subset k(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ be finitely generated, then F/k is algebraic iff F/k is finite iff all α_i are algebraic over k . (Thus given a finitely generated extension, to show that it is finite, it suffices to show each α_i is algebraic).

Proposition 8.11. If α, β are algebraic over k , then

$$\alpha + \beta, \alpha\beta, \alpha\beta^{-1}$$

are all algebraic over k . (For example, $k(\alpha + \beta) \subset k(\alpha, \beta)$). This implies that given $k \subset F$,

$$E = \{\alpha \in F : \alpha \text{ algebraic over } k\}$$

is a field.

Proposition 8.12. (Composite algebraic extensions are algebraic). Let $k \subset E \subset F$, then $k \subset F$ is algebraic iff both $k \subset E$ and $E \subset F$ are algebraic.

Example 8.5. $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$.

8.1 Algebraic Closure

Proposition 8.13. Recall that k is algebraically closed iff all irreducible polynomials in $k[x]$ have degree 1, iff every polynomial factors into linear factors, iff every maximal ideal is of the form $(x - c)$ for some $c \in k$.

Proposition 8.14. Field k is algebraically closed iff k has no nontrivial algebraic extensions, iff if $k \subset F$, and $\alpha \in F$ is algebraic over k , then $\alpha \in k$.

Definition 8.7 (algebraic closure). The \bar{k} of k is such that \bar{k} is an algebraic extension and \bar{k} is algebraically closed. (The requirement that \bar{k}/k is algebraic is to ensure there is no intermediate field that is also algebraically closed). Equivalently, \bar{k} is the smallest field that is algebraically closed containing k .

8.2 splitting, normal, separable

Definition 8.8 (splitting field). Let $f(x) \in k[x]$ be a polynomial of degree d , the splitting field of f over k is an extension F/k such that f factors into linear factors over F . In other words,

$$F = k(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d)$$

where α_i are roots of f .

Proposition 8.15. Small fact: let n = even, then the n th root of unity such that $\omega_n^n = 1$ also satisfies

$$\omega_n^{\frac{n}{2}} + 1 = 0$$

For example, the 8th root of unity $\omega_8 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{8}}$ is also a root of

$$f(x) = x^4 + 1$$

which is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} .

Proposition 8.16. Splitting field of f is unique up to isomorphisms, and

$$[F : k] \leq (\deg(f))!$$

Proposition 8.17. The polynomial $x^n - 1$ is not irreducible over \mathbb{Q} for any $n \geq 2$. The polynomial $x^n + 1$ is only irreducible if $n = 2^k$ for some integer k .

Proposition 8.18. Let $f(x) \in k[x]$, the splitting field F of f is such that

$$[F : k] \leq (\deg f)!$$

Example 8.6. The splitting field of $f(x) = x^3 - 2$ is $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \omega_3)$, which is a degree $6 = (\deg f)! = 3!$ extension.

Example 8.7. The splitting field of $x^8 - 1$ is $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_8)$, and the minimal polynomial for $\omega_8 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{8}}$ is

$$f(x) = x^4 + 1$$

Thus $[\mathbb{Q}(\omega_8) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4$. (The splitting field for $x^8 - 1$ is the same as $x^4 + 1$). Moreover, the Galois group is

$$\mathbb{Q}(\omega_8) = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$$

is

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega_8)/\mathbb{Q}) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}} \times \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}}$$

Example 8.8. The splitting field for $x^4 + 2$ is

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$$

and the Galois group is

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong D_4$$

because it is an order 8 subgroup of S_4 .



Warning 8.1. Galois group doesn't act transitively on the roots of a random polynomial! They act transitively on the roots of the irreducible factors.

Definition 8.9 (normal). A field extension $k \subset F$ is normal if every **irreducible** polynomial f has a root in F iff f splits into product of linear factors over F . (If it contains one root, then it contains all the other roots).

Proposition 8.19. A field extension $k \subset F$ is **finite and normal** iff F is the **splitting field** of some polynomial $f \in k[x]$.

Example 8.9. If a complex root of an irreducible polynomial can be expressed as a polynomial in $i, \sqrt[4]{2}$, then all the roots can be expressed as a polynomial in them.

Proof: $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{2})$ is the splitting field of $x^4 + 2$, thus is normal.

Definition 8.10 (separable). Let k be a field, $f \in k[x]$ is separable if it has no multiple factors over its splitting field.



Warning 8.2. This following is a classic example. All the bad examples arise from this one (inseparable).

Example 8.10 (irreducible but not separable). Let $\mathbb{F}_p(t)$ be the field of rational functions in t over \mathbb{F}_p . Then the polynomial

$$f(x) = x^p - t \in \mathbb{F}_p(t)[x]$$

is irreducible, but not separable (cannot be factored into distinct linear factors in its algebraic closure).

Let $u = t^{1/p}$ be a root of f in its algebraic closure, then we see

$$f(x) = x^p - t = (x - u)^p$$

Proposition 8.20. Let $f \in k[x]$, then f is separable iff f, f' are relatively prime. If it is inseparable, then $f' = 0$.

Proposition 8.21. Irreducible polynomials are separable in characteristic 0.

Proposition 8.22. Let k be a field of characteristic p , then the Frobenius homomorphism

$$x \mapsto x^p$$

is a surjective map over finite fields. (It is the identity over \mathbb{F}_p).

Proposition 8.23. Every irreducible polynomial in $k[x]$ is separable $\iff \text{char}(k) = 0$ or the Frobenius homomorphism is surjective. This implies that every irreducible polynomial is separable in finite fields or \mathbb{Q} .

Remark: the reason the example $x^p - t \in \mathbb{F}_p(t)[x]$ works is because $\mathbb{F}_p(t)$ is not a finite field.

Definition 8.11 (separable element). Let $k \subset F, \alpha \in F$, then α is called separable iff the minimal polynomial of α is separable over k . An extension is called separable if every $\alpha \in F$ is separable. For example, all extensions of \mathbb{Q} or finite fields are separable.

Definition 8.12 (separable degree). Let $k \subset F \subset \bar{k}$, the separable degree of F/k is the number of different homomorphisms/embeddings $\varphi : F \rightarrow \bar{k}$ (such that $\varphi|_k = \text{id}_k$), denoted $[F : k]_s$.

Proposition 8.24. Let $k \subset k(\alpha)$ be a simple algebraic extension, then $[k(\alpha) : k]_s = \text{number of distinct roots in } \bar{k} \text{ of the minimal polynomial } p_\alpha \text{ of } \alpha$. Moreover,

$$[k(\alpha) : k]_s \leq \deg(p_\alpha)$$

the equality holds iff α i.e., p_α is separable over k .

Example 8.11. For separability degree:

1. Every separability degree is equal to the degree of extension over \mathbb{Q} and finite fields.
2. $x^p - t \in \mathbb{F}_p(t)[x]$ has separability degree 1 but degree of extension p .

Proposition 8.25. Let $k \subset F$ be a finite extension, then F is finitely generated: you can just take a basis of F/k .

8.3 Finite fields

Proposition 8.26. For every prime power q , there is a unique field F_q of size q , up to isomorphisms. (This is the splitting field of $x^q - x$ over \mathbb{F}_p .)

Proof. Existence: we claim that

$$\{x \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p : x^q = x\}$$

is a field of q elements. One can show this is a subring, hence an integral domain, hence is a field because it is finite. Moreover, F has at most q elements, but $f(x) = x^q - x$ is separable because f, f' are relatively prime.

Uniqueness: for every $F_p \subset F$, this is a finite, hence algebraic extension, thus it can be embedded into $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$. And we claim that there's exactly one subfield of $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ with q elements:

$$F \subset 0 \cup \{x \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p : x^q = x\}$$

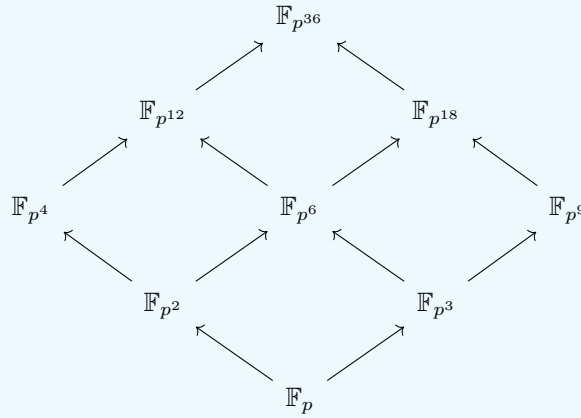
This implies $F = RHS$. □

Proposition 8.27. Fix a prime p , then

$$F = \mathbb{F}_{p^d} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{F}_{p^e}$$

iff $d \mid e$. Moreover, \mathbb{F}_{p^e} contains a unique copy of \mathbb{F}_{p^d} . (Nothing like $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$, $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}\omega_3)$ will happen).

Example 8.12. An extension embedding tree looks like



Proposition 8.28. There exist a surjective map $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/e\mathbb{Z}$ iff $e \mid d$.

Proposition 8.29. The Galois group $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{p^d}/\mathbb{F}_p)$ is cyclic of order d , and it is generated by the Frobenius transformation

$$\sigma : x \mapsto x^p$$

More generally, let q be a prime power, then

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{q^d}/\mathbb{F}_q) = \langle \sigma : x \mapsto x^q \rangle$$

is cyclic of order d . In other words,

$$|\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\mathbb{F}_{p^d})| = d$$

In particular, \mathbb{F}_q is fixed by σ : for all $x \in \mathbb{F}_q$, we must have

$$x^q = x$$

(also by Fermat). This completely describes \mathbb{F}_q :

$$\mathbb{F}_q = \{x \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_q : x^q = x\}$$

Proposition 8.30. Let n be a positive integer, then over \mathbb{F}_q , we have

$$x^{q^n} - x = \prod_{f: \deg(f) | n} f(x)$$

where f is irreducible and monic. (All you need to do is to find all the irreducible polynomials of degree dividing n).

These polynomials factor completely over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} .

Example 8.13. We will do a few examples:

1. Over \mathbb{F}_2 ,

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

consisting of all irreducible polynomials of degree 1 over \mathbb{F}_2 .

2. Over \mathbb{F}_2 , we have

$$x^4 - x = x(x + 1)(x^2 + x + 1)$$

consisting of all irreducible polynomials of degree 1, 2. ($n = 2$).

3. Over \mathbb{F}_2 , when $n = 3$, we factor

$$x^8 - x = x(x + 1)(x^3 + x^2 + 1)(x^3 + x + 1)$$

consisting of irreducible polynomials of degree 1, 3.

4. over \mathbb{F}_2 , when $n = 6$, we factor

$$x^{64} - x$$

into two polynomials of degree 1, one degree 2, two degree 3, and 9 degree 6 polynomials.

8.4 Cyclotomic

Definition 8.13 (*n th cyclotomic polynomial*). Let $\omega_n = e^{2\pi i/n}$ be the primitive n th root, then ω_n^m is also a primitive n th root iff $\gcd(m, n) = 1$. This implies that there are $\phi(n)$ primitive roots of 1, and the polynomial

$$\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{1 \leq m \leq n, \gcd(m, n)=1} (x - \omega_n^m)$$

taking over all the primitive roots of n , is called the n th cyclotomic polynomial. For example,

$$\Phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} = x^{p-1} + \cdots + 1$$

Proposition 8.31. The cyclotomic polynomials $\Phi_n(x)$ satisfy:

1. When $n = p$ for some prime, then

$$\Phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} = x^{p-1} + \cdots + 1$$

2. When n not prime,

$$x^n - 1 = \prod_{1 \leq d, d|n} \Phi_d(x)$$

Proof. Note that the proof involves

$$x^n - 1 = \prod_{1 \leq d, d|n} \prod_{d \text{th root of unity}} (x - \omega) = \prod_{1 \leq d, d|n} \Phi_d(x)$$

□

Proposition 8.32. For all n , $\Phi_n(x)$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} . (And they have integer coefficients).

The proof is hard.

Definition 8.14 (*n th cyclotomic field*). Let $\omega_n = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$, then the splitting field $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)$ of $x^n - 1$ is called the n th cyclotomic field.

Proposition 8.33. We have

- 1.

$$[\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = \phi(n)$$

2. $\Phi_n(x)$ is the minimal polynomial of ω_n .

- 3.

$$\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}$$

where $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}$ is the group of units under multiplication.

Example 8.14. $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_8)/\mathbb{Q}$ is a degree 4 extension, with Galois group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

$$\Phi_8(x) = x^4 + 1.$$



Warning 8.3. Important theorem.

Proposition 8.34. Finite + separable \Rightarrow simple extension.

Proposition 8.35. Transitive subgroups of S_4 are as follows:

$$S_4, A_4, D_8, \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{4\mathbb{Z}}, \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}} \times \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}}$$

Corollary 8.1. Let $F = \mathbb{F}_q$, then

$$x^{q^n} - x$$

factors over \mathbb{F}_q as irreducible polynomials of degree d , where d ranges over all divisors of n . These polynomials factor completely over \mathbb{F}_{q^n} .

Proposition 8.36. Every finite extension of \mathbb{Q} or of finite fields \mathbb{F}_q is simple.

Proof. Finite+separable \Rightarrow simple. □

8.5 Galois I

Definition 8.15 (Galois Correspondence). Let $k \subset F$, and $G = \text{Aut}_k(F)$, let $H \subset G$ be a subgroup, then H corresponds to an intermediate field extension

$$k \subset F^H \subset F$$

where

$$F^H = \{x \in F : h \cdot x = x \text{ for all } h \in H\}$$

the fixed elements of F by H . Conversely, given $k \subset E \subset F$, we can identify a subgroup of G

$$H := \text{Aut}_E(F) \subset \text{Aut}_k(F)$$

This establishes a one-to-one correspondence.

Proposition 8.37. We have the following trivial inclusions:

$$E \subset F^{\text{Aut}_E(F)}, \quad H \subset \text{Aut}_{F^H}(F)$$

Let $E_1 E_2$ denote the smallest subfield of F containing E_1, E_2 , and $\langle H_1, H_2 \rangle$ denote the smallest subgroup containing $H_1, H_2 \subset \text{Aut}_k(F)$, then

$$\text{Aut}_{E_1 E_2}(F) = \text{Aut}_{E_1}(F) \cap \text{Aut}_{E_2}(F)$$

and

$$F^{\langle G_1, G_2 \rangle} = F^{G_1} \cap F^{G_2}$$

Proposition 8.38. Let $k \subset F$ be finite. The degree of the field extension $[F : E]$ is the index of the subgroup $\text{Aut}_E(F)$ in $\text{Aut}_k(F)$. Equivalently, the size of $H \subset \text{Aut}_k(F)$ is the degree $[F : F^H]$, and

$$H = \text{Aut}_{F^H}(F)$$

Proposition 8.39. Let $k \subset F$ be finite, and let $H \subset \text{Aut}_k(F)$ be a subgroup, then $F^H \subset F$ is finite and separable, hence simple, and also normal.

Definition 8.16 (Galois extension). $k \subset F$ is Galois iff any of the following holds:

1. F is the splitting field of a separable polynomial $f \in k[t]$.
2. $k \subset F$ is normal and separable.
3. $|\text{Aut}_k(F)| = [F : k]$.
4. $k = F^{\text{Aut}_k(F)}$.
5. The Galois correspondence $H \mapsto F^H$, $E \mapsto \text{Aut}_E(F)$ is a bijection.
6. $k \subset F$ is separable, and if $k \subset F \subset K$ is an algebraic extension and $\sigma \in \text{Aut}_k(K)$, then $\sigma(F) = F$.

Proposition 8.40. If $k \subset F$ is finite and separable, if it is not Galois, then it can be embedded into some larger field $k \subset K$ in many possible ways, i.e., the last criterion of Galois: $\sigma_1(F) \neq \sigma_2(F)$. If $k \subset F$ is Galois, then all the images of embeddings coincide.

Example 8.15. The extension $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ is not Galois because there are three embeddings into \mathbb{C} and they do not coincide.

Example 8.16. Some examples of Galois extensions:

1. $\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}$, $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.
2. $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_8)/\mathbb{Q}$, $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.
3. Splitting field of $x^4 + 2$, D_4 .
4. Galois fields such as

$$\frac{\mathbb{F}_2[x]}{(x^3 + x^2 + 1)} / \mathbb{F}_2$$

with $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$.

5. $\mathbb{F}_p \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^d}$, cyclic $\mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$.
6. $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_n)$ as splitting field of $x^n - 1$, which is separable, with $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ under multiplication.

Proposition 8.41. Let $k \subset F$ be Galois, and $k \subset E \subset F$, then

$$[F : E] = |\text{Aut}_E(F)|$$

and $E \subset F$ is also Galois. Moreover,

$$[E : k] = [\text{Aut}_k(F) : \text{Aut}_E(F)]$$

Proposition 8.42. The Galois correspondence is inclusion-reversing:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F & & \text{Aut}_F(F) = \{e\} \\
 | & & | \\
 E & & \text{Aut}_E(F) \\
 | & & | \\
 k & & \text{Aut}_k(F)
 \end{array}$$

Note that

$$|\text{Aut}_E(F)| = [F : E]$$

Example 8.17. The extension

$$\mathbb{F}_2 \subset \mathbb{F}_8 \subset \mathbb{F}_{64}$$

corresponds to subgroup

$$\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{F}_8} \mathbb{F}_{64} = [\mathbb{F}_{64} : \mathbb{F}_8] \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2\mathbb{Z}}$$

Proposition 8.43. Let $k \subset F$ be Galois, then $k \subset E \subset F$, $k \subset E$ is Galois iff $\text{Aut}_E(F)$ is normal in $\text{Aut}_k(F)$. In this case,

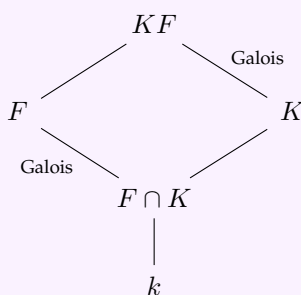
$$\text{Aut}_k(E) \cong \frac{\text{Aut}_k(F)}{\text{Aut}_E(F)}$$

Recall that

$$[E : k] = [\text{Aut}_k(F) : \text{Aut}_E(F)]$$

Proposition 8.44. Consider $k \subset F$ Galois, and $k \subset K$ any finite extension, then $K \subset KF$ is Galois, and

$$\text{Aut}_K(KF) \cong \text{Aut}_{K \cap F}(F)$$



Definition 8.17 (symmetric functions). Consider $P_n(x) = (x - t_1) \dots (x - t_n) \in \mathbb{Z}[t_1, \dots, t_n]$, and consider its coefficients

$$P_n(x) = x^n - s_1(t_1, \dots, t_n)x^{n-1} + \dots + (-1)^n s_n(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

are elementary symmetric functions of t_1, \dots, t_n . For example, when $n = 3$, the symmetric functions are

$$s_1 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3, s_2 = t_1 t_2 + t_1 t_3 + t_2 t_3, s_3 = t_1 t_2 t_3$$

Proposition 8.45. Let k be a field, and $\varphi \in k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$, then φ is symmetric iff φ is a rational function of elementary symmetric functions s_1, \dots, s_n .

Proof. Let $k' = k(s_1, \dots, s_n)$ and $F = k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$, then $k' \subset F$ is Galois because F is the splitting field of the separable polynomial $P_n(x)$ over k' . The symmetric group S_n acts on F by permuting t_1, \dots, t_n , and S_n is the identity on k' . Thus S_n is a subgroup of $\text{Aut}_{k'}(F)$, i.e., $n! \leq [F : k'] \leq n!$, where the second inequality follows from degree of $P_n(x)$. This implies that

$$\text{Aut}_{k'}(F) = S_n, k' = k(s_1, \dots, s_n) = F^{S_n}$$

We reiterate:

$$k(s_1, \dots, s_n) \subset k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

is Galois, with Galois group S_n . □

Proposition 8.46. As a corollary, every finite group G can be realized as the Galois group of some extension.

Proposition 8.47. Next we construct Galois extension with Galois group A_n : recall

$$\Delta = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (t_i - t_j)$$

Then

$$k(s_1, \dots, s_n)(\Delta) \subset k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

is Galois, with Galois group A_n .

Proof. Δ has degree 2 over $k(s_1, \dots, s_n)$ because

$$\Delta^2 = D = \prod_{i < j} (t_i - t_j)^2 \in k(s_1, \dots, s_n)$$

and the only transitive subgroup of index 2 is A_n . □

Proposition 8.48. Let k be a field of characteristic 0, and $f(x) \in k[x]$ be an irreducible polynomial. Then $f(x)$ is solvable by radicals iff its Galois group is solvable.

Proposition 8.49. (This may seem repetitive). Let $f(x) \in k[x]$ be an irreducible separable polynomial of degree n , then $\text{Gal}_k(f(x))$ acts transitively on the set of roots of f in \bar{k} , i.e., $\text{Gal}_k(f(x))$ can be identified as a subgroup of S_n .

Example 8.18. The only transitive subgroups of S_3 : S_3 and A_3 . This implies that an irreducible cubic separable polynomial can only have Galois group A_3 or S_3 .

Example 8.19. The only transitive subgroups of S_4 :

$$S_4, A_4, D_8, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$$

Definition 8.18 (discriminant). Let $f \in k[x]$ be separable, and $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ be its roots in some splitting field, then the **discriminant** of f is

$$D = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)^2 = \Delta^2$$

We notice that D is always fixed by Galois group G , whereas Δ is fixed by G iff $G \subset A_n$.

Proposition 8.50. Let k be field of characteristic $\neq 2$, let $f(x) \in k[x]$ be a separable polynomial, with discriminant D . Then the Galois group of $f(x)$ is contained in A_n iff D is a square in k , i.e., $\Delta \in k$.

Example 8.20. For S_3 : the Galois group is A_3 if D is a square, and S_3 if it is not a square.

Proposition 8.51. Let $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ be an irreducible polynomial of degree p , where p is prime. Assume that f has exactly 2 complex roots, then the Galois group is S_p .

Proof. G is a subgroup of S_p : complex conjugation gives an order 2 element of G ; we also know p divides $|G|$, thus there exists an element of order p , which is a p -cycle, i.e., they generate S_p . \square

Proposition 8.52. Every finite abelian group is the Galois group of some extension F over \mathbb{Q} .

More specifically, every finite abelian group G is the group of some intermediate field of the extension $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ in a cyclotomic field.

Proof. Classification:

$$G \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{n_1\mathbb{Z}} \times \dots \times \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{n_r\mathbb{Z}}$$

Choose distinct p_i such that $p_i \equiv 1 \pmod{n_i}$. Let $n = p_1 \dots p_r$, by CRT

$$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p_1\mathbb{Z})^\times \times \dots \times (\mathbb{Z}/p_r\mathbb{Z})^\times$$

Then $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ has a subgroup H such that

$$G \cong \frac{(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times}{H}$$

Since $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times \cong \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n))$, H corresponds to an intermediate field F , where

$$\mathbb{Q} \subset F \subset \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$$

H is automatically normal, hence $\mathbb{Q} \subset F$ is Galois and

$$\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q}) = G$$

\square



Warning 8.4. If you are just given irreducible f , asked to compute the Galois group of f : remember the degree of extension could be as large as $\deg(f)!$.



Warning 8.5. Sometimes we get asked to find $\text{Gal}(f)$, if it's irreducible, then

Chapter 9

Field Theory-Hilbert's Nullstellensatz

This corresponds to Aluffi Chapter VII 2.2-2.3.

Proposition 9.1. For a field K , TFAE:

1. K is algebraically closed.
2. There is no algebraic extension over K except for the trivial one.
3. If $K \subset L$ is any extension, and $\alpha \in L$ is algebraic over K , then $\alpha \in K$.

Definition 9.1 (algebraic closure). An algebraic closure of a field k is the algebraic extension such that \bar{k} is algebraically closed.

Proposition 9.2 (Hilbert's Nullstellensatz). Recall that if K is algebraically closed, then every maximal ideal in $K[x]$ is of the form $(x - \alpha)$, $\alpha \in K$.

Proposition 9.3. Let K be algebraically closed, and $I \subset K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ be an ideal, then I is maximal iff

$$I = (x_1 - c_1, \dots, x_n - c_n)$$

for some $c_1, \dots, c_n \in K$.

Proposition 9.4 (normal basis theorem). Let $k \subset K$ be a Galois extension of degree n , let $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$ be the elements of the Galois group, then there exists $w \in K$ such that

$$\{\sigma_1(w), \dots, \sigma_n(w)\}$$

forms a basis of K over k .

Chapter 10

Representation Theory of Finite Groups

Let k be a field and G be a finite group, a representation $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ is such that

$$\rho(g_1 g_2) = \rho(g_1) \circ \rho(g_2)$$

And V is a $k[G]$ -module, i.e., elements in $k[G]$ are of the form

$$\sum_{g \in G} a_g g$$

and they act on V by

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} a_g g \right) \cdot v = \sum_{g \in G} a_g (\rho(g)(v))$$

Proposition 10.1. The only two-sided ideals of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$ is $\{0\}$ and $M_2(\mathbb{R})$.

Proposition 10.2. Let k be a field, then every finite-dimensional k -algebra is left and right Noetherian and Artinian

Proposition 10.3. Let R be a commutative ring, then if R is Artinian, then R is Noetherian.

Hard proof.

Definition 10.1 (representation). Representation of G over k is a homomorphism $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ for some vector space V over k , a representation can also be defined as a kG -module, where elements in the ring kG are of the form

$$\sum_{g \in G} a_g g, a_g \in k$$

i.e., k -linear combinations of group elements.

An invariant subspace of $W \subset V$ is such that for all $w \in W, g \in G$, we have

$$\rho(g)w \in W$$

i.e., an kG -submodule.

Definition 10.2 (homomorphism between kG -modules). Let $f : V \rightarrow W$ be kG -modules, then f is a homomorphism iff

$$f(\rho(g)v) = \rho(g)f(v)$$

Proposition 10.4 (Mascheke's theorem). Let V be a representation of a finite group G over k , and let $|G|$ be invertible (nonzero in characteristic 0, and not divisible by p in char p). Let W be an invariant subspace of V , then there exists an invariant subspace W' such that

$$V = W \oplus W'$$

In other words, if V is not irreducible, then it can be decomposed into irreducible representations.

Definition 10.3 (semisimple). A R -module M is semisimple iff M can be written as a finite direct sum of simple modules.

$$M \cong M_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_k$$

where M_i 's are simple R -modules.

Proposition 10.5. Let k be a field and $|G|$ is invertible, then every finite-dimensional kG -module is semisimple: it can be decomposed into a finite direct sum of simple kG -submodules.

Proposition 10.6. Let ρ be a finite-dimensional representation of G over \mathbb{C} , then for every $g \in G$, the matrix $\rho(g)$ is diagonalizable.

Proposition 10.7 (Schur's lemma). Let S_1, S_2 be simple R -modules, where R is a finite-dimensional algebra over k (finite-dimensional vector space but you can multiply things), then

$$\text{Hom}_R(S_1, S_2) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } S_1 \not\cong S_2 \\ k, & \text{if } S_1 \cong S_2 \end{cases}$$

Equivalently, let V, W be irreducible representations of a finite group G , then V, W are kG -modules, where kG is a finite-dimensional k -algebra. Thus,

$$\text{Hom}_k(V, W) = \begin{cases} k, & V \cong W \\ 0, & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

any map $\varphi : V \rightarrow V$ is a multiplication by scalar $\lambda \in k$.



Warning 10.1. This assumes k is algebraically closed!

Definition 10.4 (semisimple ring). A ring R is semisimple iff

1. Every R -module is semisimple.
2. R can be written as

$$R \cong I_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus I_k$$

where I_i are simple ideals.

Proposition 10.8 (Artin-Wedderburn). A finite-dimensional k -algebra R is semisimple iff

$$R \cong M_{n_1}(D_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus M_{n_k}(D_k)$$

where $M_{n_i}(D_i)$ is the matrix rings over division rings D_i . If k is algebraically closed, then

$$R \cong M_{n_1}(k) \oplus \cdots \oplus M_{n_k}(k) \cong V_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus V_k$$

The example for finite-dimensional k -algebra is kG , where G is finite.

Proposition 10.9. Let k be algebraically closed, and G is finite, then

$$kG \cong M_{n_1}(k) \oplus \cdots \oplus M_{n_k}(k)$$

Thus

$$|G| = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i^2$$

where $n_i = \dim(V_i)$.

10.1 Characters

Proposition 10.10. Some basic properties of χ , let ρ be a representation of G over \mathbb{C} , and $\chi(g) = \text{tr}(\rho(g))$, then

1. $\chi(1) = \dim \rho$.
2. Let $g \in G$ have order n , then $\chi(g)$ is a sum of n th roots of unity.
3. $|\chi(g)| \leq \chi(1)$, with equality iff $\rho(g)$ is a multiplication by scalar.
4. $\chi(g) = \chi(1)$ iff $\rho(g) = \text{id}$.
5. $\chi(g^{-1}) = \overline{\chi(g)}$.
6. $\chi(g) = \chi(h)$ if g, h are conjugates.
7. If V, W are isomorphic $\mathbb{C}G$ -modules, then $\chi_V = \chi_W$.

We can extend characters onto larger representations:

Proposition 10.11. Let V, W be finite dimensional representations of G over k of char 0, then

1. $V \oplus W$ has character $\chi_V \oplus \chi_W$.
2. $V \otimes W$ has character $\chi_V \cdot \chi_W$.
3. V^* has character $\chi_{V^*}(g) = \overline{\chi_V(g)}$.
4. $\text{Hom}_k(V, W)$ has character $\chi_{V^*} \cdot \chi_W$.

Proposition 10.12 (Row Orthogonality). Let G be finite, and V, W be irreducible complex representations of G with characters χ_V, χ_W , then

$$\langle \chi_V, \chi_W \rangle = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_V(g) \overline{\chi_W(g)} = \begin{cases} 1, & V \cong W \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Proposition 10.13. Let V be a $\mathbb{C}G$ -module, then in any expression

$$V \cong S_1^{n_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus S_k^{n_k}$$

where S_i are non-isomorphic irreducible modules, we have

$$n_i = \langle \chi_V, \chi_{S_i} \rangle$$

where χ_V, χ_{S_i} are characters of V, S_i .



Warning 10.2. We can use the above to decompose any representation into irreducible ones, and the powers n_i can be determined by taking the inner product.

Example 10.1. Let V be the 2-dimensional representation of S_3 , then we can consider $V \otimes V$, then $\chi_2 \otimes \chi_2$ is a character of $V \otimes V$, now we decompose $V \otimes V$ into irreducible representations:

$$\langle \chi_2 \otimes \chi_2, \chi_{\text{triv}} \rangle = 1$$

and similarly

$$\langle \chi_2 \otimes \chi_2, \chi_{\text{sgn}} \rangle = 1, \langle \chi_2 \otimes \chi_2, \chi_2 \rangle = 1$$

Thus we see

$$V \otimes V \cong \mathbb{C} \oplus S \oplus V$$

where V is the trivial and S is the sign representation.

Proposition 10.14. For finite dimensional complex representations V, W , then

$$V \cong W \iff \chi_V(g) = \chi_W(g), \text{ for all } g \in G$$

Moreover,

$$\langle \chi, \chi \rangle = 1$$

iff χ is irreducible.

Proof. We write $V \cong S_1^{n_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus S_k^{n_k}$, then the inner product being 1 implies

$$\sum_{i=1}^k n_i^2 = 1$$

which implies there exists only one nonzero $n_i = 1$, i.e., $V \cong S_i$. □

Proposition 10.15 (orthogonality). Let χ_1, \dots, χ_k be the irreducible complex characters of G , with dimensions d_1, \dots, d_k , then

1. $|G| = \sum_{i=1}^k d_i^2$.
2. $\sum_{i=1}^k d_i \chi_i(g) = 0$, if $g \neq 1$.

Proposition 10.16. For any commutative ring R , the center

$$Z(M_n(R)) = \{\lambda I : \lambda \in R\} \cong R$$

Proposition 10.17 (column orthogonality). Let χ_i be the irreducible representations of G , then

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \chi_i(g) \overline{\chi_i(h)} = \begin{cases} |Z_G(g)|, & \text{if } g, h \text{ are conjugates} \\ 0, & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

where $Z_G(g)$ is the centralizer of g .

Proposition 10.18 (all orthogonality relations). You have

1. Row orthogonality: $\sum_{g \in G} \chi_V(g) \overline{\chi_W(g)} = \begin{cases} |G|, & \text{if } V \cong W \\ 0, & \text{if not} \end{cases}$.
2. Dimension orthogonality: $\sum_{i=1}^k d_i \chi_i(g) = 0$.
3. Column orthogonality: $\sum_{i=1}^k \chi_i(g) \overline{\chi_i(h)} = \begin{cases} |Z_G(g)|, & \text{if } g, h \text{ are conjugates} \\ 0, & \text{if not} \end{cases}$.

Proposition 10.19. The dimension of an irreducible complex representation divides $|G|$.

Proposition 10.20 (characters of cyclic groups). Let $G = \langle g : g^n = 1 \rangle$ be cyclic, and ω_n be the primitive n th root of unity, then the irreducible complex characters of G are

$$\chi_i : g \mapsto \omega_n^i$$

where $0 \leq i \leq n-1$. These are exactly the n irreducible characters of G .

Example 10.2. Consider the character table for $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$, $1 \mapsto 1, i, -1, -i$ defines 4 one-dimensional irreducible representations.

Proposition 10.21. Let V_1, \dots, V_n and W_1, \dots, W_m be the irreducible representations of G_1, G_2 , then

$$V_i \otimes W_j$$

is the complete list of irreducible representations of $G_1 \times G_2$. As a consequence, the character table of $G_1 \times G_2$ is the tensor product of the character tables of G_1 and G_2 .

Proposition 10.22. G is abelian iff all complex irreducible representations of G are one-dimensional.

Proof. We know cyclic groups have one-dimensional irreducible representations, and every finite abelian group is a direct product of cyclic groups, hence by the above, we know they are again one-dimensional. Conversely, consider

$$|G| = \sum_{i=1}^r d_i^2$$

This implies $r = |G|$, i.e., every conjugacy class has size 1, i.e., G is abelian. \square

Proposition 10.23. The one-dimensional irreducible representations of G exactly correspond to the one-dimensional representations of $G^{\text{ab}} = \frac{G}{[G:G]}$.

(You put 1's at $[G, G]$, think about D_8 .)

10.2 Induction and Restriction

Definition 10.5 (Induced Representation). Let H be a subgroup of G , let V be a kH -module. Let $g_1H, \dots, g_{[G:H]}H$ be the list of left cosets of G/H . Then

$$\text{Ind}_H^G(V) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{[G:H]} g_i \otimes V$$

where

$$g_i \otimes V = \{g_i \otimes v : v \in V\}$$

note that if $g \in G$, then

$$g(g_i \otimes V) = g_j \otimes V$$

where $gg_i = g_jh$ for some $h \in H$. Note that $g_i \otimes V \cong V$ for each i .

The $g_i \otimes V$ submodules of $\text{Ind}_H^G(V)$ are permuted under the action of G , which is transitive.

Definition 10.6 (Induced character). Let H be a subgroup of G , let V be a $\mathbb{C}H$ -module with character χ . Then the induced character on G is

$$\text{Ind}_H^G(\chi)(g) = \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{t \in G: t^{-1}gt \in H} \chi(t^{-1}gt)$$

Example 10.3. Consider $G = S_3$, $H = \langle (123) \rangle$, and let χ be the trivial representation on H , then

$$\text{Ind}_H^G\chi(g) = \begin{cases} 2, & g = e \\ 0, & g = (12) \\ 2, & g = (123) \end{cases}$$

Proposition 10.24 (Frobenius reciprocity). Let $\text{Res}_H^G(V)$ be the restriction of representation of V on G to H . Let $H \subset K \subset G$ be subgroups of G and V be a kH -module and W be a kG -module.

$$\text{Hom}_{kG}(\text{Ind}_H^G V, W) \cong \text{Hom}_{kG}(V, \text{Res}_H^G W)$$

and similarly,

$$\text{Hom}_{kG}(W, \text{Ind}_H^G V) \cong \text{Hom}_{kG}(\text{Res}_H^G W, V)$$

Proposition 10.25. Some more properties of induction and restriction:

1. $\text{Ind}_K^G \text{Ind}_H^K V \cong \text{Ind}_H^G V$.
2. Similarly for restrictions.
3. $\text{Ind}_H^G V \cong \text{Hom}_{kH}(kG, V)$ as kG -modules.

Proposition 10.26 (Frobenius reciprocity for characters). Let ψ, χ be complex characters of G .

$$\langle \text{Ind}_H^G \chi, \psi \rangle_G = \langle \chi, \text{Res}_H^G \psi \rangle_H$$

Proposition 10.27. Let V be a representation of G over k whose characteristic is not 2, then

$$V \otimes V \cong S^2(V) \oplus \wedge^2(V)$$

Moreover,

$$S^2 \chi(g) = \frac{1}{2}(\chi(g)^2 - \chi(g^2))$$

and

$$\wedge^2(g) = \frac{1}{2}(\chi(g)^2 - \chi(g^2))$$



Warning 10.3. So how to construct character tables.

Proposition 10.28. 1. Find the number of conjugacy classes of G (to identify the size of the table).

2. Take the abelianization $G/[G, G]$ to find all the one-dimensional characters.
3. For characters of dimension greater than 1:

- (a) Find the natural representations.
- (b) Find representations lifted from quotient groups.
- (c) Representations induced from subgroups.
- (d) Tensor products of other representations.
- (e) Symmetric and alternating powers of representations.

Keep in mind of **Frobenius Reciprocity** and **Orthogonality Relations**.

Chapter 11

Semisimple Algebra