

**Math 400 — Examination No. 2**  
**Due: Friday, May 11th, by 4:00PM**

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(1) *Fibonacci Numbers*

Recall that the sequence of Fibonacci numbers  $\{F_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  is defined recursively as follows:

$$F_1 = F_2 = 1$$

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}, n \geq 3.$$

- (a) (i) Prove that for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $F_n$  and  $F_{n+1}$  are *relatively prime*, that is

$$\gcd(F_n, F_{n+1}) = 1.$$

Recall that for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , not both zero,  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$  if and only if there exist  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $1 = sa + tb$ .

*Proof.* We will use the Euclidean algorithm to find  $\gcd(F_n, F_{n+1})$ . We have:

$$F_{n+1} = 1 \cdot F_n + F_{n-1}$$

$$F_n = 1 \cdot F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$F_4 = 1 \cdot F_3 + F_2$$

$$F_3 = 2 \cdot F_2 + 0$$

Substituting in  $F_4 = 3$ ,  $F_3 = 2$ ,  $F_2 = 1$ , and  $F_1 = 1$ , we get:

$$3 = 1 \cdot 2 + 1$$

$$2 = 2 \cdot 1 + 0.$$

Hence,  $\gcd(F_n, F_{n+1}) = 1$ . □

- (ii) Using 1(a)(i), prove that for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $F_n$  and  $F_{n+2}$  are relatively prime.

*Proof.* Consider two Fibonacci numbers  $F_n$  and  $F_{n+2}$ . By the definition of the Fibonacci sequence, we have that,

$$F_{n+2} = F_n \cdot F_1 + F_2 \cdot F_{n-1}.$$

From this, we can see that,

$$\begin{aligned}\gcd(F_n, F_{n+2}) &= \gcd(F_n, F_n \cdot F_1 + F_2 \cdot F_{n-1}) \\ &= \gcd(F_n, F_n \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot F_{n-1}) \\ &= \gcd(F_n, F_{n-1})\end{aligned}$$

Since by 1(a)(i),  $F_n$  and  $F_{n-1}$  are relatively prime.

Hence, by 1(a)(i),  $\gcd(F_n, F_{n-1}) = \gcd(F_n, F_{n+2}) = 1$ .  $\square$

(b) In class we observed the following about 4 consecutive Fibonacci numbers:

- Let  $x$  be the product of the first and fourth numbers.
- Let  $y$  be *twice* the product of the second and third numbers.
- Let  $z$  be the *sum* of the square of the second number with the square of the third number.

Then  $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$ , that is,  $(x, y, z)$  is a Pythagorean triple.

For example, for  $F_1, F_2, F_3$ , and  $F_4$ , we have:

- $x = F_1 \cdot F_4 = 1 \cdot 3 = 3$ .
- $y = 2 \cdot F_2 \cdot F_3 = 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 = 4$ .
- $z = F_2^2 + F_3^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 = 5$ .

Please complete the following:

- (i) Express the procedure described above in the form of a claim that can be proven via *mathematical induction* and then prove the claim by induction.

**Claim.** If  $F_n$  is a Fibonacci number, then,

$$(F_n \cdot F_{n+3}, 2F_{n+1} \cdot F_{n+2}, F_{n+1}^2 + F_{n+2}^2)$$

is a Pythagorean triple.

*Proof.* We will proceed by induction on  $n$ .

Base case: When  $n = 1$ , we know that  $F_1 = F_2 = 1$ ,  $F_3 = 2$ , and  $F_4 = 3$ . So we have:

$$\begin{aligned}(F_1 \cdot F_4, 2F_2 \cdot F_3, F_2^2 + F_3^2) &= (1 \cdot 3, 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 2, 1^2 + 2^2) \\ &= (3, 4, 5)\end{aligned}$$

Which is clearly a Pythagorean triple, since  $3^2 + 4^2 = 5^2$ .

Inductive case: Assume the claim holds for  $F_k$ . We want to show it also holds for  $F_{k+1}$ . In other words, assuming that,

$$(F_k \cdot F_{k+3}, 2F_{k+1} \cdot F_{k+2}, F_{k+1}^2 + F_{k+2}^2)$$

is a Pythagorean triple, we want to show that,

$$(F_{k+1} \cdot F_{k+4}, 2F_{k+2} \cdot F_{k+3}, F_{k+2}^2 + F_{k+3}^2)$$

is also a Pythagorean triple.

This means that we need to show:

$$(F_{k+1} \cdot F_{k+4})^2 + (2F_{k+2} \cdot F_{k+3})^2 = (F_{k+2}^2 + F_{k+3}^2)^2.$$

Observe that:

$$\begin{aligned} (F_{k+1} \cdot F_{k+4})^2 + (2F_{k+2} \cdot F_{k+3})^2 &= \dots \\ &= F_{k+2}^4 + 2 \cdot F_{k+2}^2 \cdot F_{k+3}^2 + F_{k+3}^4 \\ &= (F_{k+2}^2 + F_{k+3}^2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

□

- (ii) Under what conditions will  $(x, y, z)$  form a *primitive* Pythagorean triple? Your answer should be as specific as possible and should be connected to your claim in 1(b)(i).

**Solution.** We know that Pythagorean triples are generated by  $(t^2 - s^2, 2st, t^2 + s^2)$ , for all  $s < t$ . Similarly, we proved that a Pythagorean triple if one of  $s, t$  is even and the other is odd.

Since in the definition of Fibonacci Pythagorean triples the second term is  $2 \cdot F_{n+1} \cdot F_{n+2}$ , we can say that  $s = F_{n+1}$  and  $t = F_{n+2}$ . Therefore, a Pythagorean triple generated this way is primitive if  $F_{n+1}$  and  $F_{n+2}$  are not both odd.

In other words, a Pythagorean triple generated by  $F_n$  is primitive if:

$$n \mod 3 \neq 0.$$

- (2) *Defn.* Let  $(a, b, c)$  be a Pythagorean triple. We say that triple  $(a, b, c)$  is a FP triple if and only if  $(a, b, c)$  is produced by the procedure described 1(b)(i). Moreover for  $n \geq 1$ , let  $FP(n)$ , denote the FP-triple created by  $F_n, F_{n+1}, F_{n+2}$ , and  $F_{n+3}$ .

Thus,  $FP(1) = (3, 4, 5)$  and  $FP(2) = (5, 12, 13)$ .

*Defn.* The FP triple  $(a, b, c)$  is PFP if and only if  $(a, b, c)$  is a *primitive* FP triple.

*Defn.* For  $n \geq 1$ , let,

$$C_n = \{FP(i) : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

and,

$$D_n = \{FP(i) : 1 \leq i \leq n \text{ and } FP(i) \text{ is PFP}\}$$

Answer the following:

- (a) What is  $|C_n|$ , the cardinality of  $C_n$ ?

**Solution.** By its definition,  $|C_n| = n$ .

- (b) Give a formula for  $|D_n|$ .

**Solution.**

$$|D_n| = \left\lfloor \frac{2(n+1)}{3} \right\rfloor$$

- (c) Determine:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|D_n|}{|C_n|}$$

**Solution.**

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|D_n|}{|C_n|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left\lfloor \frac{2(n+1)}{3} \right\rfloor}{n} = \frac{2}{3}$$

- (3) In class we considered the sequence of Fibonacci numbers *modulo* 10 and saw that this sequence repeated a pattern after 60 terms.
- (a) If we consider the sequence of Fibonacci numbers *modulo* 8, what is the length of its repeated pattern?

**Solution.** The pattern  $(\{1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 0, 5, 5, 2, 7, 1, 0\})$  has length 12.

- (b) (i) What is the smallest  $n$  such that 30 divides  $F_n$ ?

**Solution.** 1548008755920, the 60th Fibonacci number, is the smallest such that 30 divides it.

- (ii) If we consider the sequence of Fibonacci numbers *modulo* 30, what is the length of its repeated pattern?

**Solution.** The length of the repeated pattern is 60.

- (c) We know that  $F_{15} = 610$ . If we consider the sequence of Fibonacci numbers *modulo* 610, what is the length of its repeated pattern?

**Solution.** The pattern also has length 60.

- (4) (a) A shopper spends a total of \$5.49 for oranges, which cost \$0.18 a piece, and grapefruits, which cost \$0.33 each. What is the *minimum* number of pieces of fruit that the shopper could have bought?

**Solution.** Consider the non-negative integer solutions to the following equation:

$$5.49 = 0.18O + 0.33G$$

The solutions are as follows:

- 3 oranges, 15 grapefruit.
- 14 oranges, 9 grapefruit.
- 25 oranges, 3 grapefruit.

The first solution has 18 total fruit, which is the minimum number of pieces that the shopper could have bought.

- (b) An ancient chinese puzzle found in the 6th century work of the mathematician Chang Ch'iu-chien, called the "Hundred Foods" Problem asks: If a cock is worth 5 coins, a hen 3 coins, and 3 chickens together are worth 1 coin, how many cocks, hens, and chickens totaling 100 can be bought for 100 coins?

**Solution.** Consider the non-negative integer solutions to the following equation:

$$100 = 5k + 3h + c = k + h + 3c$$

The solutions are as follows:

- 0 cocks, 25 hens, 75 chickens.
- 4 cocks, 18 hens, 78 chickens.
- 8 cocks, 11 hens, 81 chickens.
- 12 cocks, 4 hens, 84 chickens.

- (5) Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a commutative ring.

- (a) Prove that if  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are *ideals* of  $R$ , then  $I_1 \cap I_2$  is an ideal of  $R$ .

*Proof.* First we must show that  $I_1 \cap I_2$  is an ideal of  $R$ . We know from a previous theorem that the intersection of two subgroups is a subgroup, so the intersection of  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  forms a subgroup.

Let  $x \in I_1 \cap I_2$ . If  $y \in R$ , then  $x + y$  and  $y + x$  are in both  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  and thus in  $I_1 \cap I_2$ . So  $I_1 \cap I_2$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  $\square$

(b) Let  $A \subseteq R$ .

*Defn.* The Annihilator of  $A$ , defined by,

$$\text{Ann}(A) = \{x \in R : a \cdot x = 0_R \ \forall a \in A\}$$

is a subset of  $R$ .

(i) Prove that  $\text{Ann}(A)$  is an *ideal* of  $R$ .

*Proof.* If  $m, n \in \text{Ann}(A)$ , then so are  $m - n$  and  $rm$  for all  $r \in R$ . Therefore  $\text{Ann}(A)$  is a subring of  $R$ . By the distributive law,  $\text{Ann}(A)$  is closed under addition and right multiplication.

Fix  $x \in \text{Ann}(A)$  and  $r \in R$ . Select any  $a \in A$ . Then  $ar \in A$ , but then  $(ar)x = 0$  because  $x \in \text{Ann}(A)$ . Therefore,  $a(rx) = 0$  and  $rx \in \text{Ann}(A)$ . Thus,  $\text{Ann}(A)$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  $\square$

(ii) Suppose that,

$$R = \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_{100},$$

and,

$$Y = \{(0, 52), (2, 40)\}.$$

Determine  $\text{Ann}(Y)$ .

**Solution.**

$$\text{Ann}(Y) = \{(0, 0), (0, 25), (0, 50), (0, 75), (2, 0), (2, 25), (2, 50), (2, 75)\}$$

(iii) Suppose that  $R = \mathbb{C}$  (where  $\mathbb{C}$  is the ring of complex numbers with the usual addition and multiplication), and let,

$$W = \{1 + i, \sqrt{2} - i\}$$

Determine  $\text{Ann}(W)$ .

**Solution.**

$$\text{Ann}(W) = \{0\}$$

(6) Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a ring.

(a) Define  $P : R[x] \rightarrow R$  as follows:

$$P(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n) = a_0$$

(i) Prove that  $P$  is a *ring homomorphism* from  $R[x]$  onto  $R$ .

*Proof.* We must show that:

$$P(a + b) = P(a) + P(b)$$

and,

$$P(ab) = P(a)P(b)$$

For all  $a, b \in R$ .

Let

$$a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in R[x],$$

and,

$$b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n \in R[x].$$

Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & P(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n + b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n) \\ &= P[(a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + \dots + (a_n + b_n)x^n] = a_0 + b_0 \\ &= P(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) + P(b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n). \end{aligned}$$

Also, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & P[(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) \cdot (b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n)] \\ &= P[(a_0 \cdot b_0) + (a_1 \cdot b_0 + a_0 \cdot b_1)x + \dots + (a_n \cdot b_0 + a_{n-1} \cdot b_1 + \dots + a_0 \cdot b_n)x^n] \\ &= a_0 \cdot b_0 = P(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) \cdot P(b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, it is clear that the multiplicative identity in  $R[x]$  maps to the multiplicative identity in  $R$ , since  $P(1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n) = 1$ .  $\square$

(ii) What is  $\text{Ker}(P)$ ?

**Solution.**  $\text{Ker}(P) = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in R[x] : a_0 = 0\}$

(iii) To what ring is  $R[x]/\text{Ker}(P)$  isomorphic?

**Solution.** By the first isomorphism theorem, the image of  $R[x]$  under  $P$  is isomorphic to  $R[x]/\text{Ker}(P)$ .

(b) Consider the derivative mapping:

$$D : R[a] \rightarrow R[a]$$

given by,

$$D(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) = a_1 + 2a_2x + \dots + na_nx^{n-1}$$

(i) Prove  $D$  is a *group* homomorphism.

*Proof.* We must show that:

$$D(a + b) = D(a) + D(b)$$

and,

$$D(ab) = D(a)D(b)$$

For all  $a, b \in R[a]$ .

Let

$$a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in R[a],$$

and,

$$b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n \in R[a].$$

Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & D(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n + b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n) \\ &= D[(a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + \dots + (a_n + b_n)x^n] \\ &= (a_1 + b_1) + 2(a_2 + b_2)x + \dots + n(a_n + b_n)x^n \\ &= (a_1 + 2a_2x + \dots + na_nx^n) + (b_1 + 2b_2x + \dots + nb_nx^n) \\ &= D(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) + D(b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n). \end{aligned}$$

Also, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & D[(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) \cdot (b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n)] \\ &= D[(a_0 \cdot b_0) + (a_1 \cdot b_0 + a_0 \cdot b_1)x + \dots + (a_n \cdot b_0 + a_{n-1} \cdot b_1 + \dots + a_0 \cdot b_n)x^n] \\ &= (a_1 \cdot b_0 + a_0 \cdot b_1) + 2(a_2 \cdot b_0 + a_1 \cdot b_1 + a_0 \cdot b_2)x + \dots + n(a_n \cdot b_0 + a_{n-1} \cdot b_1 + \dots + a_0 \cdot b_n)x^n \\ &= (a_1 + 2a_2x + \dots + na_nx^{n-1}) \cdot (b_1 + 2b_2x + \dots + nb_nx^{n-1}) \\ &= D(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) \cdot D(b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n). \end{aligned}$$

□

(ii) What is  $Ker(D)$ ?

**Solution.**  $Ker(D) = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \in R[a] : a_i = 0 \forall i \geq 1\}$

(iii) Explain why  $D$  is *not* a ring homomorphism.

**Solution.**  $D$  is not a ring homomorphism because there is no mapping from the multiplicative identity in  $R[a]$  to itself.

(iv) Is  $D : \mathbb{Z}[a] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[a]$  onto? Justify your answer.



**Solution.** No. Recall that for  $D$  to be onto it must be true that for all  $b \in R[a]$  there is an  $a \in R[a]$  such that  $D(a) = b$ . Consider  $b \in R[a]$  such that the  $x^1$  term is odd. This element can never be mapped to by  $D$ , since by the definition of  $D$  the  $x^1$  term must be even (since it is multiplied by 2).

(7) Refer to Section 3.8 on page 149 of your handout.

Find the greatest common divisor in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  of  $11 + 7i$  and  $18 - i$ . *Show work!*

*Hint:* Read carefully the proof of Theorem 3.8.1.

**Solution.** Recall the  $d$  function for the Gaussian integers is defined by:

$$d(a + bi) = a^2 + b^2 = (a + bi)(a - bi)$$

For  $11 + 7i$  we have:

$$d(11 + 7i) = 11^2 + 7^2 = 170 = 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 17$$

$$11 + 7i = -i \cdot (1 + i) \cdot (1 + 2i) \cdot (4 + i)$$

For  $18 - i$  we have:

$$d(18 - i) = 10^2 + 1^2 = 325 = 5^2 \cdot 13$$

$$18 - i = -i \cdot (2 + i)^2 \cdot (3 + 2i)$$

So the greatest common divisor in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is  $-i$ . But recall that the units of  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  are  $\{1, -1, i, -i\}$ . Therefore,  $11 + 7i$  and  $18 - i$  are relatively prime.