

# Algebra Notes

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Group Theory</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Finitely Generated Abelian Groups . . . . .	2
1.2	The Symmetric Group . . . . .	3
1.3	Counting Theorems . . . . .	4
1.3.1	Examples of Orbit-Stabilizer . . . . .	5
1.3.2	Sylow Theorems . . . . .	6
1.3.3	Sylow 1 (Cauchy for Prime Powers) . . . . .	6
1.3.4	Sylow 2 (Sylows are Conjugate) . . . . .	6
1.3.5	Sylow 3 (Numerical Constraints) . . . . .	6
1.4	Products . . . . .	7
1.5	Isomorphism Theorems . . . . .	7
1.6	Special Classes of Groups . . . . .	8
1.7	Series of Groups . . . . .	9
<b>2</b>	<b>Rings</b>	<b>10</b>
2.1	Definitions and Basics . . . . .	10
2.2	Maximal and Prime Ideals . . . . .	10
2.3	Nilradical and Jacobson Radical . . . . .	11
2.4	Zorn's Lemma . . . . .	12
2.5	Unsorted . . . . .	12
<b>3</b>	<b>Fields</b>	<b>12</b>
3.1	Cyclotomic Polynomials . . . . .	13
3.2	Finite Fields . . . . .	14
3.3	Galois Theory . . . . .	14
<b>4</b>	<b>Modules</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Linear Algebra</b>	<b>15</b>
5.1	Minimal / Characteristic Polynomial . . . . .	15
5.2	Simultaneous Diagonalizability . . . . .	15
5.3	Characterizations of Diagonalizability . . . . .	16
5.4	Canonical Forms . . . . .	17
5.4.1	Rational Canonical Form . . . . .	17
5.4.2	Jordan Canonical Form . . . . .	18

# 1 Group Theory

**Definition (Centralizer):**

$$C_G(H) = \{g \in G \mid ghg^{-1} = h \ \forall h \in H\}$$

**Definition (Normalizer):**

$$N_G(H) = \{g \in G \mid gHg^{-1} = H\}$$

**Lemma:**  $C_G(H) \leq N_G(H)$

**Lemma:** The size of the conjugacy class of  $H$  is the index of the centralizer, i.e.

$$\left| \{gHg^{-1} \mid g \in G\} \right| = [G : C_G(H)].$$

**Lemma (“The Fundamental Theorem of Cosets”):**

$$aH = bH \iff a^{-1}b \in H \text{ or } aH \cap bH = \emptyset$$

**Definition:**  $[x, y] = x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$  is the **commutator**, and  $[G, G] := \{[x, y] \mid x, y \in G\}$  is the **commutator subgroup**.

**Lemma:**

$$[G, G] \leq H \text{ and } H \trianglelefteq G \implies G/H \text{ is abelian.}$$

## 1.1 Finitely Generated Abelian Groups

Invariant factor decomposition:

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}^r \times \prod_{j=1}^m \mathbb{Z}/(n_j) \quad \text{where } n_1 \mid \cdots \mid n_m.$$

**Going from invariant divisors to elementary divisors:**

- Take prime factorization of each factor
- Split into coprime pieces

*Example:*

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{Z}/(2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(2^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7) \\ & \cong \mathbb{Z}/(2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(2^3) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(5^2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(7) \end{aligned}$$

**Going from elementary divisors to invariant factors:**

- Bin up by primes occurring (keeping exponents)

- Take highest power from each prime as *last* invariant factor
- Take highest power from all remaining primes as next, etc

*Example:* Given the invariant factor decomposition

$$G = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_{25}, .$$

$p = 2$	$p = 3$	$p = 5$
2, 2, 2	3, 3	$5^2$

$$\implies n_m = 5^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2$$

$p = 2$	$p = 3$	$p = 5$
2, 2	3	$\emptyset$

$$\implies n_{m-1} = 3 \cdot 2$$

$p = 2$	$p = 3$	$p = 5$
2	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

$$\implies n_{m-2} = 2$$

and thus

$$G \cong \mathbb{Z}/(2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(3 \cdot 2) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/(5^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2).$$

## 1.2 The Symmetric Group

**Definitions:**

- A cycle is **even**  $\iff$  product of an *even* number of transpositions.
  - A cycle of even *length* is **odd**
  - A cycle of odd *length* is **even**

**Definition** The **alternating group** is the subgroup of **even** permutations, i.e.  $A_n := \left\{ \sigma \in S_n \mid \text{sign}(\sigma) = 1 \right\}$  where  $\text{sign}(\sigma) = (-1)^m$  where  $m$  is the number of cycles of even length.

*Corollary:* Every  $\sigma \in A_n$  has an even number of *odd* cycles (i.e. an even number of *even-length* cycles).

*Example:*

$$A_4 = \{\text{id}, \\ (1, 3)(2, 4), (1, 2)(3, 4), (1, 4)(2, 3), \\ (1, 2, 3), (1, 3, 2), \\ (1, 2, 4), (1, 4, 2), \\ (1, 3, 4), (1, 4, 3), \\ (2, 3, 4), (2, 4, 3)\}.$$

**Lemmas:**

- The transitive subgroups of  $S_3$  are  $S_3, A_3$
- The transitive subgroups of  $S_4$  are  $S_4, A_4, D_4, \mathbb{Z}_2^2, \mathbb{Z}_4$ .
- For  $n = 4$ ,  $S_n$  has two normal subgroups:  $A_4, \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ .
- For  $n \geq 5$ ,  $S_n$  one normal subgroup:  $A_n$ .
- $Z(S_n) = 1$  for  $n \geq 3$
- $Z(A_n) = 1$  for  $n \geq 4$
- $[S_n, S_n] = A_n$
- $[A_4, A_4] \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$
- $[A_n, A_n] = A_n$  for  $n \geq 5$
- $A_n$  is *simple* for  $n \geq 5$ .

### 1.3 Counting Theorems

**Lagrange's Theorem:**

$$H \leq G \implies |H| \mid |G|.$$

*Corollary:* The order of every element divides the size of  $G$ , i.e.

$$g \in G \implies o(g) \mid o(G) \implies g^{|G|} = e.$$

**Warning:** There does **not** necessarily exist  $H \leq G$  with  $|H| = n$  for every  $n \mid |G|$ .  
Counterexample:  $|A_4| = 12$  but has no subgroup of order 6.

**Cauchy's Theorem:**

For every prime  $p$  dividing  $|G|$ , there is an element (and thus a subgroup) of order  $p$ .

This is a partial converse to Lagrange's theorem.

**Notation:** For a group  $G$  acting on a set  $X$ ,

- $G \cdot x = \{g \curvearrowright x \mid g \in G\} \subseteq X$  is the orbit
- $G_x = \{g \in G \mid g \curvearrowright x = x\} \subseteq G$  is the stabilizer
- $X/G \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  is the set of orbits

- $X^g = \{x \in X \mid g \curvearrowright x = x\} \subseteq X$  are the fixed points

**Orbit-Stabilizer:**

$$|G \cdot x| = [G : G_x] = |G|/|G_x| \quad \text{if } G \text{ is finite}$$

Mnemonic:  $G/G_x \cong G \cdot x$ .

### 1.3.1 Examples of Orbit-Stabilizer

1. Let  $G$  act on itself by conjugation.
  - $G \cdot x$  is the **conjugacy class** of  $x$
  - $G_x = Z(x) := C_G(x) = \{g \mid [g, x] = e\}$ , the **centralizer** of  $x$ .
  - $G^g$  (the fixed points) is the **center**  $Z(G)$ .

*Corollary:* The size of a conjugacy class is the index of the centralizer.

*Corollary:* the **Class Equation**:

$$|G| = |Z(G)| + \sum_{\substack{\text{One } x_i \text{ from} \\ \text{each conjugacy} \\ \text{class}}} [G : Z(x_i)]$$

1. Let  $G$  act on  $S$ , its set of *subgroups*, by conjugation.
  - $G \cdot H = \{gHg^{-1}\}$  is the **set of conjugate subgroups** of  $H$
  - $G_H = N_G(H)$  is the **normalizer** of  $H$  in  $G$
  - $S^G$  is the set of **normal subgroups** of  $G$
3. For a fixed proper subgroup  $H < G$ , let  $G$  act on its cosets  $G/H = \{gH \mid g \in G\}$  by left-multiplication.
  - $G \cdot gH = G/H$ , i.e. this is a *transitive* action.
  - $G_{gH} = gHg^{-1}$  is a *conjugate subgroup* of  $H$
  - $(G/H)^G = \emptyset$

*Application:* If  $G$  is simple,  $H < G$  proper, and  $[G : H] = n$ , then there exists an injective map  $\phi : G \hookrightarrow S_n$ .

*Proof:* This action induces  $\phi$ ; it is nontrivial since  $gH = H$  for all  $g$  implies  $H = G$ ;  $\ker \phi \trianglelefteq G$  and  $G$  simple implies  $\ker \phi = 1$ .

**Burnside's Formula:**

$$|X/G| = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} |X^g|.$$

### 1.3.2 Sylow Theorems

**Notation:** For any  $p$ , let  $\text{Syl}_p(G)$  be the set of Sylow- $p$  subgroups of  $G$ .

Write

- $|G| = p^n m$  where  $(m, p) = 1$ ,
- $S_p$  a Sylow- $p$  subgroup, and
- $n_p$  the number of Sylow- $p$  subgroups.

**Definition:** A  $p$ -group is a group  $G$  such that every element is order  $p^k$  for some  $k$ . If  $G$  is a finite  $p$ -group, then  $|G| = p^j$  for some  $j$ .

**Lemma:**  $p$ -groups have nontrivial centers.

Some useful facts:

- Coprime order subgroups are disjoint, or more generally  $\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathbb{Z}_q \subset G \implies \mathbb{Z}_p \cap \mathbb{Z}_q = \mathbb{Z}_{(p,q)}$ .
- The Chinese Remainder theorem:  $(p, q) = 1 \implies \mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_q \cong \mathbb{Z}_{pq}$

### 1.3.3 Sylow 1 (Cauchy for Prime Powers)

$\forall p^n$  dividing  $|G|$  there exists a subgroup of size  $p^n$ .

If  $|G| = \prod p_i^{\alpha_i}$ , then there exist subgroups of order  $p_i^{\beta_i}$  for every  $i$  and every  $0 \leq \beta_i \leq \alpha_i$ . In particular, Sylow  $p$ -subgroups always exist.

### 1.3.4 Sylow 2 (Sylows are Conjugate)

All sylow- $p$  subgroups  $S_p$  are conjugate, i.e.

$$S_p^1, S_p^2 \in \text{Syl}_p(G) \implies \exists g \text{ such that } gS_p^1g^{-1} = S_p^2.$$

**Corollary:**  $n_p = 1 \iff S_p \trianglelefteq G$

### 1.3.5 Sylow 3 (Numerical Constraints)

1.  $n_p \mid m$  (in particular,  $n_p \leq m$ ),
2.  $n_p \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ,
3.  $n_p = [G : N_G(S_p)]$  where  $N_G$  is the normalizer.

**Corollary:**  $p$  does not divide  $n_p$ .

**Lemma:** Every  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  is contained in a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup.

*Proof:* Let  $H \leq G$  be a  $p$ -subgroup. If  $H$  is not *properly* contained in any other  $p$ -subgroup, it is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup by definition.

Otherwise, it is contained in some  $p$ -subgroup  $H^1$ . Inductively this yields a chain  $H \subsetneq H^1 \subsetneq \dots$ , and by Zorn's lemma  $H := \bigcup_i H^i$  is maximal and thus a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup.

**Fratini's Argument:** If  $H \trianglelefteq G$  and  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ , then  $HN_G(P) = G$  and  $[G : H]$  divides  $|N_G(P)|$ .

## 1.4 Products

**Characterizing direct products:**  $G \cong H \times K$  when

- $G = HK = \{hk \mid h \in H, k \in K\}$
- $H \cap K = \{e\} \subset G$
- $H, K \trianglelefteq G$

Can relax to only  $H \trianglelefteq G$  to get a semidirect product instead

**Characterizing semidirect products:**  $G = N \rtimes_{\psi} H$  when

- $G = NH$
- $N \trianglelefteq G$
- $H \curvearrowright N$  by conjugation via a map

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : H &\rightarrow \text{Aut}(N) \\ h &\mapsto h(\cdot)h^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

*Lemma:* If  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(H)$ , then  $N \rtimes_{\psi} H \cong N \rtimes_{\psi \circ \sigma} H$ .

### Useful Facts

- $\text{Aut}\left(\prod_{k=1}^n \mathbb{Z}/(p)\right) = \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{Z}/(p))$ 
  - If this occurs in a semidirect product, it suffices to consider similarity classes of matrices (i.e. just use canonical forms)
- $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}_n) \cong (\mathbb{Z}^n)^{\times} \cong \mathbb{Z}^{\varphi(n)}$  where  $\varphi$  is the totient function.

## 1.5 Isomorphism Theorems

**Lemma:** If  $H, K \leq G$  and  $H \leq N_G(K)$  (or  $K \trianglelefteq G$ ) then  $HK \leq G$  is a subgroup.

**Diamond Theorem / 2nd Isomorphism Theorem:**

If  $S \leq G$  and  $N \trianglelefteq G$ , then

$$\frac{SN}{N} \cong \frac{S}{S \cap N}$$

Note: for this to make sense, we also have

- $SN \leq G$ ,
- $S \cap N \leq S$ ,

**Cancellation / 3rd Isomorphism Theorem**

Figure 1: Image

If  $H, K \trianglelefteq G$  with  $H \trianglelefteq K$ , then

$$\frac{G/H}{G/K} \cong \frac{G}{K}$$

Note: for this to make sense, we also have  $G/K \trianglelefteq G/H$ .

**The Correspondence Theorem / 4th Isomorphism Theorem:** Suppose  $N \trianglelefteq G$ , then there exists a correspondence:

$$\left\{ H < G \mid N \subseteq H \right\} \iff \left\{ H \mid H < \frac{G}{N} \right\}$$

$$\{\} \iff \{\}.$$

In words, subgroups of  $G$  containing  $N$  correspond to subgroups of the quotient group  $G/N$ . This is given by the map  $H \mapsto H/N$ .

Note:  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and  $N \subseteq H < G \implies N \trianglelefteq H$ .

## 1.6 Special Classes of Groups

**Definition:** The “**2 out of 3 property**” is satisfied by a class of groups  $\mathcal{C}$  iff whenever  $G \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $N, G/N \in \mathcal{C}$  for any  $N \trianglelefteq G$ .

**Definition:** If  $|G| = p^k$ , then  $G$  is a **p-group**.

**Lemmas:**

- p-groups have nontrivial centers



- Every normal subgroup is contained in the center
- Normalizers grow
- Every maximal is normal
- Every maximal has index  $p$
- $p$ -groups are *nilpotent*
- $p$ -groups are *solvable*

**Definition:** A group  $G$  is **simple** iff  $H \trianglelefteq G \implies H = \{e\}, G$ , i.e. it has no non-trivial proper subgroups.

**Lemma:** If  $G$  is *not* simple, then for any  $N \trianglelefteq G$ , it is the case that  $G \cong E$  for an extension of the form  $N \rightarrow E \rightarrow G/N$ .  $>$

**Definition:** A group  $G$  is **solvable** iff  $G$  has a terminating normal series with abelian factors, i.e.

$$G \rightarrow G^1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \{e\} \text{ with } G^i/G^{i+1} \text{ abelian for all } i.$$

**Lemmas:**

- $G$  is solvable iff  $G$  has a terminating *derived series*.
- Solvable groups satisfy the 2 out of 3 property
- Abelian  $\implies$  solvable
- Every group of order less than 60 is solvable.

**Definition:** A group  $G$  is **nilpotent** iff  $G$  has a terminating central series, upper central series, or lower central series.

Moral: the adjoint map is nilpotent.

**Lemma:** For  $G$  a finite group, TFAE:

- $G$  is nilpotent
- Normalizers grow (i.e.  $H < N_G(H)$  whenever  $H$  is proper)
- Every Sylow- $p$  subgroup is normal
- $G$  is the direct product of its Sylow  $p$ -subgroups
- Every maximal subgroup is normal
- $G$  has a terminating *Lower Central Series*
- $G$  has a terminating *Upper Central Series*

**Lemmas:**

- $G$  nilpotent  $\implies G$  solvable
- Nilpotent groups satisfy the 2 out of 3 property.
- $G$  has normal subgroups of order  $d$  for *every*  $d$  dividing  $|G|$
- $G$  nilpotent  $\implies Z(G) \neq 0$
- Abelian  $\implies$  nilpotent
- $p$ -groups  $\implies$  nilpotent

## 1.7 Series of Groups

**Definition:** A **normal series** of a group  $G$  is a sequence  $G \rightarrow G^1 \rightarrow G^2 \rightarrow \cdots$  such that  $G^{i+1} \trianglelefteq G_i$  for every  $i$ .

**Definition** A **composition series** of a group  $G$  is a finite normal series such that  $G^{i+1}$  is a *maximal proper* normal subgroup of  $G^i$ .

**Theorem (Jordan-Holder):** Any two composition series of a group have the same length and isomorphic factors (up to permutation).<sup>1</sup>

**Definition** A **derived series** of a group  $G$  is a normal series  $G \rightarrow G^1 \rightarrow G^2 \rightarrow \dots$  where  $G^{i+1} = [G^i, G^i]$  is the commutator subgroup.

The derived series terminates iff  $G$  is *solvable*.

**Definition:** A **central series** for a group  $G$  is a terminating normal series  $G \rightarrow G^1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \{e\}$  such that each quotient is **central**, i.e.  $[G, G^i] \leq G^{i-1}$  for all  $i$ .

**Definition:** A **lower central series** is a terminating normal series  $G \rightarrow G^1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \{e\}$  such that  $G^{i+1} = [G^i, G]$

Moral: Iterate the adjoint map  $[\cdot, G]$ .

$G$  is nilpotent  $\iff$  the LCS terminates.

**Definition:** An **upper central series** is a terminating normal series  $G \rightarrow G^1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \{e\}$  such that  $G^1 = Z(G)$  and  $G^{i+1}$  is defined such that  $G^{i+1}/G^i = Z(G^i)$ .

Moral: Iterate taking “higher centers”.

## 2 Rings

### 2.1 Definitions and Basics

**Definition:**  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a **prime ideal**  $\iff ab \in \mathfrak{p} \implies a \in \mathfrak{p} \text{ or } b \in \mathfrak{p}$ .

**Definition:**  $\text{Spec}(R) = \{\mathfrak{p} \trianglelefteq R \mid \mathfrak{p} \text{ is prime}\}$  is the **spectrum** of  $R$ .

**Definition:**  $\mathfrak{m}$  is **maximal**  $\iff I \triangleleft R \implies I \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$ .

**Definition:**  $\text{Spec}_{\max}(R) = \{\mathfrak{m} \trianglelefteq R \mid \mathfrak{m} \text{ is maximal}\}$  is the **max-spectrum** of  $R$ .

Note: nonstandard notation / definition.

**Lemma:** Field  $\implies$  Euclidean Domain  $\implies$  PID  $\implies$  UFD  $\implies$  Integral Domain.

### 2.2 Maximal and Prime Ideals

**Lemma:** Maximal  $\implies$  prime, but generally not the converse.

*Counterexample:*  $(0) \in \mathbb{Z}$  is prime since  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a domain, but not maximal since it is properly contained in any other ideal.

*Proof:* Suppose  $\mathfrak{m}$  is maximal,  $ab \in \mathfrak{m}$ , and  $b \notin \mathfrak{m}$ . Then there is a containment of ideals  $\mathfrak{m} \subsetneq \mathfrak{m} + (b) \implies \mathfrak{m} + (b) = R$ .  
So

$$1 = m + rb \implies a = am + r(ab),$$

but  $am \in \mathfrak{m}$  and  $ab \in \mathfrak{m} \implies a \in \mathfrak{m}$ . ■

**Lemma:** If  $x$  is not a unit, then  $x$  is contained in some maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ .

*Proof:* Zorn's lemma.

**Lemma:**  $R/\mathfrak{m}$  is a field  $\iff \mathfrak{m}$  is maximal.

**Lemma:**  $R/\mathfrak{p}$  is an integral domain  $\iff \mathfrak{p}$  is prime.

### 2.3 Nilradical and Jacobson Radical

**Definition:**  $\mathfrak{N} := \{x \in R \mid x^n = 0 \text{ for some } n\}$  is the **nilradical** of  $R$ .

**Lemma:** The nilradical is the intersection of all **prime** ideals, i.e.

$$\mathfrak{N}(R) = \bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec}(R)} \mathfrak{p}$$

*Proof:*

$$\mathfrak{N} \subseteq \bigcap \mathfrak{p}: x \in \mathfrak{N} \implies x^n = 0 \in \mathfrak{p} \implies x \in \mathfrak{p} \text{ or } x^{n-1} \in \mathfrak{p}.$$

$\mathfrak{N}^c \subseteq \bigcup \mathfrak{p}^c$ : Define  $S = \{I \trianglelefteq R \mid a^n \notin I \text{ for any } n\}$ . Then apply Zorn's lemma to get a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ , and maximal  $\implies$  prime.

**Lemma:**  $R/\mathfrak{N}(R)$  has no nonzero nilpotent elements.

*Proof:*

$$\begin{aligned} a + \mathfrak{N}(R) \text{ nilpotent} &\implies (a + \mathfrak{N}(R))^n := a^n + \mathfrak{N}(R) = \mathfrak{N}(R) \\ &\implies a^n \in \mathfrak{N}(R) \\ &\implies \exists \ell \text{ such that } (a^n)^\ell = 0 \\ &\implies a \in \mathfrak{N}(R). \end{aligned}$$

**Definition:** The **Jacobson radical** is the intersection of all **maximal** ideals, i.e.

$$J(R) = \bigcap_{\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spec}_{\max}} \mathfrak{m}$$

**Lemma:**  $\mathfrak{N}(R) \subseteq J(R)$ .

*Proof:* Maximal  $\implies$  prime, and so if  $x$  is in every prime ideal, it is necessarily in every maximal ideal as well.

## 2.4 Zorn's Lemma

**Lemma:** A field has no nontrivial proper ideals.

**Lemma:** If  $I \leq R$  is a proper ideal  $\iff I$  contains no units.

*Proof:*  $r \in R^\times \cap I \implies r^{-1}r \in I \implies 1 \in I \implies x \cdot 1 \in I \quad \forall x \in R.$

**Lemma:** If  $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq \dots$  are ideals then  $\bigcup_j I_j$  is an ideal.

**Example Application of Zorn's Lemma:** Every proper ideal is contained in a maximal ideal.

*Proof:* Let  $0 < I < R$  be a proper ideal, and consider the set

$$S = \left\{ J \mid I \subseteq J < R \right\}.$$

Note  $I \in S$ , so  $S$  is nonempty. The claim is that  $S$  contains a maximal element  $M$ .  $S$  is a poset, ordered by set inclusion, so if we can show that every chain has an upper bound, we can apply Zorn's lemma to produce  $M$ .

Let  $C \subseteq S$  be a chain in  $S$ , so  $C = \{C_1 \subseteq C_2 \subseteq \dots\}$  and define  $\hat{C} = \bigcup_i C_i$ .

**$\hat{C}$  is an upper bound for  $C$ :**

This follows because every  $C_i \subseteq \hat{C}$ .

**$\hat{C}$  is in  $S$ :**

Use the fact that  $I \subseteq C_i < R$  for every  $C_i$  and since no  $C_i$  contains a unit,  $\hat{C}$  doesn't contain a unit, and is thus proper. ■

## 2.5 Unsorted

**Lemma:** Every  $a \in R$  for a finite ring is either a unit or a zero divisor.

*Proof:* Let  $a \in R$  and define  $\phi(x) = ax$ . If  $\phi$  is injective, then it is surjective, so  $1 = ax$  for some  $x \implies x^{-1} = a$ . Otherwise,  $ax_1 = ax_2$  with  $x_1 \neq x_2 \implies a(x_1 - x_2) = 0$  and  $x_1 - x_2 \neq 0$ , so  $a$  is a zero divisor.

## 3 Fields

**Lemma:** Let  $\phi_n := x^{p^n} - x$ . Then  $f(x) \mid \phi_n(x) \iff \deg f \mid n$  and  $f$  is irreducible.

(So  $\phi_n = \prod f_i(x)$  over all irreducible monic  $f_i$  of degree  $d$  dividing  $n$ .)

*Proof:*

$\Leftarrow :$

Suppose  $f$  is irreducible of degree  $d$ . Then  $f \mid x^{p^d} - x$  (consider  $F[x]/\langle f \rangle$ ) and  $x^{p^d} - x \mid x^{p^n} -$

$x \iff d \mid n$ .

$\Rightarrow :$

- $\alpha \in \mathbb{GF}(p^n) \iff \alpha^{p^n} - \alpha = 0$ , so every element is a root of  $\phi_n$  and  $\deg \min(\alpha, \mathbb{F}_p) \mid n$  since  $\mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$  is an intermediate extension.
- So if  $f$  is an irreducible factor of  $\phi_n$ ,  $f$  is the minimal polynomial of some root  $\alpha$  of  $\phi_n$ , so  $\deg f \mid n$ .  
 $\phi'_n(x) = p^n x^{p^n-1} \neq 0$ , so  $\phi_n$  has distinct roots and thus no repeated factors. So  $\phi_n$  is the product of all such irreducible  $f$ .

### 3.1 Cyclotomic Polynomials

**Definition:** Let  $\zeta_n = e^{2\pi i/n}$ , then

$$\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ (k,n)=1}}^n (x - \zeta_n^k)$$

**Corollary:**  $\deg \Phi_n(x) = \phi(n)$  for  $\phi$  the totient function.

**Computing  $\Phi_n$ :**

1.

$$\Phi_n(z) = \prod_{d \mid n, d > 0} (z^d - 1)^{\mu(\frac{n}{d})}$$

where

$$\mu(n) \equiv \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \text{ has one or more repeated prime factors} \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ (-1)^k & \text{if } n \text{ is a product of } k \text{ distinct primes,} \end{cases}$$

2.

$$x^n - 1 = \prod_{d \mid n} \Phi_d(x) \implies \Phi_n(x) = \frac{x^n - 1}{\prod_{\substack{d \mid n \\ d < n}} \Phi_d(x)},$$

so just use polynomial long division.

**Lemma:**

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_p(x) &= x^{p-1} + x^{p-2} + \dots + x + 1 \\ \Phi_{2p}(x) &= x^{p-1} - x^{p-2} + \dots - x + 1. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma:**

$$k \mid n \implies \Phi_{nk}(x) = \Phi_n(x^k)$$

**Theorem:**  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/(n)^\times$  and is generated by maps of the form  $\zeta_n \mapsto \zeta_n^j$  where  $(j, n) = 1$ .

### 3.2 Finite Fields

**Theorem:**  $\mathbb{GF}(p^n)$  is obtained as  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_p}{\langle f \rangle}$  where  $f \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  is irreducible of degree  $n$ .

**Eisenstein's Criterion:** If  $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i x^i \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  and  $\exists p$  such that

- $p \nmid a_n$  but  $p \mid a_{i \neq n}$ , and
- $p^2 \nmid a_0$ ,

then  $f$  is irreducible.

### 3.3 Galois Theory

**Definition:** A field extension  $L/k$  is **algebraic** iff every  $\alpha \in L$  is the root of some  $f \in k[x]$ .

**Definition:** A field extension  $L/k$  is **normal** iff

- Every embedding  $\sigma : L \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$  that is a lift of the identity over  $k$  satisfies  $\sigma(L) = L$ .
- Every irreducible  $f \in k[x]$  that has one root in  $L$  has all of its roots in  $L$
- If  $L$  is separable:  $L$  is the splitting field of some irreducible  $f \in k[x]$ .

**Definition:** A field extension  $L/k$  is **separable** iff

- For every  $\alpha \in L$ ,  $f(x) := \min(\alpha, k)$  equivalently has
  - No repeated factors/roots
  - $f' \neq 0$ , or
  - $\gcd(f, f') = 1$ .

**Lemma:** If  $\text{char } k = 0$  or  $k$  is finite, then every *algebraic* extension  $L/k$  is separable.

**Definition:** Let  $L/k$  be a finite field extension. TFAE:

- $L/k$  is **Galois**
- $L/k$  is normal and separable.
- $L/k$  is the splitting field of a separable polynomial
- $|\text{Aut}(L/k)| = [L : k]$

**Lemmas about towers:** Let  $L/F/k$  be a tower of field extensions

- $L/k$  normal  $\implies L/F$  normal.
- $L/k$  Galois  $\implies L/F$  Galois.
- $F/k$  is Galois  $\iff \text{Gal}(L/F) \trianglelefteq \text{Gal}(L/k)$ 
  - $\implies \text{Gal}(F/k) \cong \frac{\text{Gal}(L/k)}{\text{Gal}(L/F)}$
- **Every** quadratic extension is Galois.

## 4 Modules

**Lemma:**  $I \trianglelefteq R$  is a free  $R$ -module iff  $I$  is a principal ideal.

$\implies :$

Suppose  $I$  is free as an  $R$ -module, and let  $B = \{\mathbf{m}_j\}_{j \in J} \subseteq I$  be a basis so we can write  $M = \langle B \rangle$ .

Suppose that  $|B| \geq 2$ , so we can pick at least 2 basis elements  $\mathbf{m}_1 \neq \mathbf{m}_2$ , and consider

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{m}_1 \mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_2 \mathbf{m}_1,$$

which is also an element of  $M$ .

Since  $R$  is an integral domain,  $R$  is commutative, and so

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{m}_1 \mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_2 \mathbf{m}_1 = \mathbf{m}_1 \mathbf{m}_2 - \mathbf{m}_1 \mathbf{m}_2 = \mathbf{0}_M$$

However, this exhibits a linear dependence between  $\mathbf{m}_1$  and  $\mathbf{m}_2$ , namely that there exist  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \neq 0_R$  such that  $\alpha_1 \mathbf{m}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{m}_2 = \mathbf{0}_M$ ; this follows because  $M \subset R$  means that we can take  $\alpha_1 = -m_2, \alpha_2 = m_1$ . This contradicts the assumption that  $B$  was a basis, so we must have  $|B| = 1$  and so  $B = \{\mathbf{m}\}$  for some  $\mathbf{m} \in I$ . But then  $M = \langle B \rangle = \langle \mathbf{m} \rangle$  is generated by a single element, so  $M$  is principal.

$\Longleftarrow :$

Suppose  $M \trianglelefteq R$  is principal, so  $M = \langle \mathbf{m} \rangle$  for some  $\mathbf{m} \neq \mathbf{0}_M \in M \subset R$ .

Then  $x \in M \implies x = \alpha \mathbf{m}$  for some element  $\alpha \in R$  and we just need to show that  $\alpha \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{0}_M \implies \alpha = 0_R$  in order for  $\{\mathbf{m}\}$  to be a basis for  $M$ , making  $M$  a free  $R$ -module.

But since  $M \subset R$ , we have  $\alpha, m \in R$  and  $\mathbf{0}_M = 0_R$ , and since  $R$  is an integral domain, we have  $\alpha m = 0_R \implies \alpha = 0_R$  or  $m = 0_R$ .

Since  $m \neq 0_R$ , this forces  $\alpha = 0_R$ , which allows  $\{m\}$  to be a linearly independent set and thus a basis for  $M$  as an  $R$ -module. ■

## 5 Linear Algebra

### 5.1 Minimal / Characteristic Polynomial

Finding the minimal polynomial  $m(x)$  of  $A$ :

1. Find the characteristic polynomial  $\chi(x)$ ; this annihilates  $A$  by Cayley-Hamilton. Then  $m(x) \mid \chi(x)$ , so just test the finitely many products of irreducible factors.
2. Pick any  $\mathbf{v}$  and compute  $T\mathbf{v}, T^2\mathbf{v}, \dots, T^k\mathbf{v}$  until a linear dependence is introduced. Write this as  $p(T) = 0$ ; then  $\chi(x) \mid p(x)$ .

### 5.2 Simultaneous Diagonalizability

**Lemma:**  $\{A_i\}$  pairwise commute  $\iff$  they are all simultaneously diagonalizable.

*Proof:* By induction on number of operators

- $A_n$  is diagonalizable, so  $V = \bigoplus E_i$  a sum of eigenspaces
- Restrict all  $n - 1$  operators  $A$  to  $E_n$ .
- The commuted in  $V$  so they commute in  $E_n$
- **(Lemma)** They were diagonalizable in  $V$ , so they're diagonalizable in  $E_n$
- So they're simultaneously diagonalizable by I.H.
- But these eigenvectors for the  $A_i$  are all in  $E_n$ , so they're eigenvectors for  $A_n$  too.
- Can do this for each eigenspace. ■

Full details here

### 5.3 Characterizations of Diagonalizability

Let  $\min_M(x)$  denote the minimal polynomial of  $A$  and  $\chi_M(x)$  the characteristic polynomial.

**Lemma:**

$$\chi_M(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k (x - \lambda_i)^{m_i} \implies \min_M(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k (x - \lambda_i)^{\ell_i} \text{ where } 1 \leq \ell_i \leq m_i,$$

where  $\lambda_i$  are eigenvalues of  $M$ ,  $m_i$  is the multiplicity of  $\lambda_i$ .

*Proof:* Since  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed,  $p_M$  splits into linear factors where  $\sum m_i = n$ . By Cayley-Hamilton,  $p_M$  annihilates  $M$ , and so by definition,  $\mu_M$  divides  $p_M$ . Finally, every  $\lambda_i$  is a root of  $\mu_M$ : let  $\mathbf{v}_i$  be the eigenvector associated to  $\lambda_i$ , so  $\mathbf{v}_i \neq \mathbf{0}$  and  $M\mathbf{v}_i = \lambda_i\mathbf{v}_i$ . Then by linearity  $\mu_M(\lambda_i)\mathbf{v}_i = \mu_M(M)\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$ , which forces  $\mu_M(\lambda_i) = 0$ .

**Lemma:**

$$M \text{ is diagonalizable over } \mathbb{F} \iff \min_M(x) \text{ splits into distinct linear factors over } \mathbb{F}.$$

(Equivalently, iff all of the roots of  $\min_M$  lie in  $\mathbb{F}$ )

*Proof:*

$\implies$ :

If  $M$  is diagonalizable, its domain has a basis of eigenvectors. So if  $\mathbf{x} \in \text{domain}(M)$ ,  $\mathbf{v} =$

$\sum \alpha_i \mathbf{v}_i$  where  $\mathbf{v}_i$  are eigenvectors. Then  $q(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k (x - \lambda_i)$  annihilates  $M$ , because we have

$$q(M)\mathbf{w} = q(M) \sum_i \alpha_i \mathbf{v}_i = \sum_i \alpha_i \prod_j (M - I\lambda_j) \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$$

where the last equality follows because  $(M - I\lambda_i)\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$  and for each  $i$ , a factor of  $(M - I\lambda_i)$  in the product will annihilate  $\mathbf{v}_i$ . By minimality,  $\mu_M$  must divide  $q$ , but we must have  $k \leq \deg \mu_M \leq n$ , so this forces  $\deg \mu_M = k$ . But then we have two monic polynomials of degree  $k$  with the same roots, forcing them to be identical.

$\impliedby$ : Longer proof, omitted.



## 5.4 Canonical Forms

Fix  $T : V \rightarrow V$ , and decompositions

$$V = \bigoplus_{j=1}^n \frac{k[x]}{(f_j)} \quad (\text{invariant factors}).$$

Fix some notation:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_T(x) : & \quad \text{The characteristic polynomial of } A \\ \min_T(x) : & \quad \text{The minimal polynomial of } A. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition:** Two matrices  $A, B$  are **similar** (i.e.  $A = PBP^{-1}$ )  $\iff A, B$  have the same JCF

**Definition:** Two matrices  $A, B$  are **equivalent** (i.e.  $A = PBQ$ )  $\iff$

- They have the same rank,
- They have the same invariant factors, *and*
- They have the same JCF

### 5.4.1 Rational Canonical Form

Corresponds to the **Invariant Factor Decomposition** of  $T$

**Derivation:**

- Let  $k[x] \curvearrowright V$  using  $T$ , take invariant factors  $a_i$ ,
- Note that  $T \curvearrowright V$  by multiplication by  $x$
- Write  $\bar{x} = \pi(x)$  where  $F[x] \xrightarrow{\pi} F[x]/(a_i)$ ; then  $\text{span}\{\bar{x}\} = F[x]/(a_i)$ .
- Write  $a_i(x) = \sum b_i x^i$ , note that  $V \rightarrow F[x]$  pushes  $T \curvearrowright V$  to  $T \curvearrowright k[x]$  by multiplication by  $\bar{x}$
- WRT the basis  $\bar{x}$ ,  $T$  then acts via the companion matrix on this summand.
- Each invariant factor corresponds to a block of the RCF.

**Lemma:** For a linear operator on a vector space of nonzero finite dimension, TFAE:

- The minimal polynomial is equal to the characteristic polynomial.
- The list of invariant factors has length one.
- The Rational Canonical Form has a single block.
- The operator has a matrix similar to a companion matrix.
- There exists a *cyclic vector*  $v$  such that  $\text{span}_k\{T^j \mathbf{v} \mid j = 1, 2, \dots\} = V$ .
- $T$  has  $\dim V$  distinct eigenvalues

### 5.4.2 Jordan Canonical Form

Corresponds to the **Elementary Divisor Decomposition** of  $T$

**Derivation** Todo

**Facts:**

- The following can be read directly off of the invariant factor decomposition:
  - The minimal polynomial is the *invariant factor of highest degree*, i.e.

$$\min_T(x) = f_n(x).$$

- The characteristic polynomial is the *product of the invariant factors*, i.e.

$$\chi_T(x) = \prod_{j=1}^n f_j(x).$$

- Both  $\min_T(x)$  and  $\chi_T(x)$  have roots precisely the eigenvalues of  $T$ , with potentially different multiplicities.
- Writing

$$\begin{aligned}\min_A(x) &= \prod (x - \lambda_i)^{a_i} \\ \chi_A(x) &= \prod (x - \lambda_i)^{b_i}\end{aligned}$$

then  $a_i \leq b_i$ , and

- $a_i$  tells you the size of the **largest** Jordan block associated to  $\lambda_i$ ,
- $b_i$  is the **sum of sizes** of all Jordan blocks associated to  $\lambda_i$
- $\dim E_{\lambda_i}$  is the **number of Jordan blocks** associated to  $\lambda_i$
- The elementary divisors of  $A$  are the minimal polynomials of the Jordan blocks.
- For characteristic polynomials

$$p(x) = \det(A - xI) = \det(SNF(A - xI)).$$

- ? Invariant factors of  $A$  are the invariant factors of  $\$xI$
- $A\$$  over  $k[x]$ , and  $\prod a_i = \det(xI - A)$ .