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# Chapter 1

## Unique Factorization

### 1.1 Unique Factorization in $\mathbb{Z}$

It will be more convenient to work with  $\mathbb{Z}$  rather than restricting ourselves to the positive integers. The notion of divisibility carries over with no difficulty to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . If  $p$  is a positive prime,  $-p$  will also be a prime. We shall not consider 1 or  $-1$  as primes even though they fit the definition. This is simply a useful convention. They are called the units of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

There are a number of simple properties of division that we shall simply list.

1.  $a \mid a, a \neq 0$ .
2. If  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid a$ , then  $a = \pm b$ .
3. If  $a \mid b$  and  $b \mid c$ , then  $a \mid c$ .
4. If  $a \mid b$  and  $a \mid c$ , then  $a \mid (b + c)$ .

**Lemma 1** Every nonzero integer can be written as a product of primes.

**Theorem 1.1.1** For every nonzero integer  $n$  there is a prime factorization

$$n = (-1)^{\epsilon(n)} \prod_p p^{a(p)},$$

with the exponents uniquely determined by  $n$ . In fact, we have  $a(p) = \text{ord}_p n$ .

The proof of this theorem is not as easy as it may seem. We shall postpone the proof until we have established a few preliminary results.

**Lemma 2** If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \geq 0$ , there exist  $q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = qb + r$  with  $0 \leq r < b$ .

**Definition 1.1.1** If  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we define  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  to be the set of all integers of the form  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \dots + a_nx_n$  with  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Remark 1.1.1** Let  $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ . Notice that the sum and difference of two elements in  $A$  are again in  $A$ . Also, if  $a \in A$  and  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $ra \in A$ , i.e.,  $A$  is an ideal in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 3** If  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then there is a  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(a, b) = (d)$

**Definition 1.1.2** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . An integer  $d$  is called a greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  if  $d$  is a divisor of both  $a$  and  $b$  and if every other common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  divides  $d$ .

**Remark 1.1.2** The gcd of two numbers, if it exists, is determined up to sign.

**Lemma 4** Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $(a, b) = (d)$  then  $d$  is a greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ .

**Definition 1.1.3** We say that two integers  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime if the only common divisors are  $\pm 1$ , the units.

It's fairly standard to use the notation  $(a, b)$  for the greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ . With this convention we can say that  $a$  and  $b$  are relatively prime if  $(a, b) = 1$ .

**Proposition 1.1.2** Suppose that  $a \mid bc$  and that  $(a, b) = 1$ . Then  $a \mid c$ .

**Corollary 1.1.3** If  $p$  is a prime and  $p \mid bc$ , then either  $p \mid b$  or  $p \mid c$ .

**Corollary 1.1.4** Suppose that  $p$  is a prime and that  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $\text{ord}_p ab = \text{ord}_p a + \text{ord}_p b$ .

## 1.2 Unique Factorizaion in a Principal Ideal Domain

For this section, we mostly refer to Section 1.5 and supply some details.

### 1.3 Unique Factorization in $k[x]$

In this section we consier the ring  $k[x]$  of polynomials with coefficients in a field  $k$ . If  $f, g \in k[x]$ , we say that  $f$  divides  $g$  if there is an  $h \in k[x]$  such that  $g = fh$ .

If  $\deg f$  denotes the degree of  $f$ , we have  $\deg fg = \deg f + \deg g$  (why? Because a field  $k$  is necessarily an integral domain). nonzeros constants are the units of  $k[x]$ . A nonconstant polynomial  $p$  is said to be irreducible if  $q \mid p \implies q$  is either a constant or a constant times  $p$ .

**Lemma 5** Every nonconstant polynomial is the product of irreducible polynomials.

*Proof.* Simply by induction. ■

**Definition 1.3.1** A polynomial  $f$  is called monic if its leading coefficient is 1.

**Definition 1.3.2** Let  $p$  be a monic irreducible polynomial. We define  $\text{ord}_p f$  to be the integer  $a$  defined by the property that  $p^a \mid f$  but that  $p^{a+1} \nmid f$ .

**Remark 1.3.1**  $\text{ord}_p f = 0$  iff  $p \nmid f$ .

**Theorem 1.3.1** Let  $f \in k[x]$ . Then we can write

$$f = c \prod_p p^{a(p)},$$

where the product is over all monic irreducible polynomials and  $c$  is a constant. The constant  $c$  and the exponents  $a(p)$  are uniquely determined by  $f$ ; in fact,  $a(p) = \text{ord}_p f$ .

The existence of such a product follows immediately from Lemma 5. The uniqueness part is more difficult and will be postponed.

**Lemma 6** Let  $f, g \in k[x]$ . If  $g \neq 0$ , there exist polynomials  $h, r \in k[x]$  such that  $f = hg + r$ , where either  $r = 0$  or  $r \neq 0$  and  $\deg r < \deg g$ .

*Proof.* If  $g \mid f$ , we are done. If  $g \nmid f$ , let  $r = f - hg$  be the polynomial of least degree among all polynomials of the form  $f - lg$  with  $l \in k[x]$ . We claim that  $\deg r < \deg g$ . If not, let the leading term of  $r$  be  $ax^d$  and that  $g$  be  $bx^m$ . Then  $r - \frac{a}{b}x^{d-m}g(x) = f - (h + \frac{a}{b}x^{d-m})g$  has smaller degree than  $r$  and is of the given form. This is a contradiction. ■

**Lemma 7** Given  $f, g \in k[x]$  there is a  $d \in k[x]$  such that  $(f, g) = (d)$ .

*Proof.* See Theorem 1.6.1. ■

**Definition 1.3.3** Let  $f, g \in k[x]$ . Then  $d \in k[x]$  is said to be a greatest common divisor of  $f$  and  $g$  if  $d$  divides  $f$  and  $g$  and every common divisor of  $f$  and  $g$  divides  $d$ .

**Remark 1.3.2** Notice that the greatest common divisor of two polynomials is determined up to multiplication by a constant. If we require it to be monic, it is uniquely determined and we may speak of the greatest common divisor.

**Lemma 8** Let  $f, g \in k[x]$  By lemma 7 there is a  $d \in k[x]$  such that  $(f, g) = (d)$ .  $d$  is the greatest common divisor of  $f$  and  $g$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f \in (d)$  and  $g \in (d)$  we have  $d \mid f$  and  $d \mid g$ . Suppose that  $h \mid f$  and that  $h \mid g$ . Then  $h$  divides every elements in  $(f, g) = (d)$ . In particular  $h \mid d$ , we are done. ■

**Definition 1.3.4** Two polynomial  $f$  and  $g$  are said to be relatively prime if the only common divisor of  $f$  and  $g$  are constants. In other words,  $(f, g) = (1)$ .

**Proposition 1.3.2** If  $f$  and  $g$  are relatively prime and  $f \mid gh$ , then  $f \mid h$ .

**Corollary 1.3.3** If  $p$  is an irreducible polynomial and  $p \mid fg$ , then  $p \mid g$  or  $p \mid f$ .

**Corollary 1.3.4** If  $p$  is a monic irreducible polynomial and  $f, g \in k[x]$ , we have

$$\text{ord}_p fg = \text{ord}_p f + \text{ord}_p g.$$

Using these tools, we can prove the uniqueness of factorizaion.

## 1.4 Class Notes 17-01-10

For us, ring means commutative ring with identity.

**Definition 1.4.1** A *ring* is a set with two binary operations  $(+, \cdot)$  satisfying

1.  $(R, +)$  is an *abelian group*, which means
  - $+$  is commutative and associative.
  - $\exists 0_R, a = a + 0_R = 0_R + a$  for all  $a \in R$ .
  - Given  $a \in R$ ,  $\exists a' \in R$  such that  $a + a' = 0_R$ .
2.  $\cdot$  is commutative and associative.
  - $\exists 1_R$  such that  $a \cdot 1_R = 1_R \cdot a = a$  for all  $a \in R$ .
3.  $\cdot$  is distributive over addition, which means
  - $a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$
  - $(a + b) \cdot c = a \cdot c + b \cdot c$

### Exercise 1.4.1

1. Show that  $a + b = a + c \Rightarrow b = c$ . (Cancellation)

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned}
 a + b = a + c &\Leftrightarrow a' + (a + b) = a' + (a + c) \\
 &\Leftrightarrow (a' + a) + b = (a' + a) + c \\
 &\Leftrightarrow 0_R + b = 0_R + c \\
 &\Leftrightarrow b = c
 \end{aligned}$$

■

2. Show  $a'$  is unique. We denote this  $a'$  by  $-a$ .

*Proof.* if the statement doesn't hold, then there exist  $a', a''$  such that  $a + a' = 0_R = a + a''$ . We then apply cancellation and get  $a' = a''$ . ■

3. Show  $0_R$  is unique.

*Proof.* Say there are two zero element  $0_R$  and  $0'_R$ , then we have

$$0_R = 0_R + 0'_R = 0'_R$$

■

4. Show  $1_R$  is unique.

*Proof.* Say there are two unit element  $1_R$  and  $1'_R$ , then we have

$$1_R = 1_R \cdot 1'_R = 1'_R$$

■

5. Show  $a \cdot 0_R = 0_R \cdot a = 0_R$

*Proof.* We know that  $a \cdot 0_R + a = a \cdot (0_R + 1_R) = a \cdot 1_R = a = 0_R + a$ , apply cancellation then we are done. ■

6. Show that  $(-1_R) \cdot a = -a$ .

*Proof.* Since  $a \cdot 0_R = 0_R$ , we have  $a \cdot (1_R + (-1_R)) = 0_R$  or  $a + (-1_R) \cdot a = 0_R$ . Then  $-a = (-1_R) \cdot a$ , for  $a'$  is unique. ■

7. The zero ring is the ring with 1 element. Show  $R$  is zero ring  $\Leftrightarrow 1_R = 0_R$ .

*Proof.*

“ $\Rightarrow$ ”: Trivial.

“ $\Leftarrow$ ”: Since we have  $a \cdot 1_R = 1_R \cdot a = a$  for all  $a \in R$  and  $1_R = 0_R$ , we have  $0_R = a \cdot 0_R = a$  for all  $a \in R$ . ■

8. Does cancellation hold for  $\cdot$ ?

*Sol.* No. Consider  $a \cdot b = a \cdot c$  and  $a \neq 0_R$ , then  $a \cdot (b - c) = 0_R$ . So if  $R$  is an *integral domain*, then we can apply cancellation of non-zero element.

**Definition 1.4.2**  $R$  is said to be an *integral domain* if

$$a \cdot b = 0 \iff a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0.$$

**Definition 1.4.3**  $R$  is said to be a *field* if every non-zero element in  $R$  has a multiplication inverse.

**Exercise 1.4.2**

1. If  $R$  is an integral domain, then we can apply cancellation of non-zero element.
2. Show that every field is an integral domain.

*Proof.* If  $a \cdot b = 0$  and  $a \neq 0_R$ , let  $a'$  be the multiplication inverse of  $a$ , then  $b = 1_R \cdot b = a' \cdot a \cdot b = a' \cdot 0_R = 0$ . ■

3. Check that  $a^{-1}$  is unique.

*Proof.* If  $a^{-1}$  and  $a'$  are both multiplication inverse of  $a$ , then  $a \cdot a^{-1} = a \cdot a' = 1_R$ . Apply cancellation of non-zero element, we have  $a' = a^{-1}$ . ■

**Remark 1.4.1** Though every field is an integral domain, not every integral domain is a field. For example,  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain but not a field.

**Ways to make new rings:**

Let  $R$  be an integral domain, how to construct a new ring?

Let  $K = \{(a, b), a, b \in R, b \neq 0\}$ . We also define an equivalent relation  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  if  $ad = bc$ .

- Check this is an equivalent class.
  - $(a, b) = (a, b)$
  - if  $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  and  $(c, d) \sim (e, f)$ , then  $(a, b) \sim (e, f)$
- We define
  - $(a, b) + (c, d) = (ad + bc, bd)$
  - $(a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac, bd)$

Check these two operation pass to equivalent class.

- $0_K = [(0, 1_R)]$ ,  $1_K = [(1_R, 1_R)]$

**Definition 1.4.4** If  $R, S$  are two rings, a homomorphism  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  is a map such that

1.  $\phi(1_R) = 1_S$ .
2.  $\phi(a + b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b)$ .
3.  $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$ .

An isomorphism is a homomorphism that is both injective and surjective.

$\phi : R \rightarrow S, a \mapsto [(a, 1_R)]$  is an injective homomorphism. For example, we have  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Remark 1.4.2** If  $R$  is a field, then the homomorphism is isomorphism, i.e.,  $\phi$  is also surjective. Because for any  $[(a, b)] \in K$ , we have  $\phi(ab^{-1}) = [(ab^{-1}, 1)] = [(a, b)]$ .

**Ways to kill elements:**

**Definition 1.4.5** An ideal  $I$  in  $R$  is a non-empty subset such that

1.  $I$  is closed under addition.
2.  $I$  is closed under multiplication by arbitrary elt in  $R$ .

Note that  $(I, +) \subset (R, +)$  is an abelian subgroup.

**■ Example 1**

- $(0)$  is an ideal.
- $R$  itself is an ideal.
- if  $a \in R$ , the  $R \cdot a$  is an ideal, denoted by  $(a)_R$ .
- $n\mathbb{Z}$  is an ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Quotient Ring:** Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal.  $R/I =$  coset of  $I$  in  $R = \{a + I, a \in R\}$ , we define

1.  $(a + I) \oplus (b + I) = (a + b) + I$ .
2.  $(a + I) \odot (b + I) = ab + I$ .

with zero elt  $(0 + I)$  and identity elt  $(1 + I)$ .

## 1.5 Class Notes 17-01-12

**Definition 1.5.1** A non-zero element in  $\mathbb{R}$  is called a unit if  $\exists v \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $uv = 1_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

**Definition 1.5.2** Two element  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  are said to be associative if  $\exists u \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $u$  is a unit, such that  $a = bu$ , denoted by  $a \sim b$ .

**Definition 1.5.3** A non-zero element  $\pi$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is said to be irreducible if  $\pi$  is not a unit and if  $a \mid \pi \Rightarrow a$  is a unit or  $a$  is associative of  $\pi$ .

**Definition 1.5.4** A non-zero element in  $\mathbb{R}$  is said to be prime if  $\pi$  is not a unit and  $\pi \mid ab \Rightarrow \pi \mid a$  or  $\pi \mid b$ ,  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Proposition 1.5.1** If  $\pi$  is a prime, then  $\pi$  is irreducible.

*Proof.* Let  $\pi$  be a prime, suppose  $a \mid \pi$ , then  $\pi = ab$  for some  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Thus  $\pi \mid ab$  and by definition,  $\pi \mid a$  or  $\pi \mid b$ .

- If  $\pi \mid a$ , then  $a \sim \pi$ .
- If  $\pi \mid b$ , then  $a \sim 1$ .

■

**Remark 1.5.1** A irreducible is not necessary to be a prime.

Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}] = \{a + b\sqrt{-5} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ . We have

$$6 = 2 \cdot 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5}) \cdot (1 - \sqrt{-5}).$$

We write  $\pi = (1 + \sqrt{-5})$  and claim that  $2, 3, \pi, \bar{\pi}$  are irreducibles but none of them are associative of each other.

We define the norm function  $N : R \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $N(\alpha) = \alpha\bar{\alpha}$ , i.e., if  $\alpha = a + bi$ , then  $N(\alpha) = a^2 + 5b^2$ . We notice that

- If  $\alpha > 0$ , then  $N(\alpha) > 0$ .
- $N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$ .

Check: 2 is irreducible:

Find unit:

$N(uv) = N(1) = 1 = N(u)N(v) \Rightarrow N(u) = N(v) = 1$ . But  $a^2 + 5b^2 = 1 \Rightarrow a = \pm 1, b = 0$ .

Suppose  $2 = \alpha\beta$ , then  $4 = N(2) = N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$ .

1. If  $N(\alpha) = 1, N(\beta) = 4$   
Then  $\alpha$  is a unit  $\Rightarrow 2$  is irreducible.
2. If  $N(\alpha) = 2, N(\beta) = 2$   
Then  $a^2 + 5b^2 = 2$  has no solution.

**Definition 1.5.5** An UFD (Unique Factorization Domain) is an integral domain  $R$  in which every non-zero element (up to unit) factors uniquely into a product of irreducibles.

**Proposition 1.5.2** Let  $R$  be a domain in which factorization (of irreducibles) exists. Then  $R$  is a UFD  $\Leftrightarrow$  every irreducible in  $R$  is prime.

*Proof.*

“ $\Leftarrow$ ” : Let  $a$  be an element of  $R$  and  $a \neq 0$ . If  $a = \pi_1\pi_2 \cdots \pi_n = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_m$  are two factorizations. Since  $\pi_1$  is prime,  $\pi_1 \mid \sigma_i$  for some  $i$ . By rearranging, we may assume  $\pi_1 \mid \sigma_1$ . Thus  $\pi_1 \sim \sigma_1$ . Repeating this process, we can conclude that the two factorizations are the same.

\*\*\*\*\*Not Complete\*\*\*\*\*



**Remark 1.5.2** There are clearly rings such that no factorization exists. For example, consider the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[2^{1/2}, 2^{1/4}, 2^{1/8}, \dots] \subset \mathbb{R}$ . It's the smallest subring of  $\mathbb{R}$  that contains  $2^{1/2}, 2^{1/4}, \dots$

**Definition 1.5.6** A ring  $R$  is said to be noetherian if it satisfies any of the following equivalent conditions:

1. Any ascending chain of ideals in  $R$  terminates.  
Namely,  $I_1 \subset I_2 \subset I_3 \subset \dots \Rightarrow I_n = I_{n+1} = \dots$  for some  $n$ .
2. Any ideal  $I$  in  $R$  is finite generated.  
Namely,  $I = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  for some  $n$ .

*Proof.*

"1.  $\Rightarrow$  2.": Let  $I$  be an ideal, if  $I \neq 0$ , pick  $a_1 \in I, a_1 \neq 0$ , clearly  $(a_1) \subset I$ . If  $(a_1) = I$ , we are done, If not,  $\exists a_2 \in I \setminus (a_1) \Rightarrow (a_1, a_2) \subset I$ , this chain terminates.

"1.  $\Leftarrow$  2.": Suppose  $I_1 \subset I_2 \subset \dots$  be an ascending ideal. Let  $I = \cup I_n$ , we claim that  $I$  is an ideal. Let  $a, b \in I$ , then there exists  $n$  such that  $a, b \in I_n$ . Therefore  $a + b \in I_n$ , and  $a + b \in I$ . Let  $a \in I$ , then  $a \in I_n$  for some  $n$ . Therefore  $ra \in I_n \Rightarrow ra \in I$ . Thus  $I$  is an ideal. But  $I = (a_1, \dots, a_m)$ , so there exists  $n$ , such that  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in I_n$ . Thus  $I = I_n$  and  $I_n = I_{n+1} = \dots$ . ■

**Exercise 1.5.1** Suppose  $R$  is a Noetherian domain, show  $R$  admits factorizations.

*Proof.* If  $b$  is not irreducible, then  $b = ac$  or  $(b) \subset (a)$

\*\*\*\*\*Not Complete\*\*\*\*\*

**Definition 1.5.7** A PID (Principle Ideal Domain) is a domain in which every ideal is generated by a single element.

**Theorem 1.5.3** Every PID is a UFD.

*Proof.* Let  $R$  be a PID, then it's noetherian. So factorizations exist. So it suffices to show that every irreducible is a prime. Let  $\pi$  be a irreducible in  $R$ . Suppose  $\pi \mid ab$  and  $a$  is not divided by  $\pi$ . We look at  $I = (a, \pi)$ , there exists  $c \in R$ , such that  $I = (c)$ . Thus we have  $c \mid \pi, c \mid a$ . So  $c \sim 1$  or  $c \sim \pi$ . Since  $c$  is not associative of  $\pi$ ,  $c$  is associative of 1. But then

$$1 = ax + \pi y$$

for some  $x, y \in R$ . So  $b = abx + \pi by$  or  $\pi \mid b$ . ■

## 1.6 Class Notes 17-01-17

■ **Example 2**  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a PID.

**Remark 1.6.1** Any ideal  $I \subset \mathbb{Z}$  is of the form of  $n\mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.*  $\forall I \subset \mathbb{Z}$ , if  $I = (0)$ , we are done. If  $I$  is not zero ideal, let  $n$  be the smallest positive element in  $I$ . We claim:  $I = n\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $b \in I$ , then  $b = nq + r$ , where  $0 \leq r < n$ . But  $r = b - nq \Rightarrow r \in I \Rightarrow r = 0$ . Therefore  $b = nq$ . ■

If  $K$  is a field, let  $R = k[x]$  = polynomial in variable  $x$  over the field  $K$ . What are the units in  $R$ ? For arbitrary  $f(x), g(x) \in K[x]$ , if  $f(x)g(x) = 1$ , we claim that  $f(x), g(x)$  must be constant polynomial. For if we write  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots$ ,  $g(x) = b_m x^m + b_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots$ . Then  $f(x)g(x) = a_n b_m x^{m+n} + \dots$ . Since  $a_n \neq 0, b_m \neq 0$  and  $K$  is an integral domain, we have  $a_n b_m \neq 0$ . Therefore

$$\deg f(x)g(x) = \deg f(x) + \deg g(x).$$

We then apply this conclusion to  $f(x)g(x) = 1$  and get  $\deg f(x) + \deg g(x) = \deg 1 = 0$ , thus  $f(x), g(x)$  must be constant.

**Remark 1.6.2** Whether a polynomial is irreducible depends on the field. For example, if  $x^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ , then it's irreducible (why?). But if  $x^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ , then it's reducible (why?).

Division Algorithm: Let  $f(x), g(x) \in K[x], g(x) \neq 0$ , then there exists  $q(x), r(x) \in K[x]$ , such that

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

where  $r(x) = 0$  or  $0 \leq \deg r(x) < \deg g(x)$ .

Using this fact, we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.6.1**  $K[x]$  is a PID.

*Proof.* For all ideal  $I \in K[x]$ , if  $I = (0)$ , we are done. If  $I \neq (0)$ , let  $g(x) \in I$  be the polynomial of least degree, let  $f(x) \in I$ , then

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

with  $r = 0$  or  $0 \leq \deg r(x) < \deg g(x)$  by division algorithm. But then  $r(x) = 0$ , for otherwise  $r(x)$  will be a polynomial whose degree is less than  $g(x)$ . Therefore  $f(x) = g(x)q(x)$ ,  $f(x) \in (g(x))$ . ■

**Definition 1.6.1** A domain  $R$  is said to be an Euclidean domain if there exists a function  $\lambda : R \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$ , such that given  $a, b \in R, b \neq 0$ , there exist  $q, r \in R$  such that  $a = qb + r$  and either  $r = 0$  or  $0 \leq \lambda(r) < \lambda(b)$ .

■ **Example 3**  $R = \mathbb{Z}[i]$  is an Euclidean domain.

*Proof.* Let  $N(\alpha) = \alpha\bar{\alpha} = a^2 + b^2$  (if  $\alpha = a + bi$ ). Let  $\alpha, \beta \in R, \beta \neq 0$ , we have

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{a + bi}{c + di} = \frac{ac + bd}{c^2 + d^2} + \frac{bc - ad}{c^2 + d^2}i = r + si, (r, s \in \mathbb{Q})$$

Let  $m + ni \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  be the closest element to  $r + si$ . We denote  $r' = r - m, s' = s - n$ , then  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = r + si = m + ni + r' + s'i$ , or

$$\alpha = \beta(m + ni) + \beta(r' + s'i),$$

where  $(m + ni) \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  and  $\beta(r' + s'i) \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ , we remain to show that  $N(\beta(r' + s'i)) < N(\beta)$ . This is the case because

$$\begin{aligned} N(\beta(r' + s'i)) &= N(\beta)N(r' + s'i) \\ &\leq N(\beta)\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}\right) \\ &< N(\beta) \end{aligned}$$

We are done. ■

The Natural question is what are the units in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ? Does a prime in  $\mathbb{Z}$  still a prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ? To answer the first question, we assume  $u$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Then by definition there exists some  $v$  such that  $uv = 1$ . But then  $1 = N(1) = N(uv) = N(u)N(v) \implies N(u) = 1$ . Thus the only possible values of  $u$  is  $\pm 1, \pm i$ . We also check they are actually units. Now, to answer the second question, we try some small cases. We look at 5, 7, 11 and 13.

■ **Example 4** If  $5 = ab$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ , then  $25 = N(5) = N(ab) = N(a)N(b) \implies N(a) = 5$ . So  $a$  can only be  $\pm 1 \pm 2i$  or  $\pm 2 \pm i$ . We try by hand and find  $5 = (2 + i)(2 - i)$  is a factorization, so 5 is not a prime.

■ **Example 5** If  $7 = ab$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ , then  $49 = N(7) = N(ab) = N(a)N(b) \implies N(a) = 7$ . We try by hand and find no factorization, so 7 is a prime.

Use the same method, we find 5, 13 are not prime while 7, 11 are prime.

**Remark 1.6.3** Observation:

1. If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $p = \pi\bar{\pi}$ , where  $\pi$  is a irreducible.
2. If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then  $p$  remains prime.
3. If  $p = 2$ ,  $2 = (1 + i)(1 - i) = (-i)(1 + i)^2$  (ramification).

**Remark 1.6.4** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ , where  $\omega$  is a primitive cube root of 1, then  $R$  is a Euclidean domain.



## Chapter 2

# Congruence

### 2.1 Class Notes 17-01-19

**Definition 2.1.1** We write  $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$ , if  $p \mid (a - b)$ .

**Remark 2.1.1** To solve  $ax \equiv b \pmod{m}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  is the same to solve  $[a]x = [b]$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ .

We now try to solve the equation  $a \equiv b \pmod{m}$ .

**Proposition 2.1.1** A necessary and sufficient condition for this equation to have solutions is  $d \mid b$ , where  $d = (a, m)$  is the gcd of  $a$  and  $m$ .

Think About:  $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$  has solutions is equivalent to  $(a, m) = 1$ .

*Proof.*

“ $\Rightarrow$ ”: If we have some solution  $x_0$  such that  $ax_0 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . Then  $ax_0 = 1 + mt$  so that  $(a, m) = 1$ .

“ $\Leftarrow$ ”: If  $(a, m) = 1$ , then there exists  $x_0, t$  such that  $1 = ax_0 - mt$ , so  $ax_0 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . ■

**Remark 2.1.2** In  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $[a]x \equiv [1]$  implies that  $[a]$  is a unit.

**Definition 2.1.2**  $\phi(m) = \#$  of units in  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ .

We give a few example:

$m$	1	2	3	4	5
$\phi(m)$	1	1	2	2	4

Now we give the formal proof of our proposition.

*Proof.* Suppose  $x_0$  is a solution, then there exist  $t$  such that

$$ax_0 = b + mt,$$

Since  $(a, m) \mid a$ ,  $(a, m) \mid m$ , we have  $(a, m) \mid b$ . Conversely, suppose  $(a, m) \mid b$ , we may write  $b$  as  $b = (a, m)b'$ . Similarly,  $a = (a, m)a'$  and  $m = (a, m)m'$  with  $(a', m') = 1$ . Denote  $d := (a, m)$ , then  $da'x \equiv db' \pmod{dm'}$ ,  $a'x \equiv b' \pmod{m'}$ . Since  $(a', m') = 1$ ,  $a'x \equiv b' \pmod{m'}$  has solutions. ■

**Remark 2.1.3** According to the proof, we will have  $d = (a, m)$  solutions.

Now we want to introduce *Chinese Remainder Theorem in  $\mathbb{Z}$* . We want to solve a system of congruence equations. Namely, we are looking at the system

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv a_1 \pmod{m_1} \\ x &\equiv a_2 \pmod{m_2} \\ &\vdots \\ x &\equiv a_n \pmod{m_n} \end{aligned}$$

where  $m_i$  are pairwise coprime.

**Theorem 2.1.2 (Chinese Remainder Theorem).**

The system always admits solutions.

We notice that if  $x_0$  is a solution to the system, so does  $x = km_1m_2 \cdots m_n + x_0$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So the system will have infinitely many solutions. The sketch of the proof is as followed. Suppose we can solve the system

$$\begin{aligned} x_i &\equiv 1 \pmod{m_i} \\ x_i &\equiv 0 \pmod{m_j} \quad \forall j \neq i \end{aligned}$$

then  $x = a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n$  is a solution for the original system. But why does the system even have a solution?

Consider the following system as an example,

$$\begin{aligned} x &\equiv 1 \pmod{m_1} \\ x &\equiv 0 \pmod{m_2} \\ &\vdots \\ x &\equiv 0 \pmod{m_n} \end{aligned}$$

We know that since  $m_i$  are coprime,  $(m_1, m_2m_3 \cdots m_n) = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \exists c, d_1, \text{ s.t. } cm_1 + d_1m_2m_3 \cdots m_n = 1 \\ &\Rightarrow x = d_1m_2m_3 \cdots m_n \text{ is a solution} \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 2.1.4** If there are two solutions for the system, say  $x$  and  $y$ , then

$$x - y \equiv 0 \pmod{m_1m_2 \cdots m_n} \implies x \equiv y \pmod{m_1m_2 \cdots m_n}.$$

Namely, the solution is unique up to a multiple of  $m_1m_2 \cdots m_n$ .

In order to generalize CRT, we need some background.

Suppose  $R, S$  are two rings, then  $R \times S := \{(r, s), r \in R, s \in S\}$ . We also define sum and product on  $R \times S$ , namely,

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b) + (c, d) &= (a + c, b + d), \\ (a, b) \cdot (c, d) &= (ac, bd). \end{aligned}$$

We can check that  $R \times S$  is actually a ring. The projection maps are ring homomorphisms, i.e., there exist projection maps  $E_S, E_R$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} E_S : R \times S &\rightarrow S \\ E_R : R \times S &\rightarrow R \end{aligned}$$

But there doesn't exist any homomorphism from  $S$  or  $R$  to  $R \times S$ .

We know that for a ring homomorphism  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$ ,  $\ker \phi = \{x \in R, \phi(x) = 0\}$  is an ideal. For ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ , its kernel is exactly the ideal  $m\mathbb{Z}$ . So in fact, what CRT in  $\mathbb{Z}$  says is that the ring homomorphism

$$f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/m_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m_2\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}/m_n\mathbb{Z},$$

or

$$a \mapsto ([a]_{m_1}, \dots, [a]_{m_n})$$

is surjective.

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

For a ring homomorphism  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$ ,  $I = \ker \phi$ ,

- $\phi$  is injective if and only if  $\ker \phi = \{0\}$ .
- There exists a unique ring homomorphism  $\tilde{\phi} : R/I \rightarrow S$ , or  $\tilde{\phi} : [a] \mapsto \phi(a)$  such that the diagram commutes.  $\tilde{\phi}$  is also well defined, for if  $[a] = [b]$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} [a] = [b] &\Rightarrow (a - b) \in I \\ &\Rightarrow \phi(a - b) = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \phi(a) = \phi(b). \end{aligned}$$

Now, let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $S = \mathbb{Z}/m_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m_2\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}/m_n\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $m = m_1 m_2 \cdots m_n$ , then  $\ker \phi = \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ , we have the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \mathbb{Z}/m_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m_2\mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}/m_n\mathbb{Z} \\ \downarrow f & \nearrow \tilde{\phi} & \\ \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} & & \end{array}$$

Notice that  $\tilde{\phi}$  is an isomorphism.

We have the natural question that what are the units in  $R$  and  $S$ ? Let  $U(R)$  denote the set of units of the ring  $R$ , then  $U(R \times S) = U(R) \times U(S)$ . We thus have a branch of corollaries.

**Corollary 2.1.3**  $U(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \cong U(\mathbb{Z}/m_1\mathbb{Z}) \times \cdots \times U(\mathbb{Z}/m_n\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Corollary 2.1.4**  $\phi(m) = \phi(m_1)\phi(m_2) \cdots \phi(m_n)$ .

**Corollary 2.1.5** If  $m = p_1^{\gamma_1} p_2^{\gamma_2} \cdots p_s^{\gamma_s}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(m) &= \phi(p_1^{\gamma_1} p_2^{\gamma_2} \cdots p_s^{\gamma_s}) \\ &= \phi(p_1^{\gamma_1}) \phi(p_2^{\gamma_2}) \cdots \phi(p_s^{\gamma_s}), \end{aligned}$$

with  $\phi(p_i^{\gamma_i}) = p_i^{\gamma_i} - p_i^{\gamma_i-1}$ .

**Corollary 2.1.6**

$$\sum_{d|n} \phi(d) = n$$

The proof is simply use the fact that the statement is true for primes, and every element of  $\mathbb{Z}$  can be factorized as a product of primes.

*Proof.* We claim that if the statement is true for  $m, n$  ( $(m, n) = 1$ ), then it's true for  $mn$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d|mn} \phi(d) &= \sum_{d_1|m, d_2|n} \phi(d_1 d_2) \\ &= \sum_{d_1|m} \sum_{d_2|n} \phi(d_1) \phi(d_2) \\ &= \left( \sum_{d_1|m} \phi(d_1) \right) \left( \sum_{d_2|n} \phi(d_2) \right) \\ &= m \cdot n. \end{aligned}$$

■

## 2.2 Class Notes 17-01-24

Suppose  $I, J \subset R$  are two ideals, how to make new ideals with  $I, J$ ? Evidently,  $I \cap J$  and  $I + J$  are ideals. Also,

$$I \cdot J := \left\{ \sum a_i b_i, a_i \in I, b_i \in J \right\} \subset I \cap J$$

is an ideal.

■ **Example 6** Let  $I = m\mathbb{Z}, J = n\mathbb{Z}$ . then we have

$I + J$	$I \cap J$	$I \cdot J$
$((m, n))$	$([m, n])$	$mn\mathbb{Z}$

**Definition 2.2.1** We say two ideals  $I, J$  are coprime if  $I + J = (1)$ .

**Remark 2.2.1** If  $I, J$  are coprime, then  $I \cap J = I \cdot J$ .

*Proof.* For some  $x \in I \cap J$ , since  $I, J$  are coprime, there exists some  $a \in I, b \in J$  such that  $a + b = 1$ . But then  $a \cdot x + x \cdot b = x \in I \cdot J$ . So  $I \cap J \subset I \cdot J$ . The other direction is obvious. ■

**Theorem 2.2.1 (Generalized Chinese Remainder Theorem).** Let  $I_1, I_2, \dots, I_n$  be pairwise coprime ideals in  $R$ , then the map

$$\phi : R \rightarrow R/I_1 \times \dots \times R/I_n$$

- 1) is surjective
- 2) has  $\ker \phi = I_1 I_2 \dots I_n = I_1 \cap I_2 \cap \dots \cap I_n$

**Lemma 9** We first look at  $n = 2$  case. If  $I, J$  are coprime ideals in  $R$ , then the map

$$\phi : R \rightarrow R/I \times R/J$$

- 1) is surjective.
- 2) has  $\ker \phi = I \cap J = IJ$ .

*Proof.* It's enough to solve the system of congruence

$$x \equiv 1 \pmod{I}$$

$$x \equiv 0 \pmod{J}$$



and

$$y \equiv 0 \pmod{I}$$

$$y \equiv 1 \pmod{J}$$

Since  $I, J$  are coprime, there exists  $c \in I, d \in J$  such that  $c + d = 1$ .  $c, d$  is the solution to our two systems. ■

**Lemma 10**  $I_1$  is coprime to  $I_2 I_3 \cdots I_n$ .

*Proof.* There exist

$$a_2 + b_2 = 1$$

$$a_3 + b_3 = 1$$

$$\dots$$

$$a_n + b_n = 1,$$

$$a_i \in I_1, b_j \in I_j.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} b_2 b_3 \dots b_n &= (1 - a_2) \dots (1 - a_n) \\ &= 1 + a, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a \in I_1$ .

By  $n = 2$  case

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\quad} & R/I_1 \times R/(I_2 \times I_3 \times \cdots \times I_n) \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \\ R/I_1 \times R/I_2 \times \cdots \times R/I_n & & \end{array}$$

Let us denote  $U(R)$  by  $R^\times$ . Note that  $\phi(n) = \|(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times\|$ . We now want to look at the structure of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ . We first develop some background in abstract algebra. ■

**Theorem 2.2.2 (Lagrange Theorem).** Let  $G$  be a finite group,  $H \subset G$  is a subgroup, then the order of  $H$  divides the order of  $G$ , i.e.,

$$|H| \mid |G|$$

*Proof.* Take two cosets in  $H$ ,  $Ha$  and  $Hb$ . They are equal or disjoint. So

$$|G| = |H| \cdot \# \text{ of cosets}$$

**Definition 2.2.2** If  $a \in G$ , then  $o(a)$  = smallest positive integer  $d$  such that

$$a^d = 1$$

is called the order of the element  $a$ .

**Corollary 2.2.3**  $\forall a \in G$ , we have  $o(a) \mid |G|$ .

*Proof.*  $\langle a \rangle := \{1, a, \dots, a^{d-1}\}$  is the subgroup generated by  $a$ . Then  $\langle a \rangle \subset G \Rightarrow d \mid |G|$ . ■

**Corollary 2.2.4**  $a^{|G|} = 1$ .

**Corollary 2.2.5** If  $n \geq 1$ ,  $(a, n) = 1$ , then  $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ .

*Proof.*  $(a, n) = 1 \Rightarrow a \rightarrow [a]$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , i.e.,  $[a] \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ ,  $|(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times| = \phi(n)$ .  $\Rightarrow [a]^{\phi(n)} = 1$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , i.e.,  $a^{\phi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$ . ■

**Exercise 2.2.1** Find the last 3 digits of  $3^{1203}$ .

*Proof.*  $\phi(1000) = \phi(2^3 5^3) = (8-4)(125-25) = 400$ . So  $3^{400} \equiv 1 \pmod{1000}$ . The last three digits are then 027. ■

We now look at the structure of  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , where  $p$  is a prime.

**Theorem 2.2.6**  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is cyclic.

We do some checking, let  $p = 5, 7, 11, 13$ . For  $p = 11$ , we find that 2, 3, 7, 9 are  $\mathbb{Z}/11\mathbb{Z}$ 's generator.

**Lemma 11** Let  $a \in G$  be an element of order  $d$ , then the order of  $a^m$  is  $\frac{d}{(d, m)}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(d, m) = b$ , we then have  $d = bd'$ ,  $m = bm'$ , where  $(d', m') = 1$ . We claim that  $o(a^m) = d'$ . For  $(a^m)^{d'} \cong a^{bm'd'} \cong a^{dm'} \cong (a^d)^{m'} \cong 1$ . Suppose  $(a^m)^l = 1 \Rightarrow a^{ml} = 1 \Rightarrow d \mid ml \Rightarrow bd' \mid bm'l \Rightarrow d' \mid m'l \Rightarrow d' \mid l$ . ■

**Corollary 2.2.7** If  $G$  is cyclic of order  $d$ , then the number of generators of  $G$  is  $\phi(d)$ .

## Chapter 3

# The Structure of $U(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$

### 3.1 Class Notes 17-01-26

**Theorem 3.1.1**  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$  is a field.

*Proof.* If  $[a] \neq 0 \Rightarrow (p, a) = 1 \Rightarrow \exists x, y$  s.t.  $px + ay = 1 \Rightarrow [a][y] = [1]$ . ■

**Theorem 3.1.2** Let  $K$  be a field, let  $G$  be a finite subgroup of  $K^\times$ , then  $G$  is cyclic.

**Lemma 12** Let  $f(x) \in K[x]$  be any non-zero polynomial. Then the number of roots of  $f$  in  $K$  is less or equal to  $\deg f$

*Proof.* If  $f(x)$  has no root, we are done. If  $f(x)$  has some roots, say  $\alpha$  is a root, then

$$f(x) = (x - \alpha)g(x) + r(x), \quad r(x) = 0$$

So  $f(x) = (x - \alpha)g(x)$ . By induction the lemma holds. ■

We can then prove the theorem.

*Proof.* Let  $K$  be a field. Let  $G \subset K^\times$  be a finite subgroup of order  $n$ .  $G \subset \{\text{roots of } x^n - 1\} \Rightarrow G = \{\text{roots of } x^n - 1\}$ . Any element in  $G$  has order dividing  $n$  for every divisor  $d$  of  $n$ . Let  $\Sigma_d = \{a \in G, o(a) = d\}$ , then

$$G = \sqcup_{d|n} \Sigma_d, \quad n = |G| = \sum_{d|n} |\Sigma_d|.$$

We claim:  $|\Sigma_d| = 0$  or  $\phi(d)$ .

If  $\Sigma_d = \emptyset \Rightarrow |\Sigma_d| = 0$ . Suppose  $\Sigma_d \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \exists a \in G, \text{s.t. } o(a) = d$ . Let  $H = \langle a \rangle = \{1, a, \dots, a^{d-1}\} \subset G$ . i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_d &= \text{set of elements with order } d \\ &= \text{all elements of } H \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow |\Sigma_d| = \phi(d)$ . Then

$$n = \sum_{d|n} |\Sigma_d| \leq \sum_{d|n} \phi(d) = n$$

$\Rightarrow |\Sigma_d| = \phi(d), \forall d | n$ . In particular  $|\Sigma_n| = \phi(n) \Rightarrow G$  is cyclic. ■

We then want to discuss the structure of  $(\mathbb{Z}/p^\gamma\mathbb{Z})^\times$

**Theorem 3.1.3** If  $p$  is an odd prime, then  $(\mathbb{Z}/p^\gamma\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is cyclic.

*Proof.* Since  $\mathbb{Z}/p^\gamma\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is surjective,  $(\mathbb{Z}/p^\gamma\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is surjective. Let us denote  $G := (\mathbb{Z}/p^\gamma\mathbb{Z})^\times$ ,  $H := (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , and let  $K$  be the kernel of  $G \rightarrow H$ , i.e.,

$$K = \{[x] \in G, x \equiv 1 \pmod{p}\}.$$

Note we have  $|G| = p^{\gamma-1}(p-1)$ ,  $|H| = p-1$ . So we have  $|K| = \frac{|G|}{|H|} = p^{\gamma-1}$ . We will show  $K$  is cyclic by explicitly constructing a system. We consider the cyclic group generated by  $1+ap$ , where  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . We know that

$$(1+ap)^{p^{\gamma-1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^\gamma},$$

want however

$$(1+ap)^{p^{\gamma-2}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p^\gamma}.$$

**Lemma 13** Let  $p$  be any prime,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\gamma \geq 1$ . If  $a \equiv b \pmod{p^\gamma}$ , then  $a^p \equiv b^p \pmod{p^{\gamma+1}}$ .

*Proof.* First notice that for  $1 \leq i \leq p-1$ ,  $\binom{p}{i}$  is divided by  $p$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} a &= b + p^\gamma t \Rightarrow a^p = (b + p^\gamma t)^p \\ &\Rightarrow a^p = b^p + \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \binom{p}{i} b^i (p^\gamma t)^{p-i} + (p^\gamma t)^p. \\ &\Rightarrow a^p \equiv b^p \pmod{p^{\gamma+1}} \end{aligned}$$

■

We then prove the following lemma,

**Lemma 14**  $(1+ap)^{p^{\gamma-2}} \equiv 1 + ap^{\gamma-1} \pmod{p^\gamma}$

*Proof.* We induction on  $\gamma$ .

When  $\gamma = 1$ , the statement is trivially true. Assume the statement is true for  $\gamma$ , check for  $\gamma + 1$ . We know

$$(1+ap)^{p^{\gamma-2}} \equiv 1 + ap^{\gamma-1} \pmod{p^\gamma},$$

and we want to show

$$(1+ap)^{p^{\gamma-1}} \equiv 1 + ap^\gamma \pmod{p^{\gamma+1}}$$

By lemma 13,

$$\begin{aligned} (1+ap)^{p^{\gamma-1}} &\equiv (1+ap^{\gamma-1})^p \pmod{p^{\gamma+1}} \\ &= 1 + p \cdot ap^{\gamma-1} + \sum_{i=2}^{p-1} \binom{p}{i} (ap^{\gamma-1})^i + a^p p^{p(\gamma-1)} \\ &\equiv 1 + ap^\gamma \pmod{p^{\gamma+1}} \end{aligned}$$

So the statement holds for  $\gamma + 1$ .

■

■

## Chapter 4

# Quadratic Reciprocity

### 4.1 Class Notes 17-01-31

Last class we have prove that if  $n = p$  is a prime, then  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is cyclic, and if  $n$  is odd,  $n = p^r$ ,  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is cyclic.

\*\*\*\*\*Not Complete\*\*\*\*\*

Let  $p$  is an odd prime,  $(a, p) = 1$ , is  $a$  a square modulo  $p$ ? We try  $a = -1$  for  $p = 5, 13, \dots$ . We have the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.1.1**  $-1$  is a square modulo  $p \iff p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

**Definition 4.1.1** We introduce the legendre symbol

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a \text{ is a square modulo } p \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We have the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.1.2**

1.  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$  if  $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$
2.  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}$
3.  $\left(\frac{ab}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)\left(\frac{b}{p}\right)$

The proof of Proposition 4.1.2.3 is as followed.

*Proof.* Let  $g$  be a generator of  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , then  $\langle g \rangle = \{1, g, g^2, \dots, g^{p-1}\}$ .  $1, g^2, g^4, \dots, g^{p-1}$  are already square. But  $g, g^3, g^5, \dots, g^{p-2}$  are not square (why?). If  $g = h^2$  is a square, it will not generate the group! ■

The proof of Proposition 4.1.2.2 is as followed.

*Proof.* if  $a = b^2$ , then  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = b^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . If  $a \neq b^2$ , say  $a = g$ , then  $g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  since  $g$  is a primitive root. So  $g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , i.e.,  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . ■

**Theorem 4.1.3**

- Suppose  $p, q$  are odd prime, then

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)\left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}\frac{q-1}{2}}$$

or

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}\frac{q-1}{2}}$$

Namely,  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$  if either  $p, q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = -\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)$  otherwise.

•

$$\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{8} \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5 \pmod{8} \end{cases} = (-1)^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}}.$$

**Exercise 4.1.1** Is 101 a square modulo 107?

*Proof.* Yes, because we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{101}{107}\right) &= \left(\frac{107}{101}\right) = \left(\frac{6}{101}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{101}\right)\left(\frac{3}{101}\right) \\ &= (-1)\left(\frac{101}{3}\right) \\ &= (-1)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = (-1)(-1) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

■

**Exercise 4.1.2** Is 79 a square of 97?

*Proof.* Yes, because we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{79}{97}\right) &= \left(\frac{97}{79}\right) = \left(\frac{18}{79}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{79}\right) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

■

## 4.2 Class Notes 17-02-02

**Lemma 15 (Gauss's Lemma).** If  $(a, p) = 1$ . Consider the residue system

$$\left\{-\frac{p-1}{2}, \dots, -1, +1, +2, \dots, +\frac{p-1}{2}\right\}.$$

Let  $\mu = \#$  of negative classes that  $a \cdot 1, a \cdot 2, \dots, a \cdot \frac{p-1}{2}$  fall into. Then

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = (-1)^\mu.$$

Let  $a \cdot i \equiv \pm m_i \pmod{p}$ , we claim that if  $i \neq j$ , then  $m_i \neq m_j$ .

*Proof.* if  $m_i = m_j$ , then  $a_i \equiv \pm a_j \pmod{p}$ , so  $i \equiv \pm j \pmod{p}$ . We know that

$$\left\{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{\frac{p-1}{2}}\right\} = \left\{1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\right\}$$

Let  $\mu = \#$  of negative signs. Then  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \prod i \equiv (-1)^\mu \prod m_i \pmod{p}$

■

**Lemma 16 (Eisenstein's Lemma).**

Let  $\Sigma = \{2, 4, \dots, p-1\}$ , for  $j \in \Sigma$ , consider  $[\frac{aj}{p}]$ , then

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\sum_{j \in \Sigma} [\frac{aj}{p}]}.$$





# Chapter 5

## Finite Fields

### 5.1 Class Notes 17-02-07

**Definition 5.1.1** A finite field is a field with finite many elements

■ **Example 7**  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is a finite field

We know that there is always a homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to a ring. Let  $K$  be a finite field, the homomorphism  $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow K$  can't be injective, so the kernel of  $f$  is not zero, i.e., the kernel is  $n\mathbb{Z}$  for some  $n$ . Let ring  $P$  be the image of  $f$ , then there is an isomorphism  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow P$ . So we may identify  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $P$ . On the other hand,  $P$  is a subring of a field, therefore  $P$  is also an integral domain. But an integral domain with finite elements is a field. So equivalently,  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  has to be a field, which implies that  $n$  is a prime. So we conclude:

**Theorem 5.1.1** Every finite field  $K$  has a subfield isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ . We say  $K$  has characteristic  $p$  and denote  $F_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .

If  $F \subset E$  are fields, we may view  $E$  as a vector space over  $F$ , or a  $F$ -vector space. We will write  $\dim E := [E : F]$  and say  $E$  is a finite extension of  $F$ .

■ **Example 8**  $[\mathbb{C} : \mathbb{R}] = 2$

Notice that if  $K$  is a finite field, then  $[K : F_p]$  is finite, say  $n$ . Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be the basis of the  $F_p$ -field, then explicitly,

$$K = \{c_1x_1 + c_2x_2 + \dots + c_nx_n\}, \quad \forall c_i \in F_p,$$

which implies that  $|K| = p^n$ .

Let  $K$  be a field with  $p^n$  elements, then the multiplicative subgroup (equivalently, the group of units),  $K^\times$  is finite, and therefore cyclic. We have

$$\alpha^{p^n-1} = 1, \quad \forall \alpha \in K^\times$$

or

$$\alpha^{p^n} = \alpha, \quad \forall \alpha \in K.$$

Since a polynomial  $f$  of degree  $\deg f$  has at most  $\deg f$  roots in a field,  $x^{p^n} = x$  has at most  $p^n$  roots in  $K$ . So the  $p^n$  roots of the polynomial  $x^{p^n} = x$  form exactly the field  $K$ .

We now want to explicitly construct a field of order  $p^n$  (or equivalently, a field in which  $x^{p^n} - x$  factors completely).

**Exercise 5.1.1** Let  $L, E, F$  be fields.  $E$  is a field extension of  $F$ ,  $L$  is a field extension of  $E$ . Prove that

$$[E : F][L : E] = [L : F]$$

*Proof.* Just write down the basis. ■

## 5.2 Class Notes 17-02-09

**Proposition 5.2.1** Let  $K$  be a field of order  $p^n$ , then  $K$  admits a unique subfield of size  $p^d$ ,  $\forall d \mid n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $K', K''$  be two such subfields, Then

$$K' = \{\text{roots of } x^{p^n-1} - x \text{ in } K\} = K''.$$

For existence, let  $K' = \{\text{roots of } x^{p^d} - x\}$ , we just need to show  $K'$  is a field. Clearly,  $1, 0 \in K'$ . Using  $(x + y)^p = (x^p + y^p)$  in characteristic  $p$  field  $K'$ , we can also show  $K'$  is closed in addition, multiplication and division. Thus  $K'$  is a field. Note that  $d \mid n$  is necessary since we must have  $x^{p^d} - x \mid x^{p^n} - x$ , and that implies  $d \mid n$ . ■

The general problem is that let  $f(x) \in K[x]$  be a non-constant polynomial, can we construct an extension of  $K$  such that  $f(x)$  can be linearly factored? Let  $L := K[x]/(f(x))$ ,  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $K$ . We have

### Theorem 5.2.2

- $L$  is a field.
- In  $L$ ,  $f$  has a root, namely the class of  $x$  such that  $f(x) = 0$ .

■ **Example 9**  $\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$

**Exercise 5.2.1** Prove that  $\mathbb{R}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}[x]/(x^2 + 5)$ .

*Proof.* We apply the bijection  $x \mapsto x/\sqrt{5}$ . ■

### Theorem 5.2.3 $[L : K] = \deg f$

**Corollary 5.2.4**  $L = K[\alpha] = K(\alpha)$ .  $K[\alpha]$  is the ring generated by  $K$  and  $\alpha$ .  $K(\alpha)$  is the field generated by  $K$  and  $\alpha$ .

## 5.3 Class Notes 17-02-14

Construction of a field of size  $p^n$ :