

A Principal Ideal Domain which does not allow for a Euclidean function

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Abstract

A proof that the integral domain $\mathbb{Z}\left[\left(1 + i\sqrt{19}\right)/2\right]$ has principal ideals but does not allow for any Euclidean function.

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From now on we will denote:

$$\omega = \frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2}, \quad D = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$$

We will first prove that D is not Euclidean and then that its ideals are principal. First, we characterise the elements of D .

Lemma 0.1: The elements of D are all and only the complex numbers of the form:

$$\frac{\alpha}{2} + i\frac{\beta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad \alpha \equiv \beta$$

Proof: Just by summing integer multiples of ω^0 and ω^1 we can obtain all numbers of the given form, so all of them must be in D .

If we now show that numbers of the given form are closed under addition and multiplication we would be done, since:

1. closedness under multiplication would give that powers of ω and all monomials of the forms $k\omega^n$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ are in D ;
2. closedness under addition would then give that all integer polynomials evaluated at ω are in D .

Let us prove closedness under addition. Let:

$$z_1 = \frac{\alpha}{2} + i\frac{\beta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad z_2 = \frac{\gamma}{2} + i\frac{\delta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad \alpha \equiv \beta, \quad \gamma \equiv \delta$$

then:

$$z_1 + z_2 = \frac{\alpha + \gamma}{2} + i\frac{\beta + \delta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad \alpha + \gamma \equiv \beta + \delta$$

which shows that the sum is also of the given form.

Let us prove closedness under multiplication. Let:

$$z_1 = \frac{\alpha}{2} + i\frac{\beta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad z_2 = \frac{\gamma}{2} + i\frac{\delta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad \alpha \equiv \beta, \quad \gamma \equiv \delta$$

then:

$$z_1 z_2 = \frac{\alpha\gamma - 19\beta\delta}{4} + \frac{\alpha\delta + \beta\gamma}{4}i\sqrt{19}$$

Obviously:

$$\alpha\gamma \equiv_2 19\beta\delta, \quad \alpha\delta \equiv_2 \beta\gamma$$

so the numerators in the two fractions are even. Then we can write:

$$z_1 z_2 = \frac{(\alpha\gamma - 19\beta\delta)/2}{2} + \frac{(\alpha\delta + \beta\gamma)/2}{2}i\sqrt{19}$$

where the numerators are integers. Now showing that they also have the same parity amounts to showing that:

$$\alpha\gamma - 19\beta\delta \equiv_4 \alpha\delta + \beta\gamma$$

but since:

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 \mid (\alpha - \beta) \wedge 2 \mid (\gamma - \delta) \\ \Rightarrow & (\alpha - \beta)(\gamma - \delta) \equiv_4 0 \\ \Rightarrow & \alpha\gamma - \alpha\delta - \beta\gamma + \beta\delta \equiv_4 0 \\ \Rightarrow & \alpha\gamma - 19\beta\delta \equiv_4 \alpha\delta + \beta\gamma \end{aligned}$$

as we wanted. ■

1. D is not Euclidean

Definition 1.1: Given a domain R we say that $x \in R$ is a *universal side divisor* if and only if it is not zero, not a unit and one can write:

$$y = \gamma x + \delta$$

for some $\gamma \in R, \delta \in \{0\} \cup R^*$.

Lemma 1.1: An Euclidean Domain R which is not a field always has a universal side divisor.

Proof: Let us consider the set $R' = (R \setminus R^*) \setminus \{0\}$. Since R is not a field, R' is nonempty and therefore the Euclidean function g has a minimum on it. Let $x \in R'$ be an element that minimizes g .

Then for all $y \in R$ we can perform Euclidean division and write:

$$y = \gamma x + \delta$$

where $g(\delta) < g(x)$. But since x minimizes g over the non invertibles, δ must be invertible or zero. ■

Theorem 1.2: D has no universal side divisor.

Proof: Let N be the square of the complex norm. Note that:

$$N\left(\frac{\alpha}{2} + i\frac{\beta}{2}\sqrt{19}\right) = \frac{1}{4}(\alpha^2 + 19\beta^2)$$

Let us list the lowest values attained by N on D .

When $\beta^2 = 0$, α and α^2 must be even. To have $N \leq 9$ we must have $\alpha^2 \leq 36$.

When $\beta^2 = 1$, α and α^2 must be odd. To have $N \leq 9$ we must have $\alpha^2 \leq 9$.

When $\beta^2 > 1$, no value of α^2 can verify $N \leq 9$.

We can list these values:

- $N(x) = 0 \iff x = 0$;
- $N(x) = 1 \iff x = \pm 1$;
- $N(x) = 4 \iff x = \pm 2$;
- $N(x) = 5 \iff x = \pm 1/2 \pm i\sqrt{19}/2$;
- $N(x) = 7 \iff x = \pm 3/2 \pm i\sqrt{19}/2$;
- $N(x) = 9 \iff x = \pm 3$;
- $N(x) > 9$ for all other x .

Since N is multiplicative and assumes no values between 0 and 1 the only units in D are ± 1 .

Aiming for a contradiction, we now assume D has a universal side divisor ξ . This would mean that for all $y \in D$ we could write either of:

$$y = k\xi, \quad y = k\xi + 1, \quad y = k\xi - 1$$

We will now analyze multiple cases.

Case 1: If $N(\xi) > 9$ we take any $y \in D$ such that $N(y) = 4$. If we could write $y = k\xi$, that would mean $N(k) = N(y)/N(\xi) = 4/9$ which we have already seen is not a value N can attain.

Therefore it must hold that $y = k\xi \pm 1$. But now the triangular inequality gives:

$$3 = |y| + 1 \geq |y \pm 1| = |k\xi| > 3$$

⚡

Case 2: If instead $N(\xi) \in \{5, 7, 9\}$ we would have to write all y such that $N(y) \in \{4, 5, 7, 9\}$ as

$$y = k\xi \text{ or } y = k\xi \pm 1$$

where $k \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$. If that were not the case, we would have $N(k) \geq 4$ and the triangular inequality would give either of:

$$4 \geq |y| + 1 \geq |y \pm 1| = |k\xi| \geq \sqrt{4 \cdot 5} > 4$$

$$3 \geq |y| = |k\xi| \geq \sqrt{4 \cdot 5} > 4$$

Then we only have 9 possible combinations to write the 12 elements $y \in D$ such that $N(y) \in \{4, 5, 7, 9\}$. ⚡

Case 3: If $N(\xi) = 4$, it would be enough to have $y \in D$ such that $N(y) = 5$ and $y \neq \xi \pm 1$. Obviously we can't have either $y = 0\xi$, $y = 0\xi \pm 1$, or $y = \xi$ since:

$$N(0\xi) = 0, \quad N(0\xi \pm 1) = 1, \quad N(\xi) = 4$$

and instead $N(y) = 5$.

If $N(k) > 1$ then by the triangular inequality we would have either:

$$4 > |y| + 1 \geq |y \pm 1| = |k\xi| \geq \sqrt{4 \cdot 4} = 4$$

$$3 > |y| = |k\xi| \geq \sqrt{4 \cdot 4} = 4$$

But now since $N(\xi) = 4$ implies $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$, and all $y \in D$ such that $N(y) = 5$ are not real, it's easy to see that we can choose y with the desired properties. \nmid

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Corollary 1.2.1: D is not an Euclidean Domain.

Proof: Aiming for a contradiction we assume D is an Euclidean Domain. Then by Lemma 1.1 D would have a universal side divisor. But by Theorem 1.2 we know D has no universal side divisor. \nmid

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2. D has principal ideals

Definition 2.1: Given an integral domain R , we say that $H : R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is a *Dedekind-Hasse norm* if for all $u, v \in R$ the following hold:

- $H(u) = 0 \iff u = 0$;
- $u \mid v$ or there are $s, t \in R$ such that $0 < H(su + tv) < H(u)$.

Lemma 2.1: If a ring R has a Dedekind-Hasse norm H , then R has principal ideals.

Proof: Let $I \subseteq R$ be an ideal. If $I = \{0\}$ then it is generated by 0, so we can assume $I \setminus \{0\}$ is nonempty and therefore take $x \in I \setminus \{0\}$ which minimizes H .

We want to show that $I = (x)$. Obviously, since $x \in I$ we have $(x) \subseteq I$ so we only have to prove $I \subseteq (x)$.

Given $y \in I$ either:

- $x \mid y$ and therefore $y \in (x)$;
- $x \nmid y$ and we can choose $s, t \in R$ such that $0 < H(sx + ty) < H(x)$. But $sx + ty \in I$ so this would contradict the fact that x was chosen to minimize H in $I \setminus \{0\}$.

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Theorem 2.2: On the domain D , the square of the complex norm N is a Dedekind-Hasse norm.

Proof: We want to show that given $u, v \in D$ such $u \nmid v$ there are $s, t \in D$ such that:

$$|su - tv| < |u|, \quad su \neq tv$$

We will now embed D in \mathbb{C} to be able to perform divisions and rewrite the previous condition as:

$$0 < \left| s - t \frac{v}{u} \right| < 1$$

It is now useful to note that the elements of D are placed on the horizontal lines $\Im(z) = k\sqrt{19}/2$ in the complex plane, and that on these lines they are evenly spaced, 1 unit apart from each other.

Let us now consider two cases:

Case 1: If for some integer k :

$$\Im\left(\frac{v}{u}\right) \in \left(k\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, k\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

From our previous observation we know that we can choose an element $s \in D$ such that:

$$\Im(s) = k\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2}, \quad \left| \Re(s) - \Re\left(\frac{v}{u}\right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

which in turn means that choosing $t = 1$ yields:

$$\left| s - t \frac{v}{u} \right| = \sqrt{\left(\Re(s) - \Re\left(\frac{v}{u}\right)\right)^2 + \left(\Im(s) - \Im\left(\frac{v}{u}\right)\right)^2} < \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^2} = 1$$

If now we had:

$$\left| s - t \frac{v}{u} \right| = 0$$

that would mean:

$$su = v$$

which contradicts the hypothesis that $u \nmid v$.

Case 2: Otherwise we would have:

$$\begin{aligned} \Im\left(\frac{v}{u}\right) &\in \left[k\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, (k+1)\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right] \\ \Rightarrow \Im\left(2\frac{v}{u}\right) &\in [k\sqrt{19} + \sqrt{3}, (k+1)\sqrt{19} - \sqrt{3}] \\ \Rightarrow \Im\left(2\frac{v}{u}\right) &\in \left[(2k+1)\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{19} - 2\sqrt{3}}{2}, (2k+1)\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{19} - 2\sqrt{3}}{2}\right] \\ \Rightarrow \Im\left(2\frac{v}{u}\right) &\in \left((2k+1)\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, (2k+1)\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

which means that just like before we can choose $s \in D$ such that:

$$\Im(s) = (2k+1)\frac{\sqrt{19}}{2}, \quad \left| \Re(s) - \Re\left(2\frac{v}{u}\right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

which immediately gives:

$$\left| s - 2\frac{v}{u} \right| < 1$$

If $s - 2v/u \neq 0$ we are done. Otherwise we have $(s/2)u = v$.

If $s/2 \in D$ again we contradict the hypothesis that $u \nmid v$. So we are left to consider the case where $(s/2) \notin D$.

Our goal is now to show that in this case we can choose: $t' = \overline{2v/u}$ and an integer s' such that:

$$0 < \left| s' - t' \frac{v}{u} \right| < 1$$

First of all, let us show that $t' \in D$:

$$t' = 2\overline{\left(\frac{v}{u}\right)} = 2\overline{\left(\frac{s}{2}\right)} = \bar{s}$$

and since D is closed by conjugation and $s \in D$ this shows our goal.

Furthermore we notice that:

$$t' \frac{v}{u} = 2\overline{\left(\frac{v}{u}\right)} \left(\frac{v}{u}\right) = 2\left|\frac{v}{u}\right|^2 = 2\left|\frac{s}{2}\right|^2$$

is a real number. If it is not an integer, we can choose s' to be the closest integer to it and immediately obtain our goal.

After writing:

$$s = \frac{\alpha}{2} + i\frac{\beta}{2}\sqrt{19}, \quad \alpha \equiv \beta$$

the following cases cover all the cases where $s/2 \notin D$.

Subcase 1: If α and β are odd we have:

$$2\left|\frac{s}{2}\right|^2 = \frac{\alpha^2 + 19\beta^2}{8}$$

But we have:

$$\alpha^2 \equiv \beta^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \implies \alpha^2 + 19\beta^2 \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$$

which means that the above fraction can't be an integer.

Subcase 2: If α and β are even and:

$$\alpha \not\equiv \beta \pmod{4}$$

we have:

$$\frac{s}{2} = \frac{\alpha'}{2} + i\frac{\beta'}{2}\sqrt{19}$$

where either $\alpha' = \alpha/2$ is even and $\beta' = \beta/2$ is odd or viceversa. Then:

$$2\left|\frac{s}{2}\right|^2 = \frac{\alpha'^2 + 19\beta'^2}{2}$$

but $\alpha'^2 + 19\beta'^2$ is odd and the above fraction can't be an integer. ■

Corollary 2.2.1: D has principal ideals.

Proof: By Theorem 2.2 we know D has a Dedekind-Hasse norm and by Lemma 2.1 we know this implies having principal ideals. ■