

# Algebraic Structure (代数结构)

## Chapter 2: Ring Fundamentals

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# Maximal Ideals

不特别说明，以后讨论的环均为有“1”环。

## Definition 1.1 (maximal ideal)

A **maximal ideal** in the ring  $R$  is a **proper ideal** that is not contained in any strictly larger proper ideal.

## Theorem 1.2

*Every proper ideal  $I$  of the ring  $R$  is contained in a maximal ideal. Consequently, every ring has at least one maximal ideal.*

## Theorem 1.3

*Let  $M$  be an ideal in the commutative ring  $R$ . Then  $M$  is a maximal ideal iff  $R/M$  is a field.*

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## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$  Suppose  $M$  is maximal. We know that  $R/M$  is a ring; When  $a + M \neq M$ , since  $M$  is maximal, the ideal  $Ra + M$ , is strictly larger than  $M$ , must be  $R$ . So  $1 \in Ra + M$ . If  $1 = ra + m$  where  $r \in R$  and  $m \in M$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}(r + M)(a + M) &= ra + M \\ &= (1 - m) + M = 1 + M\end{aligned}$$

- $\Leftarrow$  If  $R/M$  is a field, suppose  $M \subset I$  and  $I$  is a ideal of  $R$ , there exist  $a \in I, a \notin M$ , and  $M + a \neq M$  in  $R/M$ , there exist a inverse  $M + x$  such that

$$(M + a)(M + x) = M + 1 \Rightarrow M + ax = M + 1$$

But  $a \in I, M \subset I \Rightarrow ax \in I$ . So  $M + ax \subset I, 1 \in I$ , and  $I = R$ .

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## Definition 1.4 (**prime ideal**)

A **prime ideal** in a commutative ring is a **proper ideal**  $P$  such that for any  $a, b \in R$ ,  $ab \in P \Rightarrow a \in P$  or  $b \in P$ .

## Theorem 1.5

*If  $P$  is an ideal in the commutative ring  $R$ , then  $P$  is a prime ideal iff  $R/P$  is an integral domain.*

## Proof.

- $\Rightarrow$  Suppose  $P$  is prime. Since  $P$  is a proper ideal,  $R/P$  is a ring. If  $(a + P)(b + P) = P$ , then  $ab \in P$  and  $a \in P$  or  $b \in P \Rightarrow (a + P) = P$  or  $(b + P) = P$ .
- $\Leftarrow$  If  $R/P$  is an integral domain, and  $ab \in P$ , then  $(a + P)(b + P)$  is zero in  $R/P$ , so  $a + P = P$  or  $b + P = P$ , i.e.,  $a \in P$  or  $b \in P$ .

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## Corollary 1.6

*Let  $f : R \mapsto S$  be an epimorphism of commutative rings. Then*

- If  $S$  is a field then  $\text{Ker} f$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$ .*
- If  $S$  is an integral domain then  $\text{Ker} f$  is a prime ideal of  $R$*

*Proof.*

*By the first isomorphism theorem,  $S$  is isomorphic to  $R/\text{Ker} f$ . Then the result follows from theorem 1.3 and 1.5*



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## Corollary 1.7

*In a commutative ring, a maximal ideal is prime.*

A prime ideal may not be a maximal ideal.

## Example 1.8

$\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is a ring. Then  $(2)$  and  $(x)$  are both prime ideals, but  $(2) \subset (2, x)$  and  $(x) \subset (2, x)$ . Neither  $(2)$  nor  $(x)$  is maximal.

- Consider ring homomorphisms  $\phi_1(f(x)) = f_0$ , and  $\phi_2(f(x)) = \sum (f_i \bmod 2)x^i \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$ .
- Then  $\text{Ker}(\phi_1) = (x)$  and  $\text{Ker}(\phi_2) = (2)$ .
- Both  $\phi_1(\mathbb{Z}[x]) = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\phi_2(\mathbb{Z}[x]) = \mathbb{F}_2[x]$  are integer domains.

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# Polynomial Rings

## Definition 2.1 (Polynomial Rings)

Let  $R[x] = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \mid a_i \in R, n \geq 0\}$  and  $R$  is a ring. Then  $R[x]$  is a polynomial ring under the addition and multiplication of polynomials.

$R$ 是交换环, 则 $R[x]$ 是交换环;

$R$ 是有1环, 则 $R[x]$ 是有1环;

$R$ 是整环, 则 $R[x]$ 是整环;

## Division Algorithm

If  $f$  and  $g$  are polynomials in  $R[x]$ , with  $g$  monic (首一), there are unique polynomials  $q$  and  $r$  in  $R[x]$  such that  $f = qg + r$  and  $\deg r < \deg g$ . If  $R$  is a field,  $g$  can be any nonzero polynomial.

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# Polynomial Rings

## Theorem 2.2 (Remainder Theorem)

*If  $f \in R[X]$  and  $a \in R$ , then for some unique polynomial  $q(X)$  in  $R[X]$  we have*

$$f(X) = q(X)(X - a) + f(a);$$

*hence  $f(a) = 0$  iff  $X - a$  divides  $f(X)$ .*

Proof.

We can write  $f(X) = q(X)(X - a) + r(X)$  where  $r$  is a constant. so  $r = f(a)$  and  $f(a) = 0$  iff  $X - a$  divides  $f(X)$ . □

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We prove it by induction, if  $\deg(f) = 1$ , then it is obvious. If the result holds in  $\deg(f) = n - 1$ . Then when  $\deg(f) = n$  and it has no roots, the result is right, otherwise  $f$  at least has a root  $a$ , we can write  $f(X) = (X - a)g(X)$  while  $\deg(g) = n - 1$ , since  $g(X)$  has at most  $n - 1$  roots, then  $f(X)$  has most  $n$  roots in  $R$ .  $\square$

## Example 2.4

Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}_8$ , which is not an integral domain. The polynomial  $f(X) = X^3$  has four roots in  $R$ , namely  $\{0, 2, 4, 6\}$

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# Unique Factorization

Let  $R$  be an integral domain.

设  $R$  为整环。若  $a, b \in R$ , 且存在  $c \in R$  使得  $a = bc$ , 则称  $b$  为  $a$  的因子, 记为  $b|a$ 。若  $e$  不是  $a$  的因子, 则记为  $e \nmid a$ 。

## Definition 3.1

- 1 **unit** A **unit** in a integral domain  $R$  is an element with multiplicative inverse.
- 2 **Associate** The elements  $a$  and  $b$  are **associates** if  $a = ub$  for some unit  $u$ .
- 3 **Irreducible** If  $a \neq 0$  and  $a$  is not a unit,  $a$  is said to be **irreducible** if  $a = bc$ , then  $b$  or  $c$  must be a unit.
- 4 **Prime** If  $a \neq 0$  and  $a$  is not a unit,  $a$  is said to be **prime** if  $a | bc$ , then  $a | b$  or  $a | c$ .

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## Fact 3.2

*...iff ... is a prime ideal (and vice versa)*

# Unique Factorization

## Lemma 3.3

*If  $a$  is prime, then  $a$  is irreducible, but not conversely.*

Proof.

- If  $a$  is prime and  $a = bc$ , then  $a|bc$ , so  $a|b$  or  $a|c$ . If  $a|b$ , we denote by  $b = ad$ , then  $b = ad = bcd$ , so  $cd = 1$  and therefore  $c$  is a unit.
- If  $a$  is irreducible, we need to find an example that  $a$  is not prime. Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}] = \{a + b\sqrt{-3} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , then 2 in  $R$  is irreducible but not prime. Because suppose  $2 = (a + b\sqrt{-3})(c + d\sqrt{-3})$ ; then  $4 = (a^2 + 3b^2)(c^2 + 3d^2)$ , then  $a^2 + 3b^2 \neq 2$ , so  $a^2 + 3b^2 \neq 2 = 1$  or 4. Let  $a^2 + 3b^2 = 1$ , then  $a = \pm 1, b = 0$ . So 2 is irreducible. But  $2 \mid 4 = (1 + \sqrt{-3})(1 - \sqrt{-3})$  and  $2 \nmid (1 \pm \sqrt{-3})$ , so 2 is not prime.

□

# Unique Factorization

## Lemma 3.3

*If  $a$  is prime, then  $a$  is irreducible, but not conversely.*

### Proof.

- If  $a$  is prime and  $a = bc$ , then  $a|bc$ , so  $a|b$  or  $a|c$ . If  $a|b$ , we denote by  $b = ad$ , then  $b = ad = bcd$ , so  $cd = 1$  and therefore  $c$  is a unit.
- If  $a$  is irreducible, we need to find an example that  $a$  is not prime. Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}] = \{a + b\sqrt{-3} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , then 2 in  $R$  is irreducible but not prime. Because suppose  $2 = (a + b\sqrt{-3})(c + d\sqrt{-3})$ ; then  $4 = (a^2 + 3b^2)(c^2 + 3d^2)$ , then  $a^2 + 3b^2 \neq 2$ , so  $a^2 + 3b^2 \neq 2 = 1$  or 4. Let  $a^2 + 3b^2 = 1$ , then  $a = \pm 1, b = 0$ . So 2 is irreducible. But  $2 \mid 4 = (1 + \sqrt{-3})(1 - \sqrt{-3})$  and  $2 \nmid (1 \pm \sqrt{-3})$ , so 2 is not prime.



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# Unique Factorization

素元与不可约元在**唯一分解**的意义下合二为一。

## Definition 3.4 (unique factorization domain)

A **unique factorization domain** is an integral domain  $R$  satisfying the following properties:

- **Existence** Every nonzero element  $a$  in  $R$  can be expressed as  $a = up_1 \dots p_n$ , where  $u$  is a unit, the  $p_i$  are irreducible and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- **Uniqueness** If  $a$  has another factorization, say  $a = vq_1 \dots q_m$ , where  $v$  is a unit and the  $q_i$  are irreducible, then  $n = m$  and, after reordering if necessary,  $p_i$  and  $q_i$  are associates for each  $i$ .

## Theorem 3.5

*In a unique factorization domain,  $a$  is irreducible iff  $a$  is prime.*

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# Unique Factorization

## Proof.

Since prime implies irreducible, so we don't need to prove this. Assume  $a$  is irreducible, and let  $a \mid bc$ . Then we have  $ad = bc$  for some  $d \in R$ . We factor  $d, b$  and  $c$  into irreducibles to obtain

$$aud_1 \dots d_r = vb_1 \dots b_s wc_1 \dots c_t$$

where  $u, v$  and  $w$  are units and  $d_i, b_i$  and  $c_i$  are irreducible. By uniqueness of factorization,  $a$ , which is irreducible, must be an associate of some  $b_i$  or  $c_i$ . Thus  $a$  divides  $b$  or  $a$  divides  $c$ . □

# Unique Factorization

## Definition 3.6

Let  $R$  be an integral domain. Let  $A \subset R$ , with  $0 \notin A$ . The element  $d$  is a greatest common divisor (gcd) of  $A$  if  $d$  divides each  $a$  in  $A$ , and whenever  $e$  divides each  $a$  in  $A$ , we have  $e|d$ .

## Fact 3.7

*If  $d'|d$  and  $d|d'$ , so that  $d$  and  $d'$  are associates.*

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The elements of  $A$  are said to be relatively prime if 1 is a gcd of  $A$ .

## Definition 3.9

The nonzero element  $m$  is a least common multiple (*lcm*) of  $A$  if each  $a$  in  $A$  divides  $m$ , and whenever  $a|e$  for each  $a \in A$ , we have  $m|e$ .

在环 $R$ 中, 如果 $a|b$ , 当且仅当理想 $(b) \leq (a)$ 。元素间的整除关系等价于元素的所生成的理想间的包含关系!

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**Theorem:** Let  $R$  be an integral domain, Then:

- If  $R$  is a UFD, then  $R$  satisfies the ascending chain condition on principal ideals, in other words,  
if  $a_1, a_2, \dots \in R$  and  $\langle a_1 \rangle \subsetneq \langle a_2 \rangle \subsetneq \dots$ , then the sequence is finite.  
真因子链  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  是有限的。(注: 真因子为非平凡因子)
- If  $R$  satisfies the ascending chain condition on principal ideals, then every nonzero element of  $R$  can be factored into irreducibles.
- If every nonzero element of  $R$  can be factored into irreducibles, and every irreducible element of  $R$  is prime, then  $R$  is a UFD.
- $\text{UFD} \Rightarrow$  真因子链有限。
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# Principal ideal domain

## Fact 3.10

*Thus  $R$  is UFD iff  $R$  satisfies the ascending chain condition and every irreducible element of  $R$  is prime.*

## Definition 3.11

A principal ideal domain (PID) is an integral domain in which every ideal is principal, that is, generated by a single element.

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# Principal ideal domain

## Theorem 3.12

*Every principal ideal domain is a unique factorization domain. For short, PID implies UFD.*

### Proof:

- If  $\langle a_1 \rangle \subsetneq \langle a_2 \rangle \subsetneq \cdots$ , let  $I = \bigcup_i \langle a_i \rangle$ . Then  $I$  is an ideal.
- Let  $I = \langle b \rangle$ , then  $b \in \langle a_n \rangle$  for some  $n$ . Hence  $I \subseteq \langle a_n \rangle$ .
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- Let  $a$  be an irreducible. Then  $\langle a \rangle$  is a proper ideal.
- By acc on principal ideals,  $\langle a \rangle \subseteq M$  for some  $M$  a maximal principal ideal.
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## Theorem 3.13

*$R$  is a PID iff  $R$  is a UFD and every nonzero prime ideal of  $R$  is maximal.*

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## Theorem 3.14

*$R$  is a PID iff  $R$  is a UFD and every nonzero prime ideal of  $R$  is maximal.*

**Proof:**  $\Leftarrow$  Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ . If  $I = \{0\}$ , obviously  $I$  is a principal ideal. Now let  $I \neq \{0\}$ .  $\forall a \in I$ , we have  $a = up_1p_2 \dots p_t$  due to the fact that  $R$  is UFD. Let  $n$  is the minimum for  $t$ , and  $up_1p_2 \dots p_n \in I$ . **Induction on  $n$ :**

- If  $n = 0$ ,  $I = R = (1)$ .
- Suppose that the result holds for all  $r < n$ , now we prove the case of  $n$ .
  - First we prove that  $I \subseteq (p_1)$ . Suppose that  $b \in I$  but  $b \notin (p_1)$ .  $R/(p_1)$  is a field since  $(p_1)$  is a maximal ideal. Then  $\exists c \in R$  such that  $bc = 1 + (p_1)$ , i.e.,  $bc - dp_1 = 1$ . Hence  $bcp_2 \dots p_n - dp_1p_2 \dots p_n = p_2 \dots p_n \in I$ . Contradiction to the minimum of  $n$ .
  - Let  $J = \{x \mid xp_1 \in I\}$ . Then  $J$  is an ideal and  $Jp_1 = I$ .
  - $J$  has a minimum  $n - 1$  (among the numbers of irreducibles in factorization of each element), so  $J = (w)$  for some  $w \in R$ .
  - $I = (p_1w)$ .

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- Suppose that the result holds for all  $r < n$ , now we prove the case of  $n$ .
  - First we prove that  $I \subseteq (p_1)$ . Suppose that  $b \in I$  but  $b \notin (p_1)$ .  $R/(p_1)$  is a field since  $(p_1)$  is a maximal ideal. Then  $\exists c \in R$  such that  $bc = 1 + (p_1)$ , i.e.,  $bc - dp_1 = 1$ . Hence  $bcp_2 \dots p_n - dp_1p_2 \dots p_n = p_2 \dots p_n \in I$ . Contradiction to the minimum of  $n$ .
  - Let  $J = \{x \mid xp_1 \in I\}$ . Then  $J$  is an ideal and  $Jp_1 = I$ .
  - $J$  has a minimum  $n - 1$  (among the numbers of irreducibles in factorization of each element), so  $J = (w)$  for some  $w \in R$ .
  - $I = (p_1w)$ .



# Principal ideal domain

## Theorem 3.14

*$R$  is a PID iff  $R$  is a UFD and every nonzero prime ideal of  $R$  is maximal.*

**Proof:**  $\Leftarrow$  Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ . If  $I = \{0\}$ , obviously  $I$  is a principal ideal. Now let  $I \neq \{0\}$ .  $\forall a \in I$ , we have  $a = up_1p_2 \dots p_t$  due to the fact that  $R$  is UFD. Let  $n$  is the minimum for  $t$ , and  $up_1p_2 \dots p_n \in I$ . **Induction on  $n$ :**

- If  $n = 0$ ,  $I = R = (1)$ .
- Suppose that the result holds for all  $r < n$ , now we prove the case of  $n$ .
  - First we prove that  $I \subseteq (p_1)$ . Suppose that  $b \in I$  but  $b \notin (p_1)$ .  $R/(p_1)$  is a field since  $(p_1)$  is a maximal ideal. Then  $\exists c \in R$  such that  $bc = 1 + (p_1)$ , i.e.,  $bc - dp_1 = 1$ . Hence  $bcp_2 \dots p_n - dp_1p_2 \dots p_n = p_2 \dots p_n \in I$ . Contradiction to the minimum of  $n$ .
  - Let  $J = \{x \mid xp_1 \in I\}$ . Then  $J$  is an ideal and  $Jp_1 = I$ .
  - $J$  has a minimum  $n - 1$  (among the numbers of irreducibles in factorization of each element), so  $J = (w)$  for some  $w \in R$ .
  - $I = (p_1w)$ .

# Principal Ideal Domains and Euclidean Domains

## Theorem 4.1

*Let  $R$  be a PID, with  $A$  a nonempty subset of  $R$ . Then  $d$  is a greatest common divisor of  $A$  iff  $d$  is a generator of  $(A)$ .*

### Proof:

- 1. Let  $d$  be a gcd of  $A$ , and assume that

$$(A) = (b) = \left\{ \sum r_i a_i \mid r_i \in R, a_i \in A \right\}.$$

- Then  $d$  divides every  $a \in A$ , so  $d$  divides all finite sums  $\sum r_i a_i$ , in particular  $d$  divides  $b$ , hence  $(b) \subseteq (d)$ , that is,  $(A) \subseteq (d)$ .
- But if  $a \in A$  then  $a \in (b)$ , so that  $b$  divides  $a$ . Since  $d$  is a gcd of  $A$ , it follows that  $b$  divides  $d$ , so  $(d)$  is contained in  $(b) = (A)$ .

We conclude that  $(A) = (d)$ , proving that  $d$  is a generator of  $(A)$ .

# Principal Ideal Domains and Euclidean Domains

## Proof:

- 2. Conversely, assume that  $d$  generates  $\langle A \rangle$ . If  $a \in A$  then  $a$  is a multiple of  $d$ , so that  $d|a$ . Since  $d$  can be expressed as  $\sum r_i a_i$ , any element that divides everything in  $A$  divides  $d$ , so that  $d$  is a gcd of  $A$ .

# Principal Ideal Domains and Euclidean Domains

## Corollary 4.2

*If  $d$  is a gcd of  $A$ , where  $A$  is a nonempty subset of the PID  $R$ , then  $d$  can be expressed as a finite linear combination  $\sum r_i a_i$  of elements of  $A$  with coefficients in  $R$ .*

### Definition 4.3 (Euclidean domain)

Let  $R$  be an integral domain.  $R$  is said to be a Euclidean domain (ED) if there is a function  $\Psi$  from  $R \setminus \{0\}$  to the nonnegative integers satisfying the following property:

- If  $a$  and  $b$  are elements of  $R$ , with  $b \neq 0$ , then  $a$  can be expressed as  $bq + r$  where either  $r = 0$  or  $\Psi(r) < \Psi(b)$ .
- We can replace " $r = 0$  or  $\Psi(r) < \Psi(b)$ " by simply " $\Psi(r) < \Psi(b)$ " if we define  $\Psi(0)$  to be  $-\infty$ .

## Theorem 4.4

*If  $R$  is a Euclidean domain, then  $R$  is a principal ideal domain. For short, ED implies PID.*

### Proof:

- Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ . If  $I = \{0\}$  then  $I$  is principal, so assume  $I \neq \{0\}$ . Then  $\{\Psi(b) : b \in I, b \neq 0\}$  is a nonempty set of nonnegative integers, and therefore has a smallest element  $n$ .
- Let  $b$  be any element of  $I$  such that  $\Psi(b) = n$ ; we claim that  $I = \langle b \rangle$ . For if  $a$  belongs to  $I$  then we have  $a = bq + r$  where  $r = 0$  or  $\Psi(r) < \Psi(b)$ . Now  $r = a - bq \in I$  (because  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $I$ ), so if  $r \neq 0$  then  $\Psi(r) < \Psi(b)$  is impossible by minimality of  $\Psi(b)$ . Thus  $b$  is a generator of  $I$ .

# Rings of Fractions

## Definition 5.1

Let  $S$  be a subset of the ring  $R$ ; we say that  $S$  is multiplicative if  $0 \notin S$ ,  $1 \in S$ , and whenever  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $S$ , we have  $ab \in S$ .

Example:  $S = R \setminus \{0\}$ .

If  $S$  is a multiplicative subset of the commutative ring  $R$ , we define the following equivalence relation on  $R \times S$ :

- $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$  iff for some  $s \in S$  we have  $s(ad - bc) = 0$ .

# Rings of Fractions

## Definition 5.2

Define the fraction  $\frac{a}{b}$  to be the equivalence class of the pair  $(a, b)$ .

- The set of all equivalence classes is denoted by  $S^{-1}R$ , and is called (in view of what we are about to prove) the ring of fractions of  $R$  by  $S$ .



# Rings of Fractions

- addition:  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad+bc}{bd}$
- multiplication:  $\frac{a}{b} \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ac}{bd}$
- additive identity:  $\frac{0}{1}$
- additive inverse:  $-(\frac{a}{b}) = \frac{-a}{b}$
- multiplicative identity:  $\frac{1}{1}$

### Theorem 5.3

*If  $R$  is an integral domain, so is  $S^{-1}R$ . If  $R$  is an integral domain and  $S = R \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $S^{-1}R$  is a field (the field of fractions or quotient field of  $R$ ) and  $R$  can be embedded in its quotient field.*

**Fact 5.4**

*The quotient field  $F$  of an integral domain  $R$  is the smallest field containing  $R$ .*

**Proof:** We may regard  $R$  as a subset of  $F$ , so that  $F$  is a field containing  $R$ .

But if  $L$  is any field containing  $R$ , then all fractions  $a/b$ ,  $a, b \in R$ , must belong to  $L$ . Thus  $F \subseteq L$ .

# Irreducible Polynomials

## Definition 6.1 (Irreducible Polynomials)

Let  $R$  be a integral domain, and  $R[X]$  is a integral domain,

- We will refer to an irreducible element of  $R[X]$  as an irreducible polynomial.
- A polynomial that is not irreducible is said to be reducible or factorable.

## Example 6.2

- $X^2 + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{R}[X]$  where  $\mathbb{R}$  is the field of real numbers
- $X^2 + 1$  is reducible in  $\mathbb{C}[X]$  where  $\mathbb{C}$  is the field of complex numbers.

# 作业

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