

# Algebraic Structures

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**Part I**

**Groups**

# Chapter 1

## Groups

### 1.1 Definition of groups

**1.1 (Binary operation).** Let  $A$  be a set. A *binary operation* on  $A$  is a function  $\cdot : A \times A \rightarrow A$ . A binary operation on  $A$  is called to satisfy

- (i) the *associativity* if for every  $a, b, c \in A$  we have

$$(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c),$$

- (ii) the *existence of identity* if there exists  $e \in A$  such that for every  $a \in A$  we have

$$a \cdot e = e \cdot a = a,$$

- (iii) the *existence of inverses* if satisfies (ii) and for every  $a \in A$  there is  $x \in A$  such that

$$a \cdot x = x \cdot a = e,$$

- (iv) the *commutativity* if for every  $a, b \in A$  we have

$$a \cdot b = b \cdot a.$$

A *monoid*, *group*, and *abelian group* is an ordered pair  $(A, \cdot)$  of a set  $A$  and a binary operation  $\cdot : A \times A \rightarrow A$  satisfying the first two, three, and four of the above conditions, respectively. An accompanying binary operation is called a *group structure* if it defines a group, that is, it satisfies (i), (ii), and (iii).

- (a)  $(\mathbb{N}, +)$  is not a monoid, and  $(\mathbb{N}, \times)$  is a monoid.
- (b)  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is a group, and  $(\mathbb{Z}, \times)$  is a monoid.
- (c)  $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$  is a group, and  $(\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \times)$  is also a group.
- (d) The set of all invertible  $2 \times 2$  real matrices forms a group with multiplication, which is not abelian.

**1.2 (Properties of a group structure).** We say a group is *additive* if we use the symbol  $+$  for the group structure, and *multiplicative* if we use the symbol  $\cdot$  or omit the symbol for the group structure.

- (a) For  $g_1, \dots, g_n \in G$ , the value of  $g_1 \cdots g_n$  is well-defined independently of how the expression is bracketed.
- (b) The identity of  $G$  and the inverses of each element  $g \in G$  are unique.
- (c)  $(g^{-1})^{-1} = g$  and  $(gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1}$  for all  $g, h \in G$ .
- (d) The left and right cancellation laws.

**1.3 (Group table).**

## 1.2 Homomorphisms

homomorphisms, image, kernel, preimage isomorphism

## 1.3 Subgroups

1.4 (Subgroups).

1.5 (Lagrange theorem). cosets, index

1.6 (Subgroup lattice).

generators

## 1.4 Quotient groups

1.7 (Normal subgroups).

1.8 (Isomorphism theorems).

## Exercises

1.9 (Direct sum and direct product).

1.10 (Automorphism groups).

## Chapter 2

# Examples of groups

### 2.1 Cyclic groups

2.1 (Orders).

cyclic groups

### 2.2 Dihedral and Dicyclic groups

2.2 (Dihedral groups).

2.3 (Dicyclic groups).

2.4 (Quaternion group).

### 2.3 Symmetric and alternating groups

sign homomorphism generators, transpositions cycle type

### 2.4 Matrix groups

general, special

# Chapter 3

## Group actions

### 3.1 Representations

Let  $G$  be a group and  $X$  be a set. A *left action* of  $G$  on  $X$  is a function  $G \times X \rightarrow X : (g, x) \rightarrow gx$  such that  $g(hx) = (gh)x$  and  $ex = x$ . A *left  $G$ -set* is a set  $X$  together with a left action of  $G$  on  $X$ . We may define right actions and right  $G$ -sets similarly.

effective, free, transitive actions. The orbit spaces of a left  $G$ -set  $X$  is a set  $G \backslash X$  of orbits. When we do not have to emphasize the  $G$ -space is left, that is we do not deal with both left and right actions simultaneously, we often write the orbit space just by  $X/G$ .

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . A left coset is an element of the orbit space of the right action  $G \times H \rightarrow G$  of  $H$  on  $G$  given by the right multiplication. Here we can define a left multiplication action of  $G$  on  $G/H$ , which is transitive.

### 3.2 Orbits and stabilizers

Invariants on orbit space.

3.1 (Orbit-stabilizer theorem). The size of orbits. The number of orbits. The class equation.

3.2 (Transitive actions). (a) Stabilizers are all isomorphic.

3.3 (Free actions). no fixed point, trivial stabilizer for any point, every orbit has 1-1 correspondence to group

### 3.3 Action by left multiplication

### 3.4 Action by conjugation

3.4 (Centralizers and normalizers).

3.5 (Conjugacy classes of elements).

3.6 (Conjugacy classes of subgroups).

$H$  has index  $n$  :  $G$  can act on  $\text{Sym}(G/H)$  : left mul  $K$  normalizes  $H$  :  $K \rightarrow \text{NG}(H) \rightarrow \text{NG}(H)/H$  with  $\ker = \text{KnH}$   $K$  normalizes  $H$  :  $K \rightarrow \text{NG}(H) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(H)$  with  $\ker = \text{CG}(H)$



## Exercises

### Problems

1. Show that a group of order  $2p$  for a prime  $p$  has exactly two isomorphic types.
2. Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$  and  $p$  the smallest prime divisor of  $n$ . Show that a subgroup of  $G$  of index  $p$  is normal in  $G$ .
3. Show that a finite group  $G$  satisfying  $\sum_{g \in G} \text{ord}(g) \leq 2n$  is abelian.
4. Find all homomorphic images of  $A_4$  up to isomorphism.
5. For a prime  $p$ , find the number of subgroups of  $Z_{p^2} \times Z_{p^3}$  of order  $p^2$ .
6. Let  $G$  be a finite group. If  $G/Z(G)$  is cyclic, then  $G$  is abelian.
7. Let  $G$  be a finite group. If the cube map  $x \mapsto x^3$  is a surjective endomorphism, then  $G$  is abelian.
8. Show that if  $|G| = p^2$  for a prime  $p$ , then a group  $G$  is abelian.
9. Show that the order of a group with only one automorphism is at most two.

## **Part II**

# **Rings**

# Chapter 4

## Ideals

### 4.1 Definitions of rings and ideals

**4.1** (Definition of rings). A *ring* is an abelian group  $R = (R, +)$  together with a *multiplication*  $\times : R \times R \rightarrow R$  which satisfies the associativity law, such that the following compatibility condition holds: the *distributive laws*:

$$r \times (s + t) = (r \times s) + (r \times t), \quad (s + t) \times r = (s \times r) + (t \times r), \quad r, s, t \in R.$$

We usually omit the cross symbol to write  $r \times s$  as  $rs$ .

We are usually concerned with *commutative unital* rings, that is, rings whose multiplication is commutative and admits a multiplicative identity. The additive and multiplicative identities are usually denoted by 0 and 1 and called the *zero* and the *unity* respectively.

**4.2** (Definition of ideals). Let  $R$  be a commutative unital ring.

**4.3** (Quotient rings).

**4.4** (Isomorphism theorems).

### 4.2 Maximal and prime ideals

fields and integral domains existence by Zorn's lemma

### 4.3 Operations on ideals

#### Exercises

size of units, the number of ideals

## Chapter 5

# Integral domains

### 5.1 Unique factorization domains

### 5.2 Principal ideal domains

5.1. In PID  $R$ ,

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| (a) every irreducible element is prime,                    | (Euclid's lemma)    |
| (b) every two elements has greatest common divisor,        | (existence of gcd)  |
| (c) the gcd is given as a $R$ -linear combination,         | (Bézout's identity) |
| (d) factorization into primes is unique up to permutation, | (UFD)               |
| (e) every prime ideal is maximal.                          | (Krull dimension 1) |

### 5.3 Noetherian rings

#### Exercises

#### Problems

1. Show that a finite integral domain is a field.
2. Show that every ring of order  $p^2$  for a prime  $p$  is commutative.
3. Show that a semiring with multiplicative identity and cancellative addition has commutative addition.
4. Show that the complement of a saturated monoid in a commutative ring is a union of prime ideals.

#### Exercises

5.2 (Primitive roots). We find all  $n$  such that  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is cyclic.

## Chapter 6

# Polynomial rings

### 6.1 Irreducible polynomials

relation to maximal ideals Irreducibles over several fields

6.1 (Gauss lemma).

6.2 (Eisenstein criterion).

### 6.2 Polynomial rings over a field

6.3 (Euclidean algorithm for polynomials).

6.4 (Polynomial rings over UFD).

6.5 (Hilbert's basis theorem).

maximal ideals and monic irreducibles

# **Part III**

## **Modules**

# Chapter 7

## Modules

### 7.1 Modules

**7.1 (Definition of modules).** Let  $R$  be a (possibly non-commutative and possibly non-unital) ring. A *left  $R$ -module* is an abelian group  $(M, +)$  together with a ring homomorphism  $\alpha : R \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M)$ , where  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M)$  denotes the group endomorphisms on  $M$ . We assume conventionally that  $\alpha$  is unital if  $R$  is unital. The homomorphism  $\alpha$  is called the *left action* and the operation  $\cdot : R \times M \rightarrow M$  defined by  $r \cdot m := \alpha(r)(m)$  is called the *scalar multiplication*. We usually omit the dot to denote it by  $rm$ .

(a) If  $R$  is commutative, then

submodules quotient modules isomorphism theorems

### 7.2 Algebras

**7.2 (Definition of algebras).** Let  $R$  be a commutative unital ring. An *associative  $R$ -algebra* is a ring  $A$  together with a unital ring homomorphism  $\alpha : R \rightarrow Z(\tilde{A}) \subset \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}}(A)$ . Although there are some important examples of *non-associative* algebras in which the associativity of multiplication is dropped, in most cases we will assume that an  $R$ -algebra is associative.

(a) The set of matrices  $M_n(R)$  over a ring  $R$  is a unital  $R$ -algebra.

(b) The set of quaternions  $\mathbb{H}$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra.

### 7.3 Free modules

generators, cyclic direct sum free modules

### 7.4 Tensor products

## Chapter 8

# Exact sequences

### 8.1

injective modules projective modules flat modules endomorphism algebra Tor and Ext



## Chapter 9

# Modules over principal ideal domains

### 9.1 Structure theorem of finitely generated modules

**9.1** (Torsion modules). Let  $R$  be a commutative unital ring. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a *torsion* module if for every element  $m \in M$  there is  $r \in R$  such that  $rm = 0$ .

**9.2** (Cyclic modules). Let  $R$  be a commutative unital ring. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is said to be *cyclic* if it is generated by one element.

- (a) A cyclic  $R$ -module is isomorphic to a quotient of  $R$ .
- (b) A cyclic  $R$ -module is torsion-free if and only if it is isomorphic to  $R$ .

**9.3.** Let  $R$  be a principal ideal domain. A submodule of a finite-rank free module is also a finite-rank free module. Two ways to take the basis imply the existence of invariant factors and elementary divisors.

**9.4** (Structure theorem of finitely generated modules). Let  $R$  be a principal ideal domain and  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. If we know the ideal structure of a PID  $R$ , then we can classify all finitely generated modules over  $R$ .

- (a)  $M$  is isomorphic to the direct sum of cyclic  $R$ -modules.
- (b) existence and uniqueness: invariant factors
- (c) existence and uniqueness: elementary divisors

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/48\mathbb{Z}) &\Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c|cccc} & 2 & 4 & 12 & 48 \\ \hline 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 16 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 \end{array} \\
 (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2^2\mathbb{Z})^2 \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2^4\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^2 &\Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c|cccc} p \setminus e & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}
 \end{aligned}$$

## **Part IV**

# **Vector spaces**

# Chapter 10

## Duality

### 10.1 Linear functionals

10.1 (Double dual space).

### 10.2 Bilinear and sesquilinear forms

10.2 (Polarization identity). (a) Let  $F$  be a field of characteristic not 2. If  $\langle -, - \rangle$  is a symmetric bilinear form, then

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(\|x + y\|^2 - \|x\|^2 - \|y\|^2).$$

(b) Let  $F = \mathbb{C}$ . If  $\langle -, - \rangle$  is a sesquilinear form, then

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^3 i^k \|x + i^k y\|^2.$$

(c) isometry check

10.3 (Cauchy-Schwarz inequality). (a) Let  $F = \mathbb{R}$ . If  $\langle -, - \rangle$  is a positive semi-definite symmetric bilinear form, then

(b) Let  $F = \mathbb{C}$ . If  $\langle -, - \rangle$  is a positive semi-definite Hermitian form, then

10.4 (Dual space identification). Let  $\langle -, - \rangle$  be a non-degenerate bilinear form

### 10.3 Adjoint

10.5 (Adjoint linear transforms).

# Chapter 11

## Normal forms

### 11.1 Rational canonical form

11.1 (Rational canonical form). Let  $F$  be a field. Invariant factor form

- (a) There is a one-to-one correspondence between the similarity classes of square matrices over  $F$  and the isomorphism classes of finitely generated  $F[x]$ -modules.
- (b) Every finitely generated  $F[x]$ -module is a direct sum of cyclic torsion  $F[x]$ -modules, i.e. no free submodules.
- (c) Every cyclic torsion  $F[x]$ -module  $V \cong R/(a)$  can be represented by the associated companion matrix  $C_a$ , constructed by the coefficients of  $a$ .

For  $A \in M_n(F)$ , the minimal polynomial  $m_A(x)$  can be defined by the generator of the annihilator of the associated  $F[x]$ -module  $(V, A)$ . The minimal polynomial is the largest invariant factor of  $(V, A)$ . For each invariant factor  $a_i$ , we can construct a companion matrix with its coefficients.

### 11.2 Jordan normal form

### 11.3 Conjugation action

11.2 (Commuting matrices).

### 11.4 Spectral theorems

### Exercises

11.3 (Conjugacy classes of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ ). The conjugacy classes are classified by normal forms. There are four cases: for some  $a$  and  $b$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ,

- (a)  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$ :  $\binom{p-1}{2}$  classes of size  $\frac{|G|}{(p-1)^2} = p(p+1)$ .
- (b)  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$ :  $p-1$  classes of size 1.
- (c)  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$ :  $p-1$  classes of size  $\frac{|G|}{p(p-1)} = p^2 - 1$ .

- (d) otherwise, the eigenvalues are in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2} \setminus \mathbb{F}_p$ . In this case, the number of conjugacy classes is same as the number of monic irreducible quadratic polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ;  $\frac{|\mathbb{F}_{p^2}| - |\mathbb{F}_p|}{2} = \frac{p(p-1)}{2}$  classes. Their size is  $\frac{p(p-1)}{2}$ .

**11.4** (Conjugacy classes of  $\text{GL}_3(\mathbb{F}_p)$ ). There are eight types of invariant factors:

$$(x-a)(x-b)(x-c), (x-a)^2(x-b), (x-a)^3, (x^2+ax+b)(x-c), (x^3+ax^2+bx+c), \\ (x-a) \mid (x-a)(x-b), (x-a) \mid (x-a)^2, (x-a) \mid (x-a) \mid (x-a)$$

## Chapter 12

# Tensor algebras

### 12.1 Graded and filtered algebras

### 12.2 Exterior algebras

12.1 (Determinants).

### 12.3 Symmetric algebras