

1. Suppose R_1, \dots, R_n are rings. Prove that R_1, \dots, R_n are unital if and only if $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$ is unital.

Proof. (\Rightarrow): Assume $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$ is unital, wants to show R_1, \dots, R_n are unital.

$$\begin{aligned}
& R_1 \times \dots \times R_n \text{ are unital} \Rightarrow \exists \text{ unity } (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n) \\
& \Rightarrow (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n) \cdot (r_1, \dots, r_n) = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n \\
& \Rightarrow (\mathbb{1}_1 \cdot r_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n \cdot r_n) = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n \\
& \Rightarrow (r_1, \dots, r_n) \cdot (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n) = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n \\
& \Rightarrow (r_1 \cdot \mathbb{1}_1, \dots, r_n \cdot \mathbb{1}_n) = (r_1, \dots, r_n) \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n \\
& \Rightarrow r_i \cdot \mathbb{1}_i = \mathbb{1}_i \cdot r_i = r_i, \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n
\end{aligned}$$

This shows that $\mathbb{1}_i$ is the unity for each ring R_i . Hence $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$ are unital rings.

(\Leftarrow): Assume R_1, \dots, R_n are unital, wants to show $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$ is unital. By assumption, $\exists \mathbb{1}_1 \dots \mathbb{1}_n$, unity for each ring R_1, \dots, R_n . Wants to show $(\mathbb{1}_1 \dots \mathbb{1}_n)$ is the unity of $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$.

$$\begin{aligned}
(\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n) \cdot (r_1, \dots, r_n) &= (\mathbb{1}_1 \cdot r_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n \cdot r_n) \\
&= (r_1, \dots, r_n) \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(r_1, \dots, r_n) \cdot (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n) &= (r_1 \cdot \mathbb{1}_1, \dots, r_n \cdot \mathbb{1}_n) \\
&= (r_1, \dots, r_n) \forall r_i \in R_i, i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n
\end{aligned}$$

Hence shown $(\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n)$ is the unity of $R_1 \times \dots \times R_n$. □

2. Suppose R is a unital ring. An element x of R is called a unit if it has a multiplicative inverse. Let $\mathcal{U}(R)$ be the set of all the units of R .

(a) Prove that $\mathcal{U}(R)$ is closed under multiplication.

Given $u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{U}(R)$, wants to show $u_1 u_2 \in \mathcal{U}(R)$. Since $u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{U}(R)$, $u_1^{-1}, u_2^{-1} \in \mathcal{U}(R)$. This means the inverse of $u_1 u_2$ exists $(u_1 u_2)^{-1} = u_2^{-1} u_1^{-1}$. This means that $u_1 u_2$ has multiplicative inverse, therefore in $\mathcal{U}(R)$. Hence shown $\mathcal{U}(R)$ is closed under multiplication.

(b) Prove that $(\mathcal{U}(R), \cdot)$ is a group.

Associativity \cdot operator is associative by definition of ring.

Identity Since the ring is unital, and the inverse of the unity is itself, the unity is in $\mathcal{U}(R)$.

Inverse By the definition of $\mathcal{U}(R)$ all elements have inverse under multiplication.

- (c) Suppose R_i are unital rings. Prove that $\mathcal{U}(R_1 \times \dots \times R_n) = \mathcal{U}(R_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{U}(R_n)$
Let r_i be any element in R_i where $i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq n$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{U}(R_1 \times \dots \times R_n) &= (u_1, \dots, u_n) \text{ such that } \exists(u'_1, \dots, u'_n), \\ (u_1, \dots, u_n)(u'_1, \dots, u'_n) &= (u'_1, \dots, u'_n)(u_1, \dots, u_n) = (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n)\end{aligned}$$

By the definition of element wise multiplication:

$$\begin{aligned}(u_1, \dots, u_n)(u'_1, \dots, u'_n) &= (u_1 u'_1, \dots, u_n u'_n) = (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n) \\ (u'_1, \dots, u'_n)(u_1, \dots, u_n) &= (u'_1 u_1, \dots, u'_n u_n) = (\mathbb{1}_1, \dots, \mathbb{1}_n)\end{aligned}$$

This shows that each element u_i has multiplicative inverse. This means that u_i is in $\mathcal{U}(R)$. since u_i is a general term for $\mathcal{U}(R_i)$, this shows that $\mathcal{U}(R_1 \times \dots \times R_n) = \mathcal{U}(R_1) \times \dots \times \mathcal{U}(R_n)$.

- (d) Find $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Q})$

By part c, $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Q}) = \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}) \times \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Q})$ Since the only integers with multiplicative inverse in \mathbb{Z} are ± 1 , and $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$ is a field, $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Q}) = (\pm 1, \mathbb{Q})$

3. Show that $\{a + b\sqrt{3} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is ring.

Group portion First show $(\{a + b\sqrt{3} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}, +)$ is a abelian group.

Associativity

$$\begin{aligned}(a + b\sqrt{3}) + ((a' + b'\sqrt{3}) + (a'' + b''\sqrt{3})) \\ = (a + b\sqrt{3}) + (a' + b'\sqrt{3}) + (a'' + b''\sqrt{3}) \\ = ((a + b\sqrt{3}) + (a' + b'\sqrt{3})) + (a'' + b''\sqrt{3})\end{aligned}$$

Identity $0 + 0\sqrt{3} = 0, 0 + a = a + 0 = a$. Identity exists in the set under $+$.

Inverse $(a + b\sqrt{3})^{-1} = -a - b\sqrt{3}$, since $a + b\sqrt{3} + (-a - b\sqrt{3}) = a - a + b\sqrt{3} - b\sqrt{3} = 0$. The inverse exists in the set under $+$.

Abelian $(a + b\sqrt{3}) + (a' + b'\sqrt{3}) = a + b\sqrt{3} + a' + b'\sqrt{3} = a' + b'\sqrt{3} + a + b\sqrt{3} = (a' + b'\sqrt{3}) + (a + b\sqrt{3})$. Hence shown the group is abelian.

Multiplication associativity

$$\begin{aligned}
& (a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot ((a' + b'\sqrt{3}) \cdot (a'' + b''\sqrt{3})) \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot (a'a'' + a'b''\sqrt{3} + b'\sqrt{3}a'' + b'\sqrt{3}b''\sqrt{3}) \\
&= aa'a'' + aa'b''\sqrt{3} + ab'\sqrt{3}a'' + ab'\sqrt{3}b''\sqrt{3} \\
&\quad + b\sqrt{3}a'a'' + b\sqrt{3}a'b''\sqrt{3} + b\sqrt{3}b'\sqrt{3}a'' + b\sqrt{3}b'\sqrt{3}b''\sqrt{3}) \\
&= (aa' + ab'\sqrt{3} + b\sqrt{3}a' + b\sqrt{3}b'\sqrt{3})(a'' + b''\sqrt{3}) \\
&= ((a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot (a' + b'\sqrt{3})) \cdot (a'' + b''\sqrt{3})
\end{aligned}$$

Distributive property

$$\begin{aligned}
& (a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot ((a' + b'\sqrt{3}) + (a'' + b''\sqrt{3})) \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot (a' + b'\sqrt{3} + a'' + b''\sqrt{3}) \\
&= aa' + ab'\sqrt{3} + aa'' + b''\sqrt{3} + b\sqrt{3}a' + b\sqrt{3}b'\sqrt{3} + b\sqrt{3}a'' + b''\sqrt{3} \\
&= (a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot (a' + b'\sqrt{3}) + (a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot (a'' + b''\sqrt{3})
\end{aligned}$$

4. As in problem 3, one can show $F = \{a + b\sqrt{3} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is a ring. Show that $\mathcal{U}(F) = F \setminus \{0\}$; that means any non-zero element is a unit.

Proof. Given $a + b\sqrt{3}$, define $(a + b\sqrt{3})^{-1}$ as $\frac{a-b\sqrt{3}}{aa-3bb}$. Wants to show the inverse is an element of the ring.

$$\begin{aligned}
(a + b\sqrt{3}) \cdot \frac{a - b\sqrt{3}}{aa - 3bb} &= \frac{a - b\sqrt{3}}{aa - 3bb} \cdot (a + b\sqrt{3}) = \frac{aa - 3bb}{aa - 3bb} = 1 \\
\frac{a - b\sqrt{3}}{aa - 3bb} &= \frac{a}{aa - 3bb} - \frac{b}{aa - 3bb} \cdot \sqrt{3}
\end{aligned}$$

This is of the form $a + b\sqrt{3}$ since $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$ is a field. It contains inverses for all elements and is closed under addition (denominators are therefore rational). Since \mathbb{Q} is a field, $\frac{1}{aa-3bb}$ is rational since it is the multiplicative inverse of $aa - 3bb$ which previously explained to be rational. Hence any non-zero element of F is a unit since $\frac{a-b\sqrt{3}}{aa-3bb}$ is demonstrated to be the multiplicative inverse of any element in F . \square

5. For a ring R , let $R[x] = \{a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n \mid a_0, \dots, a_n \in R, n \in \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}\}$ be the ring of polynomials with coefficients in R and indeterminant x . We add and multiply polynomials as usual.

(a) Show that $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}[x]) = \{\pm 1\}$

Given $z_x = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n$, it's inverse $z_x^{-1} = a'_0 + a'_1x + \cdots + a'_nx^n$.

$$z_x z'_x = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^n a_i a'_j x^{i+j} = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)$$

Assume towards a contradiction that z_x and z'_x are not ± 1 . This is impossible because the x terms cannot be canceled. Hence it can only be the case if the polynomial is $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$ or $(-1, 0, \dots, 0)$.

(b) Show that $2x + 1 \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}_8[x])$

Define the multiplicative inverse of $(2x + 1)$ as $(2x + 1)^{-1} = \frac{1}{2x+1}$

6. Suppose A is a ring with unity 1 . Suppose there is $a_0 \in A$ such that $a_0^2 = 1$. Let $B := \{a_0 r a_0 \mid r \in A\}$. Prove that B is a subring of A .

Subtraction Given any r and r' in A , consider $a_0 r a_0 - a_0 r' a_0$:

$$a_0 r a_0 - a_0 r' a_0 = a_0 (r - r') a_0$$

Since $r, r' \in A$, A is a ring, $r - r'$ is also in A . Hence the first condition is satisfied.

Multiplication Given any r and r' in A , consider $(a_0 r a_0) \cdot (a_0 r' a_0)$. Since multiplication is associative the following holds:

$$\begin{aligned} (a_0 r a_0) \cdot (a_0 r' a_0) &= a_0 r (a_0 \cdot a_0) r' a_0 \\ &= a_0 r \cdot 1 \cdot r' a_0 \\ &= a_0 r r' a_0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $r, r' \in A$, A is a ring, rr' is also in A . Hence the second condition is satisfied. Hence shown $B \leq A$.