

Unity

Definition

To say that R is a *ring with unity* means:

- 1). R is a ring
- 2). R has a multiplicative identity element, called *unity*, and denoted by 1.

Note that since $\langle R, \cdot \rangle$ is a binary algebraic structure, $1 \in R$ is unique.

Theorem

Let R be a ring with unity. $0 = 1$ iff R is the trivial ring.

Proof

\implies Assume $0 = 1$

Assume $a \in R$

$$a0 = 0$$

$$a1 = a0 = a$$

$$\therefore a = 0$$

\longleftarrow Assume R is the trivial ring

$$00 = 0$$

So, 0 is unity for R

R is a ring with unity,

But $|R| = 1$

$$\therefore 0 = 1$$

Theorem

Let $r, s \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $(r, s) = 1$:

$$\mathbb{Z}_{rs} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_r \times \mathbb{Z}_s$$

Proof

\mathbb{Z}_r and \mathbb{Z}_s are cyclic with generator 1

\mathbb{Z}_{rs} is cyclic with generator $(1, 1)$

Let $\phi : \mathbb{Z}_{rs} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_r \times \mathbb{Z}_s$ be defined by $\phi(n) = n \cdot (1, 1)$

Assume $\phi(n) = \phi(m)$

$$n \cdot (1, 1) = m \cdot (1, 1)$$

But addition in \mathbb{Z}_{rs} is well-defined

$$n = m$$

$\therefore \phi$ is one-to-one.

Assume $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{rs}$

$$\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, n \cdot (1, 1) = x$$

$$\phi(n) = n \cdot (1, 1) = x$$

$\therefore \phi$ is onto, and thus a bijection.

$$\phi(n + m) = (n + m) \cdot (1, 1) = n \cdot (1, 1) + m \cdot (1, 1) = \phi(n) + \phi(m)$$

$$\phi(nm) = (nm) \cdot (1, 1) = [n \cdot (1, 1)][m \cdot (1, 1)] = \phi(n)\phi(m)$$

$\therefore \phi$ is a ring homomorphism, and thus a ring isomorphism.