Part I Cheet Sheet

 $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ where d is a square-free integer.

1. $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ where

$$\alpha := \begin{cases} \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & d \equiv 1 \mod 4\\ \sqrt{d} & d \equiv 2, 3 \mod 4 \end{cases}$$

Theorem 1. Let A be an integral domain, and let L be a field containing A. The elements of L integral over A form a ring.

Remark. The immediate consequence of this theorem is that the ring of integers is indeed a ring.

Definition 2. Symmetric polynomials and elementary symmetric polynomials.

Theorem 3. Let A be a ring. Every symmetric polynomial $P(X_1, \ldots, X_r)$ in $A[X_1, \ldots, X_n]$ can be represented with a linear combination of elementary symmetric polynomials with coefficients in A.

Proof is constructive and inductive by reducing the polynomial over the lexicographically highest monomial. Not a hard proof, but the indecies are anoying.

The above proof implies:

Let $f(X) = X^n + a_1 X^{n-1} + \dots + a_n \in A[X]$, and let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ be the roots of f(X) in some ring containing A, so that $f(X) = \prod (X - \alpha_i)$ in the larger ring. Then

$$a_1 = -S_1(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n), \qquad a_2 = S_2(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n), \qquad a_n = \pm S_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n).$$

(I'm not quite sure why this is the case. Maybe use the multi-binomial theorem.)

Thus the elementary symmetric polynomials in the roots of f lie in A. And so the theorem implies that every symmetric polynomial in the roots of f(X) lies in A.

Proposition 4. Let A be a integral domain and Ω be an algebraically closed field containing A. If $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$ are the roots in Ω of a monic polynomial in A[X], then every polynomial $g(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n)$ in $A[\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n]$ is a root of a monic polynomial in A[X].

Proof. Clearly,

$$h(X) := \prod_{\sigma \in \operatorname{Sym}_n} (X - g(\alpha_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \alpha_{\sigma(n)}))$$

is a monic polynomial whose coefficients are symmetric polynomials in the α_i , and therefore lie in A. But $g(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n)$ is one of the roots.

With this we can prove that the above theorem. I don't quite understand few steps ...

Dedekind's Proof

Proposition 5. Let L be a field containing A. An element α of L is integral over A if and only if there exists a nonzero finitely generated A-submodule of L such that $\alpha M \subset M$ (in fact, we can take $M = A[\alpha]$, the A-subalgebra generated by α).

- *Proof.* Let $\alpha \in L$ be integral over A. The A-submodule $A[\alpha]$ in L is generated by $1, \alpha, \ldots, \alpha^{n-1}$, thus finitely generated and clearly nonzero. $\alpha A[\alpha] \subset A[\alpha]$ also holds.
 - Let M be a nonzero, finitely generated A-submodule in L such that $\alpha M \subset M$. Since M is finitely generated, there is a set of generators $v_1, \ldots, v_n \in M$. From $\alpha M \subset M$ we have that

$$\alpha v_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} v_j$$

for some $a_{i,j} \in A$. We rewrite this system of equations

$$(\alpha - a_{i,i})v_i \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n a_{i,j}v_j = 0$$

We have the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} (\alpha - a_{1,1}) & a_{1,2} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & (\alpha - a_{2,2}) & \cdots & a_{2,n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n,1} & a_{n,2} & \cdots & (\alpha - a_{n,n}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Applying Cramer's Rule we get $v_i = \frac{\det(C_i)}{\det C}$, but C_i is always 0, and at least one v_i is nonzero, so we have that $\det(C) = 0$.

But calculating the determinant of C gives us

$$\alpha^n + c_1 \alpha^{n-1} + \dots + c_n = 0$$

as desired.

Now take α and β integral over A and denote $\alpha M \subset M$ and $\beta N \subset N$.

1. MN is an A-submodule of L.

Dedekind's proof is much easier to understand, lol.

Integral Elements

Proposition 6. Let K be the field of fractions of A, and let L be a field containing K. If $\alpha \in L$ is algebraic over K, then there exists a nonzero $d \in A$ such that $d\alpha$ is integral over A.

Corollary 1. Let A be an integral domain with field of fractions K, and let B be the integral closure of A in a field L containing K. If L is algebraic over K, then it is the field of fractions B.

Part II Exercise

Example 6.1. Let d be a square-free integer. Consider $A = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$. Show that every element of R can be written as a product of irreducible elements.

Proof. Define $N: R \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}$ as $N(a+b\sqrt{d}) = |a^2-db^2|$ where $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $a_1+b_1\sqrt{d}$ and $a_2+b_2\sqrt{d}$ be two elements in $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ with $a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, then

$$\begin{split} N((a_1+b_1\sqrt{d})(a_2+b_2\sqrt{d})) &= N((a_1a_2+b_1b_2d) + (a_1b_2+a_2b_1)\sqrt{d}) \\ &= |(a_1a_2+b_1b_2d)^2 - d(a_1b_2+a_2b_1)^2| \\ &= |a_1^2a_2^2 + 2a_1a_2b_1b_2d + b_1^2b_2^2d^2 - a_1^2b_2^2d - 2a_1a_2b_1b_2d - a_2^2b_1^2d| \\ &= |a_1^2a_2^2 - a_1^2b_2^2d - a_2^2b_1^2d + b_1^2b_2^2d^2| \end{split}$$

on the other hand

$$N(a_1 + b_1\sqrt{d})N(a_2 + b_2\sqrt{d}) = |a_1^2 - db_1^2||a_2^2 - db_2^2|$$

= |a_1^2a_2^2 - a_1^2b_2^2d - a_2^2b_1^2d + b_1^2b^2d^2|

so we have $N((a_1+b_1\sqrt{d})(a_2+b_2\sqrt{d})) = N(a_1+b_1\sqrt{d})N(a_2+b_2\sqrt{d})$. Moreover, let $u \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ be a unit, then there is an element $v \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ such that uv = 1. Applying the function defined above, we get

$$1 = N(1) = N(uv) = N(u)N(v)$$

so N(u) = 1. Now suppose $N(a + b\sqrt{d}) = 1$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Consider

$$(a + b\sqrt{d})(a - b\sqrt{d}) = a^2 - db^2 = \pm 1$$

and therefore $a + b\sqrt{d}$ is a unit.

We have shown that N is a norm map. R is also an integral domain because if $x \in R$ is a zero-divisor, then we have $0 = N(x) = |a^2 - db^2|$, but this is impossible since d is square-free. Applying the example before, we get the desired result.

Example 6.2. 2.1.3. did it before

Example 6.3. Let R be a domain in which every element can be written as a product of irreducibles. Show that the following are equivalent.

- 1. this factorization is unique
- 2. if π is irreducible and π divides ab, then $\pi|a$ or $\pi|b$

Proof. Let the factorization be unique, $\pi \in R$ be irreducible and divide ab. Then $ab = \pi x$ for some $x \in R$. On the other hand, ab has a unique factorization that is the product of the factorization of a and b but must contain π .

For the other side let $p_1^{r_1} \cdot \ldots \cdot p_n^{r_n}$ and $q_1^{s_1} \cdot \ldots \cdot q_m^{r_m}$ be two factorizations of an element in R. Then p_1 divides $q_1^{s_1} \cdot \ldots \cdot q_m^{r_m}$ so p_1 divides some q_i . But q_i is irreducible, so we have $p_1 = q_i$. Induction yields the desired result.

Example 6.4. Show that if π is an irreducible element of a principal ideal domain, then (π) is a maximal ideal.

Proof. Assume (π) is not maximal, then there is an ideal (a) with $a \neq 1$ such that $(\pi) \subsetneq (a)$. But this implies $\pi = ra$ for some $r \in R$ that is not a unit. This is a contradiction.

Example 6.5. If F is a field, prove that F[x] is Euclidean.

Proof. Define $\phi: F[x] \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}$ as $\phi(f) = \deg(f)$. Fix two polynomials $f, g \in F[x]$. If $\deg(f) >= g$, then we can do polynomial division to get f = gp + r where $\deg(g) > r$.

Example 6.6. Show that $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ is Euclidean.

Proof. Fix two elements $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ and write $x = a_x + ib_x$ and $y = a_y + ib_y$. It is

$$\frac{x}{y} = \underbrace{\frac{a_x a_y + b_x b_y}{a_y^2 + b_y^2}}_{=:\alpha} + i \underbrace{\frac{a_y b_x - a_x b_y}{a_y^2 + b_y^2}}_{=:\beta}$$

Set p_x to be the closest integer to α and p_y to be the closest integer to β and $p = p_x + ip_y$. Moreover, set $r = ((\alpha - p_x) + i(\beta - p_y))y$.

It is

$$r = y(\alpha + i\beta) - y(p_x + ip_y)$$
$$= y\frac{x}{y} - py$$
$$= x - py$$

so we got the desired representation.

Furthermore, we have

$$N(r) = N(y)((\alpha - p_x)^2 + (\beta - p_y)^2)$$

$$\leq N(y)\frac{1}{2}$$

Example 6.7. Prove that if p is a positive prime, then there is an element $x \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ such that $x^2 \equiv -1 \mod p$ if and only if either p = 2 or $p \equiv 1 \mod 4$.

Proof. 1. Let p=2, then we can simply choose x=1. Now let $p\equiv 1\mod 4$. With Wilson's Theorem we have

$$-1 \equiv (p-1)! \equiv 1 \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{p+1}{2} \cdot \dots \cdot p \equiv \left(\left(\frac{p-1}{2} \right)! \right)^2 \cdot (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \left(\left(\frac{p-1}{2} \right)! \right)^2$$

where $\mod p$. So choose the last expression as x and we are done.

2. If p=2, then we are done. Now let $x^2 \equiv -1 \mod p$. If $p\equiv 3 \mod (4)$, we have

$$x^{p-1} = x^{4n+2} = x^{4n}x^2 \equiv -1(x^4)^n \equiv -1 \mod p$$

as $x^4 \equiv 1 \mod p$. But this contradicts Fermat's Little Theorem.

Example 6.8. Find all integer solutions to $y^2 + 1 = x^3$ with $x, y \neq 0$.

Proof. If x is even, then $4|x^3$, so $x^3 - 1 \equiv 3 \mod 4$ which cannot be a square since all squares are congruent to either 0 or 1 $\mod 4$. So x is odd and y is even. Write $y^2 + 1 = (y+i)(y-i)$. If a prime divides (y+i)(y-i), then the prime divides also their difference 2i. So p=2 up to units. But then p divides y as y was even, but this is impossible since p also divides y+i.

Example 6.9. What are the primes of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$?

Proof. We have two types of primes in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

- 1. p and ip where $p \equiv 3 \mod 4$.
- 2. a + ib with $a^2 + b^2 \equiv 1 \mod 4$ and prime.

This is because of the norm function $N(a+ib)=a^2+b^2$.

Example 6.10. A positive integer a is the sum of two squares if and only if $a = b^2c$ where c is not divisible by any positive prime $p \equiv 3 \mod 4$.

Proof. I don't know.

Example 6.11. $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$ is a ring where

$$\rho = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}.$$

Proof. 1. $(\mathbb{Z}[\rho], +)$ is an abelian group.

- (a) If $a_1+b_1\rho$ and $a_2+b_2\rho$ are elements of $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$, then $a_1+b_1\rho+a_2+b_2\rho=a_1+a_2+(b_1+b_2)\rho$, so the addition is well-defined.
- (b) Associativity and commutativity is inhereted from the addition of integers.
- (c) The additive identity is 0.
- (d) If $a + b\rho$ is in $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$, then its inverse is $-a b\rho$.
- 2. $(\mathbb{Z}[\rho], \cdot)$ is a monoid.
 - (a) If $a_1 + b_1 \rho$ and $a_2 + b_2 \rho$ are two elements of $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$, then we have

$$(a_1 + b_1 \rho)(a_2 + b_2 \rho) = a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 \rho^2 + (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) \rho$$

$$= a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 \overline{\rho} + (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) \rho$$

$$= a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 \frac{-1 - \sqrt{3}}{2} + (a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) \frac{-1 + \sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$= a_1 a_2 - \frac{b_1 b_2}{2} - \frac{a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1}{2} - \frac{b_1 b_2 \sqrt{-3}}{2} + \frac{(a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1) \sqrt{-3}}{2}$$

$$= a_1 a_2 + \frac{-a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_2 - b_1 b_2}{2} + \frac{(a_1 b_2 + a_2 b_1 - b_1 b_2) \sqrt{-3}}{2}$$

I made some mistake, but should be right.

- (b) The multiplicative identity is 1
- 3. Distributive law is again inherited.

Example 6.12. 1. Show that $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$ is Euclidean.

Proof. Fix two elements $x_1 + x_2 \rho$ and $y_1 + y_2 \rho$ of $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$. We have

$$\frac{x_1 + x_2 \rho}{y_1 + y_2 \rho} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 \rho}{y_1 + y_2 \rho} \frac{y_1 - y_2 \rho}{y_1 - y_2 \rho}$$
$$= \frac{x_1 y_1 - x_2 y_2 \overline{\rho} - x_1 y_2 \rho + x_2 y_1 \rho}{y_1^2 + y_2^2 \overline{\rho}}$$

I think this should work at the end of the day, but I'm too lazy to write it out.

2. Show that the only units in $\mathbb{Z}[\rho]$ are $\pm 1, \pm \rho$, and $\pm \overline{\rho}$.

Chapter 1

Algebraic Numbers and Integers

Example 6.13. Show that

$$\alpha := \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}$$

is an algebraic number, but not an algebraic integer.

Proof. First of all, α is the root of

$$X^2 - \frac{2}{9} \in \mathbb{Q}[X],$$

so it is an algebraic number.

Now assume α is an algebraic integer. Then, there is a monic polynomial $f \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ such that $f(\alpha) = 0$. It is

$$f(\alpha) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}\right)^n + a_{n-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}\right)^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} + a_0 = 0$$
$$(\sqrt{2})^n + 3a_{n-1}(\sqrt{2})^{n-1} + \dots + 3^{n-1}a_1\sqrt{2} + 3^n a_0 = 0$$

If n is odd, then $\sqrt{2}$ is not an integer, therefore, we can separate the sum into two smaller ones.

$$\sum_{k \text{ even}} 3^{n-k} a_k (\sqrt{2})^k = 0$$

and

$$\sum_{k \text{ odd}} 3^{n-k} a_k (\sqrt{2})^k = \sqrt{2} \sum_{k \text{ even}} 3^{n-k} a_k (\sqrt{2})^{\frac{k-1}{2}} = 0.$$

Both sums are divisible by 3 as 3 divides 0 and since all summands except for the very last one contains multiples of 3, they are divisible by 3, so the last summand must be divisible by 3 as well. But this cannot be. Hence α is not an algebraic integer.

Example 6.14. Show that if $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ is an algebraic integer, then $r \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof. Write $r = \frac{p}{q}$ such that $q \not| p$ and we have

$$p^{n} + qa_{n-1}p^{n-1} + \dots + q^{n}a_{0} = 0$$

q divides the whole sum, it divides all summands, but it does not divide p^n , therefore q = 1.

Chapter 2

3

Example 6.15. Let K be an algebraic number field. If $\alpha \in K$, then there is a nonzero integer $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $m\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$.

Proof. Since α is an algebraic number, we have

$$\alpha^{n} + a_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1} + \dots + a_{1}\alpha + a_{0} = 0$$

with $a_0, \ldots, a_{n-1} \in \mathbb{Q}$. So choose $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $m\alpha_i$ is an integer for all i. We have

$$m^{n}\alpha^{n} + m^{n}a_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1} + \dots + m^{n}a_{1}\alpha + m^{n}a_{0} = 0$$
$$(m\alpha)^{n} + ma_{n-1}(m\alpha)^{n-1} + \dots + m^{n-1}a_{1}(m\alpha) + m^{n}a_{0} = 0$$

so $m\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$.

CHAPTER 2. 3

Chapter 3

Integral Bases

3.1 Overview

3.2 Details

Definition 7 (Trace and Norm). Let K be an algebraic number field with degree n. Then, K can be viewed as an finite-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{Q} . If $\alpha \in K$, we can define a linear operator

$$\Phi_{\alpha}: K \longrightarrow K, \qquad v \mapsto \alpha v,$$

which may be represented by $n \times n$ matrices $A_{\Phi} = (a_{i,j})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ by requiring

$$\alpha e_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} e_j, \quad a_{i,j} \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

We define trace of α by $\operatorname{Tr}_K(\alpha) := \operatorname{Tr}(\Phi_{\alpha})$ and the norm of α by $N(\alpha) := \det(\Phi_{\alpha})$.

Example 7.1. Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(i)$, then $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[i]$. If $\alpha = a + ib$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $\mathrm{Tr}_K(\alpha) = 2a$ and $\mathrm{N}_K(\alpha) = a^2 + b^2$.

Proof. A basis of K is $\{1, i\}$. Then Φ_{α} is defined by

$$1 + 0 \cdot i \mapsto \alpha = a + ib$$
$$0 + 1 \cdot i \mapsto \alpha i = -b + ia$$

and we may represent Φ by a 2×2 matrix

$$A_{\Phi} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore, $\operatorname{Tr}_K(\alpha) = 2a$ and $\operatorname{N}_K(\alpha) = a^2 + b^2$.

Example 7.2. Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, then $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$. If $\alpha = a + \sqrt{2}b$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $\mathrm{Tr}_K(\alpha) = 2a$ and $\mathrm{N}_K(\alpha) = a^2 - 2b^2$.

Proof. A basis of K is $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$. Define Φ_{α} by

$$1 + 0 \cdot \sqrt{2} \mapsto \alpha = a + \sqrt{2}b$$
$$0 + 1 \cdot \sqrt{2} \mapsto \sqrt{2}\alpha = 2b + \sqrt{2}a$$

then the matrix belonging to Φ_{α} is

$$A_{\Phi} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & a \end{pmatrix}.$$

So we have $\operatorname{Tr}_K(\alpha) = 2a$ and $\operatorname{N}_K(\alpha) = a^2 - 2b^2$.

Lemma 8. If K is an algebraic number field, and $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ an element in its ring of integers, then $\operatorname{Tr}_K(\alpha)$ and $\operatorname{N}_K(\alpha)$ are in \mathbb{Z} .

Proof. Let K be an algebraic number field of degree n and fix an element $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ in its ring of integers. We define a linear operator $\Phi: K \longrightarrow K$ by $v \mapsto \alpha v$. If e_1, \ldots, e_n is a basis of K viewed as a vector space over \mathbb{Q} , then we may represent Φ as a $n \times n$ matrix by

$$\alpha e_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} e_j$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $a_{i,j} \in \mathbb{Q}$. Taking the conjugates, we get

$$\alpha^{(k)} e_i^{(k)} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} e_j^{(k)}$$

and with Kronecker delta we can write

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \delta_{j,k} \alpha^{(j)} e_i^{(j)} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{i,j} e_j^{(k)}.$$

Now set $\Phi_A := (a_{i,j})$

Example 8.1. Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(i)$. Show that $i \in \mathcal{O}_K$ and verify that $\mathrm{Tr}_K(i)$ and $\mathrm{N}_K(i)$ are integers.

Proof. $X^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ has the root i, so i is in \mathcal{O}_K . Since the \mathbb{Q} -basis of $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ is $\{1, i\}$, we have

$$\Phi_i(a+ib) = -b + a_i$$

therefore, the matrix is

$$\Phi_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and hence its trace is $Tr_K(i) = 0$. Similarly, its norm is $N_K(i) = 1$.

Example 8.2. Determine the algebraic integers of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$.

Proof. A Q-basis for $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$ is $\{1,\sqrt{-5}\}$. Let $\alpha=x+\sqrt{-5}y\in\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$. Then

$$\Phi_x(a+\sqrt{-5}b) = (x+\sqrt{-5}y)(a+\sqrt{-5}b) = xa-5yb+(bx+ya)\sqrt{-5}$$

therefore,

$$\Phi_{\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ -5y & x \end{pmatrix}$$

hence we have $\operatorname{Tr}_K(\alpha) = 2x$ and $\operatorname{N}_K = x^2 + 5y^2$.

If x is not an integer, then 2x must be, so we must have that $y^2 \equiv 3 \mod 4$, but this is impossible. Hence x, y are both integers, therefore, $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$.

Example 8.3. 4.1.5 I'll skip this.

Example 8.4. Show that there exist $\omega_1^*, \ldots, \omega_n^* \in K$ such that

$$\mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Z}\omega_1^* + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}\omega_n^*$$
.

Proof. Let $\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_n$ be a \mathbb{Q} -basis for K. For any $\alpha \in K$, there is a nonzero integer $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $m\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$.

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I'll skip exercises that require bilinear form for now.

Definition 9. Let K be an algebraic number field of degree n and \mathcal{O}_K be its ring of integers. We say that $\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_n$ is an integral basis for K if $\omega_i \in \mathcal{O}_K$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}\omega_1 + \cdots + \mathbb{Z}\omega_n$.

Example 9.1. Show that det $Tr(\omega_i \omega_j)$ is independent of the choice of integral basis.

Definition 10 (Discriminant). Let K be an algebraic number field of degree n and $\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_n$ an integral basis. The discriminant of K is defined as

$$d_K := \det\left(\omega_i^{(j)}\right)^2.$$

Proof. We show that the discriminant is well-defined. In other words, the discriminant is independent of the choice of integral basis.

Let $\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_n$ and $\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_n$ be two integral basis for K.

Example 10.1. Let d be a square-free integer and consider the algebraic number field $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$. The discriminant of K is

$$\Delta_K = \begin{cases} d & \text{if } d \equiv 1 \mod 4 \\ 4d & \text{if } d \equiv 2, 3 \mod 4. \end{cases}$$

Proof. The ring of integers of K is $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ where

$$\alpha := \begin{cases} \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & d \equiv 1 \mod 4 \\ \sqrt{d} & d \equiv 2, 3 \mod 4. \end{cases}$$

We will look at each case one by one.

1. If $\alpha = 2^{-1}(1+\sqrt{d})$, then a integral basis and its conjugate are

$$\left\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$$
 and $\left\{1, \frac{1-\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$,

therefore, the discriminant is

$$\Delta_K = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & \frac{1-\sqrt{d}}{2} \end{pmatrix}^2 = \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{d}}{2} - \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)^2 = \left(-\frac{2\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)^2 = d.$$

2. On the other hand, if $\alpha = \sqrt{d}$, then a integral basis and its conjugate are

$$\left\{1,\sqrt{d}\right\}$$
 and $\left\{1,-\sqrt{d}\right\}$

and hence we have

$$\Delta_K = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \sqrt{d} & -\sqrt{d} \end{pmatrix}^2 = \left(-2\sqrt{d}\right)^2 = 4d.$$

Conclude the stated result above.