Math 425: Abstract Algebra I
Theorems from the Textbook - Chapter 3

Theorems

Theorem 3.1.1. *If* 0 *is the zero of a ring* R*, then* $0r = 0 = r0$ *for every* $r \in R$*.*

Theorem 3.1.2. *Let* r *and* s *be arbitrary elements of a ring* R*.*

1. $(-r)s = r(-s) = -rs$
2. $(-r)(-s) = rs$
3. $(mr)(ns) = (mn)(rs)$ *for all integers* m *and* n

Theorem 3.1.3. *If* R *is a ring and* $\operatorname{char} R = n$*, then*

1. *If* $\operatorname{char} R = n > 0$*, then* $kR = \{0\}$ *if and only if* n *divides* k*.*
2. *If* $\operatorname{char} R = 0$*, then* $kR = 0$ *if and only if* $k = 0$*.*

Theorem 3.1.5 (The Subring Test)**.** *Let* $(R, +, \cdot)$ *be a ring and* S *a non-empty subset of* R*. Then* S *is a subring of* R *if*

1. $s_1 - s_2 \in S$ *for all* $s_1, s_2 \in S$
2. $s_1 s_2 \in S$ *for all* $s_1, s_2 \in S$
3. $1_R \in S$ *(if* 1_R *exists)*

Theorem 3.2.1. *The following are equivalent for a ring* R*.*

1. *If* $ab = 0$ *in* R*, then* $a = 0$ *or* $b = 0$*.*
2. *If* $ab = ac$ *in* R *and* $a \neq 0$*, then* $b = c$*.*
3. *If* $ba = ca$ *in* R *and* $a \neq 0$*, then* $b = c$*.*

Theorem 3.2.2. *The characteristic of any domain is either zero or a prime.*

Theorem 3.2.3. *Every finite integral domain is a field.*

Theorem (Wedderburn's Theorem)**.** *Every finite division ring is a field.*

Theorem 3.3.1. *Let* I *be an ideal of the ring* R *(with unity). Then the additive group* $(R/I, +)$ *becomes a ring with multiplication* $(r + I)(s + I) = rs + I$ *called the* factor ring *or* quotient ring*. The unity of* R/I *is* $1 + I$ *and if* R *is commutative, then* R/I *is commutative.*

Theorem 3.3.2. *If* I *is an ideal of the ring* R *(that has unity), then the following are equivalent*

1. $1 \in I$

2. *I contains a unit*

3. $I = R$

Theorem 3.3.3. *If R is a commutative ring, an ideal $P \neq R$ of R is a prime ideal if and only if R/P is an integral domain.*

Theorem 3.3.4. *Let I be an ideal of the ring R. There is a correspondence*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \textit{ideals of } R \\ \textit{containing } I \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \{\textit{ideals of } R/I\}.$$

Moreover, this correspondence respects containment.

Theorem 3.3.5. *If R is a commutative ring with identity, then R is simple if and only if it is a field.*

Theorem 3.3.6. *Let M be an ideal of a ring R. Then M is maximal if and only if R/A is simple.*

Corollary 1. *Let R be a commutative ring, with unity. Let M be an ideal of R. Then M is maximal if and only if R/M is a field.*

Corollary 2. *Let R be a commutative ring, with unity. If M is a maximal ideal of R, then M is a prime ideal.*

Lemma. *Lemma 3.3.3 Let R be a ring with unity and $n \geq 1$. Every ideal of $M_n(R)$ has the form $M_n(A)$ for some ideal A of R.*

Theorem 3.3.7. *If R is a ring with unity then $M_n(R)$ is simple if and only if R is simple.*

Corollary 1. *If R is a division ring then $M_n(R)$ is simple.*

Theorem 3.4.1. *Let $\theta\colon R \to R_1$ be a ring homomorphism and let $r \in R$.*

1. $\theta(0) = 0$

2. $\theta(-r) = -\theta(r)$ *for all* $r \in R$

3. $\theta(kr) = k\theta(r)$ *for all* $r \in R$ *and* $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

4. $\theta(r^n) = \theta(r)^n$ *for all* $r \in R$ *and* $n \geq 0$ *in* $\mathbb{Z}$

5. *If* $u \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $\theta(u^k) = \theta(u)^k$ *for all* $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 3.4.2. *Let $R \neq 0$ be a commutative ring with characteristic p, and define*

$$\phi : R \to R \quad \textit{by} \quad \phi(r) = r^p \textit{ for all } r \in R.$$

Then ϕ is a ring homomorphism.

We call this ϕ the Frobenius Endomorphism. *If ϕ is a finite field, we call ϕ the* Frobenius Automorphism, *which is an isomorphism.*

Theorem 3.4.3. *Let $\theta\colon R \to S$ be a ring homomorphism. Then*

1. *$\theta(R)$ is a subring of S*

2. *$\ker\theta$ is an ideal of R*

Theorem 3.4.4 (First Isomorphism Theorem for Rings)**.** *Let $\theta : R \to S$ be a ring homomorphism and write $A = \ker\theta$. Then θ induces a ring isomorphism*

$$\bar{\theta} : R/A \to \theta(R) \quad \textit{given by} \quad \bar{\theta}(r + A) = \theta(r) \textit{ for all } r \in R.$$

Corollary 1. *Let A and B be ideals of the rings R and S, respectively. Then $A \times B$ is an ideal of $R \times S$ and*

$$\frac{R \times S}{A \times B} \cong \frac{R}{A} \times \frac{S}{B}.$$

Corollary 2. *Let A be an ideal of the ring R. Then $M_n(A)$ is an ideal of $M_n(R)$ and*

$$\frac{M_n(R)}{M_n(A)} \cong M_n(R/A).$$

Definitions

Definition. Suppose R is a set and it has two binary operations on it (written as $+$ and $\cdot$), then the set R is a *ring* if

1. $(R, +)$ is an abelian group

2. $\cdot$ is associative (i.e., $r_1(r_2r_3) = (r_1r_2)r_3$)

3. the distributive laws hold:

   - $r_1(r_2 + r_3) = r_1r_2 + r_1r_3$
   - $(r_1 + r_2)r_3 = r_1r_3 + r_2r_3$

Definition. The *direct product* $R_1 \times R_2$ of rings R_1 and R_2 is also a ring with componentwise operations:

- $(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d)$

- $(a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac, bd)$

Definition. Given a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$,

1. If $\cdot$ is commutative, then we call R a *commutative ring.*

2. The *additive identity* element in R is denoted 0 or 0_R.

3. If there exists a *multiplicative identity* element in R, it is denoted 1 or 1_R. A ring that has a 1_R is called a *ring with unity.*

4. A non-zero element $a \in R$ is called a *zero-divisor* if there is some non-zero $b \in R$ such that $ab = 0$ or $ba = 0$.

5. An element $a \in R$ is called *nilpotent* if there is some $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $a^n = 0$.

6. Suppose R is a rings with unity. Then an element $a \in R$ is called a *unit* if there is some $b \in R$ such that $ab = ba = 1$.

7. The *center* $Z(R)$ of a ring R is defined to be

$$Z(R) = \{x \in R \mid xr = rx \; \forall r \in R\}.$$

8. A ring $R \neq \{0\}$ is called a *division ring* if every non-zero element in R is a unit.

9. A *field* is a commutative division ring.

Definition. Given variables i, j, k satisfying $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1$, $ij = -ji = k$, $jk = -kj = i$, $ki = -ik = j$, the set

$$\mathbb{H} = \{a + bi + cj + dk \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

is a ring under under addition and multiplication called the *quaternions*.

Definition. The *characteristic* of a ring R is the order of 1_R in the additive group $(R, +)$ if the order is finite. Otherwise we say $\operatorname{char} R = 0$. Denote this value by $\operatorname{char} R$.

Definition. A subset S of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a *subring* if $(S, +, \cdot)$ is also a ring.

Definition. Let R and S be rings. A *ring isomorphism* is a bijective map $\phi : R \to S$ such that for all $r_1, r_2 \in R$,

1. $\phi(r_1 + r_2) =$

2. $\phi(r_1 r_2) =$

3. $\phi(1_R) = 1_S$

In this case we say R and S are *isomorphic* and write $R \cong S$.

Definition. A ring $R \neq \{0\}$ is called a *domain* if $ab = 0$ implies that either $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.

Definition. A commutative domain is called an *integral domain.*

Definition. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring. An additive subgroup $(I, +)$ of $(R, +)$ is an *ideal of* R if $rI \subseteq I$ and $Ir \subseteq I$ for all $r \in R$.

Definition. Equivalent definitions of an *ideal* I of a ring R: (given $(I, +) \leq (R, +)$)

- for all $i \in I$, $iR \subseteq I$ and $Ri \subseteq I$
- for all $i \in I$ and $r \in R$, $ir \in I$ and $ri \in I$.

Definition. If $a \in Z(R)$, then $Ra = aR$ and we call this set the *principal ideal of* R *generated by* a. Denote this set by (a).

Definition. We call a proper ideal P of a ring R *prime* if

$$rs \in P \quad \Rightarrow \quad r \in P \text{ or } s \in P.$$

Definition. A ring R is a *simple ring* if $R \neq \{0\}$ and the only ideals of R are $\{0\}$ and R.

Definition. Let R be a ring (not necessarily commutative), and let M be an ideal of R. We call M a *maximal ideal* of R if

1. $M \neq R$, and

2. if I is an ideal of R satisfying $M \subseteq I \subseteq R$, then $I = M$ or $I = R$.

Definition. If R and S are rings with unity, we call a map $\theta : R \to S$ a *ring homomorphism* if

1. $\theta(r_1 + r_2) = \theta(r_1) + \theta(r_2)$ for all $r_1, r_2 \in R$

2. $\theta(r_1 r_2) = \theta(r_1)\theta(r_2)$ for all $r_1, r_2 \in R$

3. $\theta(1_R) = 1_S$