

Math 311 – Algebraic number theory – Practice problem

Instructor: Matthew Greenberg

December 11, 2016

1. Let A be an abelian group. Define the *rank of A* to be

$$\sup\{|X| : X \subseteq A \text{ is } \mathbb{Z}\text{-linearly independent}\}.$$

- (a) Define what it means for an abelian group to be:

- free,
- finitely generated,
- torsion-free.

- (b) State the structure theorem for finitely-generated abelian groups. Use it to prove that an abelian group is free of rank $r < \infty$ if and only if $A \approx \mathbb{Z}^r$.

- (c) State the *elementary divisors theorem*. Use it to prove that if A and B are abelian groups such that if B is free of rank $n < \infty$ and $A \subseteq B$, then A is free of rank $m \leq n$ with equality if and only if B/A is finite. Further, show that if $m = n$ then $[B : A]$ is the product of the elementary divisors of A with respect to B .

2. Let K be a number field of degree n with ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K .

- (a) Prove that \mathcal{O}_K is a free abelian group of rank at most n .

$$\text{rank } \mathcal{O}_K \leq \dim K.$$

(Hint: Explain why (i) \mathcal{O}_K is torsion-free and (ii) a set of $> n$ elements of K are \mathbb{Z} -linearly dependent.)

- (b) Let $a \in K$. Prove that there is an integer $n > 0$ such that $na \in \mathcal{O}_K$.

- (c) Prove that \mathcal{O}_K contains a \mathbb{Q} -basis of K . (Use the preceding exercise.) Deduce that

$$\text{rank } \mathcal{O}_K \geq n.$$

3. Let V be an n -dimensional \mathbb{Q} -vector space and let L be an abelian subgroup of V .

- (a) Prove that if L is free of rank $\leq n$ if and only if L is finitely generated. (Use the structure theorem for finitely generated abelian groups.)

- (b) Prove that a subset X of V is \mathbb{Q} -linearly independent if and only if it is \mathbb{Z} -linearly independent.

- (c) Prove that

$$\sup\{|X| : X \text{ is a linearly independent subset of } L\} \leq n.$$

(We are *not* assuming L is finitely generated.)

- (d) Give an example of an abelian subgroup of V that is not finitely generated.

4. Let V be an F -vector space and let

$$B : V \times V \longrightarrow F$$

be an F -bilinear form.

(a) Prove that the following conditions are equivalent:

1. $B(x, V) = 0$ if and only if $x = 0$.
2. The *duality map*

$$\delta : V \longrightarrow V^* := \text{Hom}_F(V, F)$$

defined by

$$\delta(x)(y) = B(x, y)$$

is injective.

If B satisfies these conditions, it is called *nondegenerate*.

- (b) Suppose B is nondegenerate and V is finite-dimensional. Prove that δ is an isomorphism. (Hint: What is the dimension of V^* ?)
- (c) Suppose that B is nondegenerate and $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ is an F -basis of V . Prove that there are a unique B -dual basis $\mathbf{v}^B = (v_1^B, \dots, v_n^B)$ of V such that

$$B(v_i, w_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

(Hint: Since \mathbf{v} is an F -basis of V , there are unique F -linear functionals

$$\ell_j : V \longrightarrow F$$

such that

$$\ell_j(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

Now use the injectivity of δ .)

- (d) Suppose that $\dim V = n$, that B is nondegenerate and that \mathbf{v} is an F -basis of V . Let $[B]_{\mathbf{v}} \in F^{n \times n}$ be the matrix whose (i, j) -component is $B(v_i, v_j)$. Show that

$$B(x, y) = [x]_{\mathbf{v}}^t [B]_{\mathbf{v}} [y]_{\mathbf{v}},$$

where $[x]_{\mathbf{v}}, [y]_{\mathbf{v}} \in F^{n \times 1}$ are the coordinate vectors of x and y with respect to \mathbf{v} , respectively.

- (e) Suppose that $\dim V = n$, that B is nondegenerate, and that \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{v}' are F -bases of V . Let $A \in F^{n \times n}$ be the matrix mapping the \mathbf{v} -coordinates of $x \in V$ to its \mathbf{v}' -coordinates:

$$A[x]_{\mathbf{v}} = [x]_{\mathbf{v}}'.$$

Prove that

$$A^t [B]_{\mathbf{v}'} A = [B]_{\mathbf{v}}.$$

- (f) Set

$$\text{disc } \mathbf{v} = \det[B]_{\mathbf{v}},$$

Prove that

$$\text{disc } \mathbf{v} \equiv \text{disc } \mathbf{v}' \pmod{F^{\times 2}},$$

where \mathbf{v}' is another F -basis of V and $F^{\times 2} = \{x^2 : x \in F^{\times}\}$. (Hint: Use the preceding exercise and properties of the determinant.)

The *discriminant* of B , denoted $\text{disc } B$, is defined to be the image of $\text{disc } \mathbf{v}$ in $F^{\times}/F^{\times 2}$. By the above,

$$\text{disc } B \in F^{\times}/F^{\times 2}$$

does not depend on our choice of \mathbf{v} .

5. Suppose that V is an n -dimensional \mathbb{Q} -vector space equipped with a nondegenerate, symmetric, \mathbb{Q} -bilinear form

$$B : V \times V \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

Let L be an abelian subgroup of V .

- (a) Suppose that $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ and $\mathbf{v}' = (v'_1, \dots, v'_n)$ are \mathbb{Z} -bases of L . Prove that

$$\text{disc } \mathbf{v} = \text{disc } \mathbf{v}'.$$

Define $\text{disc}(L, B)$ to be this common value.

- (b) Suppose that M is an abelian subgroup of V with $L \subseteq M$. Show that M is B -integral and that

$$\text{disc}(M, B) = [L : M]^2 \text{disc}(L, B).$$

(Hint: Use the elementary divisors theorem.) Conclude that if $\text{disc}(L, B)$ is squarefree then L is a maximal B -integral subgroup of V .

- (c) Define the T -dual subgroup

$$L^T = \{x \in V : T(x, L) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Prove that $L_1 \subseteq L_2$ implies $L_2^T \subseteq L_1^T$.

- (d) Suppose that $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ is a basis of L . Prove that $\mathbf{v}^T = (v_1^T, \dots, v_n^T)$ is a basis of L^T .

- (e) Prove that

$$|\text{disc}(L, B)| = [L^T : L].$$

6. (a) Define the *trace map*

$$t : K \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}.$$

- (b) Prove that t is \mathbb{Q} -linear.

- (c) Define the *trace form*

$$T : K \times K \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}.$$

- (d) Prove that T is \mathbb{Q} -bilinear. (Use the fact that t is \mathbb{Q} -linear.)

- (e) We proved in class that T is nondegenerate. Remind yourself why this is.

- (f) Prove that $\mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathcal{O}_K^T$, i.e., that

$$T(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathcal{O}_K) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}.$$

- (g) Let L be a subgroup of \mathcal{O}_K . Prove that $\mathcal{O}_K^T \subseteq L^T \subset$.

- (h) Let $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ be a basis of K with $v_i \in \mathcal{O}_K$ (such a basis exists by a previous exercise) and let

$$L = \mathbb{Z}v_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}v_n.$$

Then L^T free abelian group of rank n containing \mathcal{O}_K . (Why?) Deduce that $\text{rank } \mathcal{O}_K \leq n$. Combine this with the result of a previous exercise to deduce that $\text{rank } \mathcal{O}_K = n$.

- (i) Let \mathfrak{a} be a nonzero ideal of \mathcal{O}_K . Prove that \mathfrak{a} contains a positive integer n . It follows that $n\mathcal{O}_K \subseteq \mathfrak{a}$. Deduce that $\text{rank } \mathfrak{a} = n$.

- (j) Let $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ be an integral basis of K , i.e., \mathbb{Z} -basis of \mathcal{O}_K . Define the *discriminant* d_K of K by

$$d_K = \text{disc}(\mathcal{O}_K, T).$$

Explain why d_K is well-defined, i.e., is independent of our choice of basis.

- (k) Let \mathcal{O} is a subring of $K \cap \bar{\mathbb{Z}}$ with $\text{rank } \mathcal{O} = n$. Suppose that $\text{disc}(\mathcal{O}, T)$ is squarefree. Show that $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_K$ and that $d_K = \text{disc}(\mathcal{O}, T)$.

- (l) Let \mathcal{O} be a subring of $K \cap \bar{\mathbb{Z}}$ with $\text{rank } \mathcal{O} = n$. Suppose that $\text{disc}(\mathcal{O}, T) = p^2$, where p is a prime number. Show that $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_K$ and that $d_K = \text{disc}(\mathcal{O}, T)$.

7. Let a be a root of $f(x)$ and let $K = \mathbb{Q}(a)$. Compute:

- $\text{disc}(1, a, \dots, a^{\deg f - 1})$
- $r_1(K), r_2(K), \text{rank } \mathcal{O}_K^\times$

In the cases where $\text{rank } \mathcal{O}_K^\times \geq 1$, can you write down any units of infinite order? How about a linearly independent subset of \mathcal{O}_K^\times of maximal rank?

- (a) $f(x) = x^2 - m$
- (b) $f(x) = x^2 - x + \frac{1-m}{4}, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}, m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$
- (c) $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 1$
- (d) $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 2x - 1$
- (e) $f(x) = \text{minimal polynomial of } \zeta_7 + \zeta_7^{-1}, \text{ where } \zeta_7 = e^{2\pi i/7}$
- (f) $f(x) = \text{minimal polynomial of } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1 + \sqrt{-1})$
- (g) $f(x) = \text{minimal polynomial of } \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{-1}$

8. Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$.

- (a) Prove that 2 ramifies in K .
- (b) Let \mathfrak{p}_2 be the unique (prime) ideal of \mathcal{O}_K such that $\mathfrak{p}_2^2 = 2\mathcal{O}_K$. Prove that \mathfrak{p}_2 is not a principal ideal. Deduce that the class number of K is at least 2.
- (c) By computing the Minkowski bound for K , show that K has class number 2.
- (d) Prove that $\mathfrak{p}_2 = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$. (Hint: It suffices to show (why?) that $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^2 = 2\mathcal{O}_K$.)
- (e) Prove that 3 splits in \mathcal{O}_K ; write $3\mathcal{O}_K = \mathfrak{p}_3\bar{\mathfrak{p}}_3$. Show that \mathfrak{p}_3 and $\bar{\mathfrak{p}}_3$ is not principal.
- (f) Explain why $\mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3$ and $\mathfrak{p}_2\bar{\mathfrak{p}}_3$ are principal ideals. Identify generators. (You don't need to a presentation of \mathfrak{p}_3 to do this.)

9. Let $f(x) = x^3 - ax^2 - (a+3)x - 1$.

- (a) Prove that $f(x)$ is irreducible.
- (b) Let $\rho = \rho_1$ be a root of $f(x)$ and let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\rho)$. Verify that

$$\rho_2 := \frac{-1}{1 + \rho_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \rho_3 := \frac{-1}{1 + \rho_3}$$

are the other roots of $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = (x - \rho_1)(x - \rho_2)(x - \rho_3).$$

Deduce that K is totally real:

$$r_1(K) = 3.$$

- (c) Show that the ρ_j are units:

$$\rho_j \in \mathcal{O}_K^\times, \quad j = 1, 2, 3.$$

- (d) Prove that

$$\text{disc}(1, \rho, \rho^2) = (a^2 + 3a + 9)^2.$$

(e) Suppose

$$p := a^2 + 3a + 9$$

is prime. For example, $a = -1, 1$, and 2 give $p = 7, 13$, and 19 , respectively. Prove that $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\rho]$.

(f) (**) Show that $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, making $\frac{p-1}{3}$ an integer. Let $q \neq p$ be another prime. Prove that

$$q^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \equiv \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q \text{ splits in } K, \\ -1 & \text{if } q \text{ is inert in } K. \end{cases} \pmod{p}.$$

In other words, $q \neq p$ splits in K if and only if q is a cube modulo p .

10. Let K be a Galois number fields. Let $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ be a prime and let \mathfrak{p} be a prime ideal of \mathcal{O}_K such that $\mathfrak{p} \mid p$. Assume that p is unramified in K .

(a) Define the *decomposition group* $D_{\mathfrak{p}|p}$.

(b) Define the *Frobenius automorphism* $\text{Fr}_{\mathfrak{p}|p} \in D_{\mathfrak{p}|p}$.

(c) Let K be a quadratic field and let d_K be its discriminant. Let p be a prime with $p \nmid d_K$. Identify the image of $\text{Fr}_{\mathfrak{p}|p}$ under the natural (unique) map

$$\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow \{\pm 1\}.$$

You don't need to justify your answer for this part.

11. Let K and L be a Galois number fields with $K \subset L$. Let $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ be a prime and let \mathfrak{p} be a prime ideal of \mathcal{O}_K such that $\mathfrak{p} \mid p$, and let \mathfrak{P} be a prime ideal of \mathcal{O}_L such that $\mathfrak{P} \mid \mathfrak{p}$. Assume that p is unramified in L and, hence, in K .

Show that the natural map

$$\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$$

maps $D_{\mathfrak{P}|p}$ into $D_{\mathfrak{p}|p}$ and $\text{Fr}_{\mathfrak{P}|p}$ onto $\text{Fr}_{\mathfrak{p}|p}$.

12. Let

$$K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{-1}).$$

(a) For a prime $p \in \mathbb{Z}$, define e , f , and g by

$$p\mathcal{O}_K = (\mathfrak{P}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{P}_g)^e, \quad f = [k(\mathfrak{P}_i)/k(p)].$$

Here, $k(\mathfrak{P}_i)$ and $k(p)$ are the residue class fields of \mathfrak{P}_i and p , respectively.

Enumerate all possible triples (e, f, g) . For each triple (e, f, g) , provide a corresponding p .

(b) There is a third quadratic subfield of K ; find it. Call it E .

(c) Determine the triples (e', f', g') and (e'', f'', g'') characterized by

$$\begin{aligned} 2\mathcal{O}_E &= (\mathfrak{p}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{p}_{g'})^{e'} & f' &= [k(\mathfrak{p}_i)/k(p)], \\ \mathfrak{p}_i\mathcal{O}_K &= (\mathfrak{P}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{P}_{g''})^{e''} & f'' &= [k(\mathfrak{P}_j)/k(\mathfrak{p}_i)]. \end{aligned}$$