



## Why

Matrices with elements in a ring form a ring.

## Example

Let  $(R, +, \cdot)$  be a ring. Define  $C = A \bar{+} B$  by  $C_{ij} = A_{ij} + B_{ij}$  and define  $C = A \bar{\cdot} B$  by  $C_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n A_{ik} B_{kj}$ , as with real matrices, for  $A, B \in R^{n \times n}$ . Then  $(R^{n \times n}, \bar{+}, \bar{\cdot})$  is a ring. In other words, the set of  $n \times n$  matrices with elements in  $R$  is a ring, with the usual addition and multiplication of matrices.

The additive identity of the ring is the matrix  $0 \in R^{n \times n}$  for which  $0_{ij} = 0 \in R$ . The multiplicative identity the matrix  $I$  for which  $I_{ii} = 1 \in R$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $I_{ij} = 0 \in R$  for  $i \neq j = 1, \dots, n$ . As seen with real-valued matrices, multiplication on  $R^{n \times n}$  need not be commutative even if  $R$  is.

**Exercise 1.** *Show that  $R^{n \times n}$  is not a division ring when  $n > 1$ .*



