

(122)

Proposition: Let  $\alpha$  be an element of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ . If  $N(\alpha)$  is prime in  $\mathbb{Z}$  then  $\alpha$  is prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ .

Proof: Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$

and  $\alpha = \beta\gamma$  ;  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ .

$$N(\alpha) = N(\beta\gamma) = N(\beta)N(\gamma)$$

As  $N(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$  is prime

$$\Rightarrow N(\beta) = \pm 1 \quad \text{or} \quad N(\gamma) = \pm 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  Either  $\beta$  is a unit or  $\gamma$  is a unit.

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \mid \beta \quad \text{or} \quad \alpha \mid \gamma$$

$\Rightarrow \alpha$  is prime as it is not zero and not a unit as  $N(\alpha)$  is prime.



(123)

Converse is not true.

e.g.  $\alpha = 3$

$N(\alpha) = 9$  is not a prime in  $\mathbb{Z}$

but 3 is a prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

Exc:  $2+i$  and  $2-i$  are primes

in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  as

$N(2+i) = 5$  is prime in  $\mathbb{Z}$

and

also  $N(2-i) = 5$  is prime in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .



Proposition: Every non zero element of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$  that is not a unit can be factored as a product of primes in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ . (124)

Proof: We will prove by induction on  $|N(\alpha)|$ . As units and 0 are excluded, therefore induction starts with  $|N(\alpha)| = 2$ .

As  $N(\alpha) = 2$ , a prime

$\Rightarrow \alpha$  is a prime.

$\rightarrow$  For induction step, all elements  $\beta$  with

$$N(\beta) < N(\alpha), \forall \beta \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$$

can be written as a product of primes in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ .

$\rightarrow$  If  $\alpha$  is a prime, there is nothing to prove.



(125)

If  $\alpha$  is not a prime, i.e.,

$$\alpha = \beta \gamma$$

neither  $\beta$  nor  $\gamma$  is a unit.

$$\therefore N(\beta) > 1 \quad + \quad N(\gamma) > 1$$

$$\text{Since } N(\alpha) = N(\beta) N(\gamma)$$

$$\Rightarrow |N(\beta)| < |N(\alpha)|$$

$$+ \quad |N(\gamma)| < |N(\alpha)|$$

$\Rightarrow$  By Induction hypothesis,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are product of primes in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{a}]$ ,  
hence  $\alpha$  is a product of prime.