

## Seminar 9

### 1. (a) $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +, \cdot)$

We know that  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +)$  is an abelian group and also, the operation of  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, \cdot)$  is associative. So, to be a ring, we only have to see if distributivity holds:  $\hat{x}(\hat{a} + \hat{b}) = \widehat{\hat{x} \cdot (a + b + n(a' + b'))} = (x + nx')(a + b + n(a' + b')) = xa + xb + nxa' + nxb' + nx'a + nx'b + nnx'a' + nnx'b' = (xa + nxa' + nx'a + nnx'a') + (xb + nxb' + nx'b + nnx'b') = (x + nx')(a + na') + (x + nx')(b + nb') = \widehat{xa} + \widehat{xb} \Rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}_n, +, \cdot)$  is a ring. We know that multiplication is commutative, the identity element is  $\hat{1}$  and by its properties, we immediately deduce that it is a division ring, also. So,  $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +, \cdot)$  is an integral domain. But to be a field, every element has to be invertible, which is not true for any  $n$ .

### (b) $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), +, \cdot)$

It is easy to prove that  $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), +, \cdot)$  is a ring. Here, the multiplication is not commutative. The identity element is  $I_n$ . If it were a division ring, then it should not have zero divisors, hence it should satisfy the property  $\forall A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) : A \cdot B = O_n \Rightarrow A = O_n$  or  $B = O_n$ . If we take  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , by computing  $A \cdot B$  we get the matrix  $O_2$ . So it is not a division ring, which means it is not an integral domain. We know that only matrices which have the determinant different from 0 are invertible, so  $(M_n(\mathbb{R}), +, \cdot)$  is not a field.

### (c) $(\mathbb{R}[X], +, \cdot)$

We can easily see that  $(\mathbb{R}[X], +, \cdot)$  is a ring. The multiplication is commutative and the identity element is the polynomial 1. It is not a division ring and not a field, because not every element is invertible (take the polynomial  $f = X$ ). As  $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$  is an integral domain, so is the set of polynomials over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

2. We know that addition is associative, commutative, the identity element is  $\theta(x) = 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ , and for any function  $f$ , we find its symmetric  $-f$ . Also, the multiplication is associative, as  $(f \cdot (g \cdot h))(x) = f(x) \cdot (g \cdot h)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x) \cdot h(x) = (f \cdot g)(x) \cdot h(x) = ((f \cdot g) \cdot h)(x)$ . And distributivity holds, by using the same reasoning. So  $(\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}, +, \cdot)$  is a ring, which is commutative. The identity element is the function

$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = 1, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ . It is not a division ring. To prove that, let's take the next functions:

$$f = \begin{cases} 1 - 3x & \text{if } x \in [0, \frac{1}{3}] \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{3}, 1] \end{cases}$$

$$g = \begin{cases} 0 & x \in [0, \frac{1}{3}] \\ 0 & \text{if } 3x - 1 \in [\frac{1}{3}, 1] \end{cases}$$

Then  $f \cdot g = 0$ , even if neither  $f$  nor  $g$  are everywhere 0. So it is not an integral domain, hence not a field.

3. Remember that:  $f \in \text{End}(G) \iff f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y), \forall x, y \in G$ .

Now we have to see if the operations are well-defined. Take two functions  $f, g \in \text{End}(G)$ , which have the property above. Then for every  $x, y \in G$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (f+g)(x+y) &= f(x+y) + g(x+y) \\ &= f(x) + f(y) + g(x) + g(y) \\ &= (f+g)(x) + (f+g)(y), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ g)(x+y) &= f(g(x+y)) = f(g(x) + g(y)) \\ &= f(g(x)) + f(g(y)) = (f \circ g)(x) + (f \circ g)(y). \end{aligned}$$

From exercise 2, we know that addition is associative, commutative, the identity element is  $\theta(x) = 0$  and every function has an inverse.

Composition is associative, because the composition of functions is associative.

For every  $f, g, h \in \text{End}(G)$  and every  $x \in G$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ (g+h))(x) &= f((g+h)(x)) = f(g(x) + h(x)) \\ &= f(g(x)) + f(h(x)) = (f \circ g)(x) + (f \circ h)(x), \end{aligned}$$

and similarly on the other side, so distributivity holds.

Hence  $(\text{End}(G), +, \circ)$  is a ring, with identity element  $1_G$ .

4. Take  $(m, a), (n, b), (p, c) \in \mathbb{Z} \times R$ .

$(m, a) + ((n, b) + (p, c)) = (m, a) + (n + p, b + c) = (m + n + p, a + b + c) = (m + n, a + b) + (p, c) = ((m, a) + (n, b)) + (p, c)$ , so addition is associative.

$(m, a) + (n, b) = (m + n, a + b) = (n + m, b + a) = (n, b) + (m, a)$ , so addition is commutative.

$(m, a) + (0, 0') = (m, a)$ , where 0 is the identity element in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (ring) and  $0'$  is the identity element in  $R$  (ring).

$(m, a) + (-m, -a) = (0, 0')$ , where  $-m$  is the inverse of  $m$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (ring) and  $-a$  is the inverse of  $a$  in  $R$  (ring).

So  $(\mathbb{Z} \times R, +)$  is an abelian group.

By simple computations, we get that:  $(m, a) \cdot ((n, b) \cdot (p, c)) = (mnp, anp + mbc + mbp + mnc + abc + abp + anc) = ((m, a) \cdot (n, b)) \cdot (p, c)$ . So, the multiplication is associative. Also, it is clearly commutative.

Also, we see that:  $(m, a) \cdot ((n, b) + (p, c)) = (mn + mp, ab + ac + bm + mc + an + ap) = (m, a) \cdot (n, b) + (m, a) \cdot (p, c)$ . So, distributivity holds.

In conclusion,  $(\mathbb{Z} \times R, +, \cdot)$  is a ring. To find the identity element, we use the fact that  $\mathbb{Z}$  has the identity element 1.

$(m, a) \cdot (1, x) = (m, a) \Rightarrow (m, ax + mx + a) = (m, a) \Rightarrow a = a(x + 1) + mx \Rightarrow x + 1 = 1$  and  $x = 0$ . So, the identity element in  $(\mathbb{Z} \times R, +, \cdot)$  is  $(1, 0)$ .

5. We know that  $(a, n) = 1 \iff \exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $ax + ny = 1$ .

$\boxed{\Rightarrow}$   $\hat{a}$  invertible  $\Rightarrow \exists \hat{b} \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  such that  $\hat{a} \cdot \hat{b} = \hat{1} \iff \widehat{ab} = \hat{1} \iff n \mid ab - 1 \iff \exists k$  such that  $ab - 1 = nk \iff \exists k$  such that  $ab + n(-k) = 1 \Rightarrow (a, n) = 1$ .

$\boxed{\Leftarrow}$   $(a, n) = 1 \Rightarrow \exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $ax + ny = 1 \iff \widehat{ax + ny} = \hat{1} \iff \widehat{ax} + \widehat{ny} = \hat{1} \iff \widehat{ax} + \hat{0} = \hat{1} \Rightarrow \hat{a}$  is invertible, with  $\hat{x}$  its inverse.

$\mathbb{Z}_n$  is a field  $\iff (a, n) = 1, \forall \hat{0} \neq \hat{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_n \iff n$  is a prime number.

6. We solve the first equation. Add to both sides  $\hat{7}$  so we can get rid of  $\hat{5}$ . Hence, we get:

$$\hat{4}x = \hat{4} \pmod{12}.$$

Since  $(4, 12) = 4$ ,  $\hat{4}$  is not invertible in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$ , hence we cannot simplify with it. We get by “trial and error” 4 solutions, namely:  $\hat{1}, \hat{4}, \hat{7}, \hat{10}$ .

Now we solve the second equation. Now we get:

$$\hat{5}x = \hat{4} \pmod{12}.$$

Since  $(5, 12) = 1$ ,  $\hat{5}$  is invertible in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$ , and we have a unique solution. We have to multiply by the inverse of  $\hat{5}$ , so that in the left side we have only  $x$ . By simple computations, we get that the inverse of  $\hat{5}$  is itself  $\Rightarrow$  the second equation becomes  $x = \hat{8} \pmod{12}$ , which is the solution.

7. We want to have a system in only one variable, so we can get rid of  $x$ , by multiplying first equation by  $\hat{4}$  and the second one by  $\hat{3}$ . We get the next equations:

$$\hat{4}y = \hat{8} \pmod{12}$$

$$\hat{3}y = \hat{6} \pmod{12}$$

We can add the first equation to the second one  $\Rightarrow \hat{7}y = \hat{2} \pmod{12}$ . By the same reasoning as in the previous exercise, we find the inverse of  $\hat{7}$  which is itself and we multiply the last equation by  $\hat{7} \Rightarrow y = \hat{2} \pmod{12}$ .

Now, the system becomes:

$$\hat{3}x + \hat{8} = \hat{11} \pmod{12}$$

$$\hat{4}x + \hat{6} = \hat{10} \pmod{12}$$

We add to the first equation  $\hat{4}$  to get rid of the free term, and we add  $\hat{6}$  to the second one. Using the same method as above, we find that  $x = \hat{1} \pmod{12}$ .

In both cases,  $(7, 12) = 1$ , which means that the solutions we've got are unique.

8. The trivial solution is  $X = I_2$ . Now, we take a matrix  $X = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ . By computing the product, we get the equations:  $a+2c = 1$  and  $b+2d = 2$ . So, the solutions are of the form  $X = \begin{bmatrix} 1-2c & 2-2d \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $c, d \in \mathbb{C}$ .

9. For  $M$  to be a stable subset of  $M_2(\mathbb{Q})$ , we need to prove that  $\forall A, B \in M \Rightarrow A + B, A \cdot B \in M$ . (Easy)

Using the transfer of properties like associativity, commutativity, distributivity in stable subsets, we can easily see that  $(M, +, \cdot)$  is a commutative ring, with identity element  $I_2$ . So, to be a field, we only have to prove that any non-zero matrix has an inverse. We know that a matrix is invertible  $\iff$  the determinant is not 0. Take a matrix of the form  $0 \neq A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & a \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \det A = a^2 - 2b^2$ . In other words,  $A$  is invertible  $\iff a^2 \neq 2b^2$ . Consider  $a^2 = 2b^2 \Rightarrow a = b\sqrt{2}$ , but  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \Rightarrow$ , impossible. Hence  $\Rightarrow a^2 \neq 2b^2$ . So every non-zero matrix from  $M$  is invertible. In conclusion,  $(M, +, \cdot)$  is a field.

10. As in exercise 9, we can immediately find that  $(M, +, \cdot)$  is a commutative ring, with identity element  $I_2$ . A matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix}$  is invertible  $\iff \det A \neq 0 \iff a^2 + b^2 \neq 0$ . If  $a^2 + b^2 = 0$ , then  $a = b = 0$ . Hence all non-zero matrices from  $M$  are invertible. In conclusion,  $(M, +, \cdot)$  is a field.