

Ring Theory.

Def. A ring is a set R with two operations $+$ and \times (or \cdot) satisfying:

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

(write 0 for the identity.)

(2). Multiplication is associative:

$$a \times (b \times c) = (a \times b) \times c.$$

(3). Addition distributes over multiplication:

$$(a + b) \times c = (a \times c) + (b \times c)$$

$$a \times (b + c) = (a \times b) + (a \times c)$$

(4). There is a multiplicative identity 1 with

$$1 \times a = a \times 1 \text{ for all } a \in R. \quad (\text{Assume } 1 \neq 0.)$$

[Not assumed in DF]

Multiplication might or might not be commutative.

If it is, R is a commutative ring.

Examples: $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$.

Polynomial rings $R[x]$ where R is a ^{commutative} ring and x is an indeterminate.

~~or power set~~

If X is a set and A is a ring,

$\{\text{functions } X \rightarrow A\}$ is a ring. Ops inherited from A .

Matrix rings $M_{n \times n}(R)$.

Not commutative even if R is.

25.2

Hamiltonian quaternions

$$\mathbb{H} := \{a + bi + cj + dk : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}, i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1, \\ ij = -ji = k, jk = -kj = i, \\ ki = -ik = j\}.$$

We'll see more.

Def. ⁽¹⁾ If every $x \in R - \{0\}$ has a multiplicative inverse (i.e. if $R - \{0\}$ is a group) then R is a division

ring.

⁽²⁾ If in addition ~~mult~~ R is commutative, it is a field.

⁽³⁾ $x \in R$ is a zero divisor if $xr = 0$ or $rx = 0$ for some $r \in R$.

⁽⁴⁾ $x \in R$ is a unit if $\exists y \in R$ with $xy = yx = 1$.
Write R^\times for the group of units.

Trivial Properties. Let R be a ring.

(1) $0x = x0 = 0$ for all $x \in R$.

(2) $(-a)b = a(-b) = -ab$ where $-$ is the additive inverse.

(3) $(-a)(-b) = ab$.

(4) The mult. identity is unique and $-x = (-1)x$.

(5) A zero divisor can't be a unit.

25.3 .

More examples:

All continuous functions $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

There are zero divisors.

Units: Functions that are nowhere zero.

Not a unit or a zero divisor: $x - \frac{1}{2}$.

not a perfect square

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D}) := \{a + b\sqrt{D} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}.$$

This is a field! Can you prove it?
(Can you find inverses?)

$$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{D}] := \{a + b\sqrt{D} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

A ring but not a field.

If $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then

$$\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{D}}{2}\right] := \left\{a + b\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{D}}{2}\right) : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\right\}$$

is a ring, but not if $D \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$.

This won't be closed under multiplication.

Can you find the units?

Group rings: If G is a group, consider the group

ring

$$\mathbb{Z}G := \sum_{g \in G} n_i g, \text{ where: } n_i \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ is 0 for all but finitely many } g.$$

i.e. formal sums and differences of elements of G .

Can replace \mathbb{Z} w/ any commutative ring.

$$\underline{25.4} = \underline{26.1}$$

Direct products $R_1 \times R_2$

(r_1, r_2) w/ operations component-wise.

Identities are $(1, 1)$ and $(0, 0)$.

Always has zero divisors.

Subrings $S \subseteq R$: Demand S be a ring itself.

Enough if: $*$ S is a subgroup of R

$*$ S is closed under multiplication.

Def. A commutative ring w/ no zero divisors is called an integral domain. (or just a domain)

Prop. In any domain (in fact, more generally...),

$$ab = ac \Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } b = c.$$

Proof. $a(b - c) = 0$.

Note that not true for non-domains.

$$\text{e.g., in } \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}, \quad 2 \cdot 2 = 2 \cdot 7.$$

Prop. Any finite integral domain R is a field.

Proof. Let $0 \neq a \in R$.

The function $R \rightarrow R$ is injective by above,
 $x \mapsto ax$

hence surjective. In particular $\exists x \in R$ with $ax = 1$.

25.5. = 26.2

Homomorphisms:

A ring map $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$ is a homomorphism if

$$(1) \varphi(a+b) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b) \text{ for all } a, b.$$

[equiv: homo. on the additive groups]

$$(2) \varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b).$$

$$(3) \varphi(1) = 1.$$

Its kernel is $\ker(\varphi) = \{x \in R: \varphi(x) = 0\}.$

ex. Let $\varphi: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/5$

$$x \rightarrow x \pmod{5}.$$

Non-example:
determinants.

This is a ring homomorphism.

Its kernel is $5\mathbb{Z}$. Does not contain 1.

| Indeed: if $1 \in \ker(\varphi)$ then $\varphi = 0$.

So in general, kernels of ring homomorphisms are not subrings.

Warning. DF says they are, because it doesn't demand that rings contain 1.

Prop. Let $I = \ker(\varphi)$ for some $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$.

Then I is closed under:

$$(1) \text{ addition, i.e. } x \in I, y \in I \Rightarrow x + y \in I$$

$$(2) \text{ multiplication by elements of } R, \\ x \in I, r \in R \Rightarrow xr \in I \text{ and } rx \in I.$$

Easily checked. Such an I is called a (two-sided) ideal of R .

26-3

Also, I is a left ideal if closed under addition and $RI \subseteq I$

right ideal if $IR \subseteq I$ instead of $RI \subseteq I$.

Note: As a special case, don't call R an ideal of itself.

Prop. If $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$ is a ring hom then $\varphi(R)$ is a subring of S and $\ker(\varphi)$ is an ideal of R .

Quotient rings:

Let R be a ring and I an ideal,
then $R/I = \{r + I : r \in R\}$ forms a ring,
the quotient ring of R by I .

1: Mult. identity is $1 + I$.

(Note: if $1 \in I$, then $1 \cdot r = r \in I$ for all r , so $I = R$.
So 1 is never in any ideal.)

Addition:

$$(r + I) + (s + I) = \cancel{rs + Is + rI + I^2} \\ r + s + I + I \\ = (r + s) + I$$

Note: $I + I \subseteq I$ because closed under addition
and $I + I = I$ because
 $I + I \geq 0 + I = I$.

Multiplication:

$$(r + I)(s + I) = rs + Is + rI + I^2$$

This might not be $rs + I$ as a set.

But it is contained in I , so we
may define $(r + I)(s + I)$ and this will be w.d.

26.4 .

Theorem.

(1) If $I \triangleleft R$ (I is an ideal of R), then R/I is a ring as defined above, and the map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\pi} & R/I \\ r & \longmapsto & r + I \end{array}$$

is a surjective ring homomorphism with kernel I .

(2) (First Iso. Theorem)

If $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$ is a hom, then $\text{Im}(\varphi)$ is a subring of S , $\text{Ker}(\varphi)$ is an ideal of R , and

$$R/\text{Ker}(\varphi) \cong \text{Im}(\varphi).$$

Examples.

Ideals of \mathbb{Z} are $n\mathbb{Z}$ (including 0).

An ideal must be an additive subgroup of \mathbb{Z} , and we know what these ^{are} already.

Have the reduction by n map $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$.

Example. The equation $x^2 + y^2 - 3z^2 = 0$ has no integer solutions other than $(0, 0, 0)$.

Proof. May divide any sol'n by any power of 2 dividing all of x, y, z , so wlog not all of x, y, z are even.

Consider the image of x, y, z under $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$. Must have a nontrivial solution there. But now this is a finite computation: there isn't.

26.5.

Ex. Let $R = \mathbb{R}[x]$.

Then the map $\mathbb{R}[x] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $f \longrightarrow f(a)$

is a ring homomorphism for each $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

Its kernel is the ideal

$$I = \{ f(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x] : f(a) = 0 \}.$$

Ex. Again let $R = \mathbb{R}[x]$.

$$\text{Let } I = \{ f(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x] : \deg(f) \geq 2 \}.$$

This is an ideal, R/I is the ring of polynomials modulo a weird equivalence.

This has zero divisors, e.g. $x \cdot x = 0$.

Ex. $R = \mathbb{R}[x]$ again.

Let I be the principal ideal $(x^2 + 1)$.

(In a commutative ring R , a principal ideal

(r) is $\{ ar : a \in R \}$, all multiples of r .

Can define them in noncommutative rings too but they're weird.)

Look at $\mathbb{R}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$.

Then: (1) Every element can be uniquely represented as $a + bx$.

(2) This is actually a field. Can you prove it?

(3) Do you recognize this ring?

27.2. More definitions.

If I and J are ideals, their sum is

$$I + J = \{a + b : a \in I, b \in J\}.$$

Their product IJ consists of finite sums of elts.
 $a \cdot b$ with $a \in I$ and $b \in J$.

Powers are a special case of this.

Example. In \mathbb{Z} , $6\mathbb{Z} + 10\mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$.

$$(6\mathbb{Z})(10\mathbb{Z}) = 60\mathbb{Z}.$$

Example. Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]$,

$$I = \{\text{polys whose constant term is even}\}.$$

This is an ideal. Check directly, or use the fact that it's the kernel of

$$\mathbb{Z}[x] \xrightarrow{ev_0} \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2.$$

$$f \longmapsto f(0)$$

Then $x^2 + 4 \in I^2$, because $x^2 \in I^2$ and $4 \in I^2$.

Even though $x^2 + 4$ doesn't factor in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

27.1

Example. Let F be a field.

$M_n(F)$ has no nontrivial two-sided ideals. (Prove!)

It does have one-sided ideals.

e.g. $I = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * \\ * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is a right ideal of $M_3(F)$.

Why? Let $W = \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$.

Then, ~~where~~ I consists of LT's sending $V \rightarrow W$.

That is still true if you presuppose w/ any elt of $\text{End}(V)$.

To get left ideals, take transposes.

The remaining iso theorems:

(2) Let $A \trianglelefteq R$ subring and $B \triangleleft R$.

Then $A+B = \{a+b : a \in A, b \in B\}$ is a subring of R ,
 $A \cap B \triangleleft A$, and $(A+B)/B \cong A/(A \cap B)$.

(3) Let I, J ideals of R with $I \subseteq J$.

Then $J/I \triangleleft R/I$ and $(R/I)/(J/I) \cong R/J$.

(4) If $I \triangleleft R$, there is a correspondence

~~ideals of~~
subrings of R containing I \longleftrightarrow subrings of R/I .

$S \longrightarrow S/I$.

Preserves containment.

27.3. More on ideals:

Def. Let $A \subseteq R$ any subset.

(1) The ideal generated by A , (A) , is the smallest ideal of R containing A .

[Here we implicitly regard R as itself.]

We have
$$(A) = \bigcap_{\substack{I \triangleleft R \\ A \subseteq I}} I.$$

Here arbitrary intersections of ideals are again ideals.

If A is finite, (A) is said to be finitely generated

If A is a singleton, (A) (or (x) with $A = \{x\}$) is principal.

This cleans up when R is commutative, in which case

$$(A) = \left\{ r_1 a_1 + \dots + r_n a_n : r_i \in R, a_i \in A \right\}$$

(even when A is infinite, defined as finite sums.)

This is easy to prove. Check that:

* (A) is an ideal of R

* If I is any other ideal of R containing A , it must contain (A) .

In particular, when R is commutative,

$$(x) = \{rx : r \in R\}.$$

Even principal ideals are terrible when R is not commutative.

27.4.

Examples.

1. In \mathbb{Z} , every ideal is of the form $n\mathbb{Z} = (n)$ for some n .

(Easy to prove: let n be the minimum nonzero element of an ideal I .)

So \mathbb{Z} is a principal ideal domain.

Properties of ideals mimic those of integers:

$$(n) \cdot (m) = (nm).$$

$$(n) + (m) = (\gcd(n, m)).$$

$$b \in (a) \iff (b) \subseteq (a) \iff a \mid b.$$

$$(b) \subseteq (a) \iff \exists \text{ an ideal } (c) \text{ with } (b) = (c)(a).$$

2. Let F be a field. Then $F[x]$ is also a PID.

Turns out to be the same proof as for \mathbb{Z} :

can do division with remainder.

(a Euclidean algorithm exists)

3. $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is not a PID. $(2, x)$ is not principal.

This is our ideal from before,

$$\ker(\mathbb{Z}[x] \xrightarrow{\text{ev}_0} \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2).$$

Think your way through a proof.

4. Let \mathcal{P} be functions $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Let $I = \ker(\text{ev}_0)$.

Then I is principal. A generator is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0. \end{cases}$$

27.5. = 28.1

If R is the ring of continuous functions, no longer true.

Prop. Let I be an ideal of R .

(1) I can't contain any units of R , unless $I = R$,
~~for else $I = R \Rightarrow$ we exclude \emptyset~~

(2) If R is commutative,

R is a field \iff only ideals ^{are} 0 and R .

Proof.

(1) If $u \in I$, then $\exists x \in R$ with $xu = 1$, so $1 \in R$
and $1r \in I$ for all r

(2) \implies Every elt of $R - \{0\}$ is a unit

\iff For each $x \in R - \{0\}$, $(x) = R$ (since it's not 0)

So x has a multiplicative inverse.

Cor. If R is a field, any nonzero ring hom from R is an injection.

Maximal and prime ideals.

Def. An ideal $I \triangleleft R$ is maximal if $I \neq R$ and the only ideals containing I are I and R .

[Assume R is commutative.]

Def. An ideal $I \triangleleft R$ is prime if $I \neq R$ and,

for $a, b \in R$,

$ab \in I \implies a \in I$ or $b \in I$.

28.2.

Example. In \mathbb{Z} , the maximal ideals are (p) where p is a prime number.

Recall that $(n) \subseteq (m) \iff m \mid n$, so this says the only divisors of p are 1 and p .

The prime ideals are (p) for p prime, and (0) .

Example. In $\mathbb{C}[x]$, the maximal ideals are $(x-a)$ for $a \in \mathbb{C}$.

The prime ideals are these, and (0) .

Example. In $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$, the maximal ideals are of the form $(x-a, y-b)$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$.

(Can you prove this? maybe slightly messy...)

The prime ideals are:

- * Those above (indeed: every max'l ideal is prime)
- * (0) (always prime in an integral domain)
- * (f) , where $f \in \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ is any polynomial that doesn't factor.

We want to be able to prove this easily.

Regard these as corresponding to:

- * Points in \mathbb{C}^2 ("closed points in $A^2(\mathbb{C})$ ")
- * All of \mathbb{C}^2 (the "generic point")
- * Irreducible curves in \mathbb{C}^2 .

28.3 .

Write $A_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ for the set of all such prime ideals
(= "Spec $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ ")

w/ the correspondences above.

This turns out to be a nice thing to do.

Indeed, if R is any commutative ring, can make a nice space ("affine scheme") out of its prime ideals.

Question. Is $(y^2 - x^3 - 7)$ prime in $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$?
How can we tell?

Theorem. Let R be commutative and $I \triangleleft R$. Then

(1) I is maximal $\iff R/I$ is a field.

(2) I is prime $\iff R/I$ is an integral domain.

Cor. Maximal ideals are prime.

Proof. ⁽¹⁾ By the correspondence thm,

Ideals $I \subseteq \bar{J} \subseteq R \iff$ Ideals $0 \subseteq J/I \subseteq R/I$.

(2) $ab \in P \implies a \in P$ or $b \in P$ in R

\iff

$ab = 0 \implies a = 0$ or $b = 0$ in R/P .

28.4.

Example : $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

This is a PID and all nonzero prime ideals are maximal.

Classify prime ideals $P \triangleleft \mathbb{Z}[i]$ by looking at $P \cap \mathbb{Z}$.

Note that $P \cap \mathbb{Z} = (p)$ for a prime integer p .

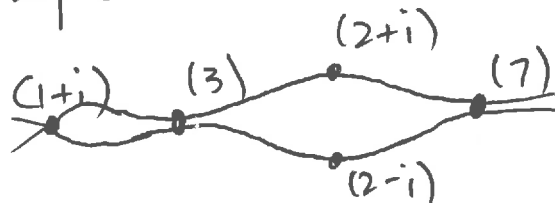
(1) $P \cap \mathbb{Z}$ contains a nonzero integer:

Let $0 \neq a + bi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$, then $a^2 + b^2 \in P$.

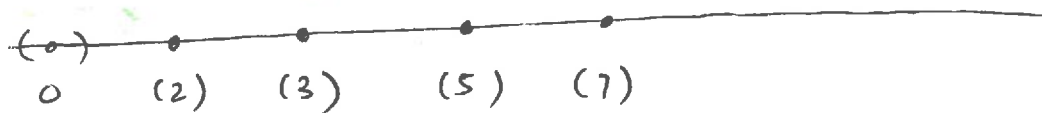
(2) Now if $P \cap \mathbb{Z} = (p)$ then $p \in P \Rightarrow p = d \cdot e$ for $d, e \in \mathbb{Z}$.
So one of them is ± 1 .

Here are some examples:

Primes of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$



Primes of \mathbb{Z}



The classification is:

If $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, (p) is still prime (it is inert)

So, e.g., $\mathbb{Z}[i]/(3)$ is a field of order 9.

If $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, $(p) = PP'$ for a prime ideal P of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ with conjugate P' (p is split)

If $p = 2$, $(2) = (1+i)^2$.

This is called ramification.

So: Theorem. A prime p is the sum of two integer squares iff it is 2 or $\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

Want to learn more? **TAKE MATT'S ALGEBRAIC NUMBER THEORY CLASS!**

28.5

In general, all prime ideals are contained in a maximal ideal.

This uses the axiom of choice, or equivalently Zorn's lemma

Theorem. The following are equivalent, and independent of the usual set theory axioms.

1. Zorn's Lemma: Given a set A with a partial order \leq satisfying

(a) $x \leq x$ for all $x \in A$

(b) $x \leq y, y \leq z \Rightarrow x \leq z$

(c) $x \leq y, y \leq x \Rightarrow x = y$

(but you can't necessarily compare any two elements)

~~Definition:~~ Definition: B is a chain of A if $x \leq y$ or $y \leq x$ when $x, y \in B$.

Assume that every chain B of A has an upper bound, i.e. $\exists u \in A$ with $b \leq u$ for all $b \in B$.

Then A contains a maximal element m , satisfying

$$m \leq x \Rightarrow m = x.$$

[Does not say $n \leq m$ for all n . Can have multiple maximal elements!]

2. The axiom of choice.

The Cartesian product of a nonempty collection of nonempty sets is empty.

e.g., if S is any ^{nonempty} set and A_s is a nonempty set for each $s \in S$, there exists a function

$$S \longrightarrow \bigcup_{s \in S} A_s.$$

2S.6.

3. ~~Ex~~ The well ordering principle. Given any set S , there exists a total ordering on S s.t. every nonempty $A \subseteq S$ has a smallest element.

"The axiom of choice is obviously true, the well-ordering principle obviously false, and who can tell about Zorn's lemma?"
- Jerry Bona.

Proof that every proper ideal I is contained in a maximal ideal.

Let $S = \{ \text{proper ideals of } R \text{ containing } I \}$

Then containment is a partial order.

Let C be a chain: a collection of proper ideals so that $J, J' \in C \rightarrow J \subseteq J'$ or $J' \subseteq J$.

Then $K = \bigcup_{J \in C} J$ is an ideal:

If $x \in K$ then $x \in J$ for some J , so $xr \in J$.

If $x, x' \in K$, both are contained in J , so their sum is also.

It is proper because $1 \notin J$ for each $J \in C$.

So every chain in C has an upper bound in S .
Dig out Zorn's Hammer.

28.7. ^(=30,1) Fractions and localization:

Let R be a commutative ring containing 1,
 D = any nonempty subset of R , not containing zero
or any zero divisors, and closed under multiplication.

Then, we can form a ring of fractions RD^{-1}

The elements are symbols $\frac{r}{d}$ with $r \in R, d \in D$

with $\frac{r}{d} = \frac{r'}{d'}$ if $rd' - r'd = 0$.

If R is a domain and $D = R - \{0\}$, then RD^{-1} is
a field, the field of fractions of R .

Theorem.

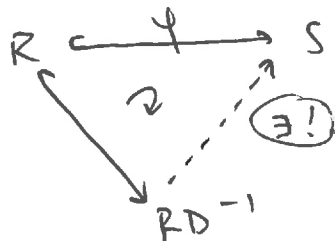
(0) All of this is WD and actually gives you a ring.

(1) R embeds as a subring of RD^{-1}

(2) RD^{-1} is the "smallest ring in which all elts of D
become units":

Given $R \xrightarrow{\psi} S$ s.t. $\psi(D) \subseteq \text{units of } S$.

Then, we get a commutative diagram



So S must contain a copy of RD^{-1} .

This is an example of a universal property.

28.9.

Example. Let $R = \mathbb{C}[x]$.

Its field of fractions, $\mathbb{C}(x)$, consists of rational functions.

Now let $P = (x - a)$ for some $a \in \mathbb{C}$.

Then $R_P = \left\{ \text{rational functions } \frac{f}{g} : g(a) \neq 0 \right\}$.

So R_P contains functions defined in a neighborhood of a .

Example. Let $R = \{ \text{holomorphic functions } \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \}$.

The fraction field of R consists of meromorphic functions (poles are isolated).

Consider the maximal ideal (it's prime of course)

$$(x) \subseteq R = \text{Ker}(ev_0).$$

It has residue field $R/(x) \cong \mathbb{C}$

and localization $R_{(x)} = \{ \text{mero fns. holo in a nbd of } 0 \}$.

This is also a local ring. Max ideal: functions that vanish at 0.

Many of these local rings are discrete valuation rings.

(DVR's are local PID's that are not fields)

28.8

Indeed (see 15.4) you can avoid assuming that D contains no zero divisors.

$$\frac{r}{d} = \frac{r'}{d'} \quad \text{if} \quad rd' - dr' \text{ is a zero divisor.}$$

But then the map $R \rightarrow RD^{-1}$ might not be an injection.

If $0 \in D$ then $RD^{-1} = 0$.

Examples. $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $D = \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$. Then $RD^{-1} = \mathbb{Q}$.

~~Example~~ $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $D = \{p^c : c \geq 0\}$ for a prime p .

Then RD^{-1} consists of fractions with only p 's in the denominator.

Localization at a prime. Let P be a prime ideal,

$$D = R - P.$$

Then, because $xy \in P \Rightarrow x \in P$ or $y \in P$,

we have $x \in D$ and $y \in D \Rightarrow xy \in D$.

Also, D contains 1 (because P can't).

We write $R_P = R(R - P)^{-1}$, the localization at P .

Examples. $\mathbb{Z}_{(5)} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} : \text{~~exactly~~ } b \text{ is coprime to } 5 \right\}$.

This is a ring (not \mathbb{Z}_5 or $\mathbb{Z}/5$), not a field,

and a local ring: it has a unique maximal ideal.

30.4 (28.10)

Here a discrete valuation is a function

$$\underbrace{R}_{\substack{\text{local ring} \\ \text{with maximal ideal } M}} \xrightarrow{v} \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{where } v(x) = i \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{with } x \in M^i \\ \text{and } x \notin M^{i+1} \end{array}$$

Example (1) In $\mathbb{Z}_{(5)}$, this is the p-adic valuation, v_5 ;

$$v_5\left(5^k \cdot \frac{a}{b}\right) = k \quad \text{if } a \text{ and } b \text{ are coprime to } 5.$$

(2) With R the ring of holo functions,
the discrete valuation associated to (x) and $R_{(x)}$
is the order of vanishing at 0.

$$v\left(x^k \cdot \frac{f}{g}\right) = k \quad \text{if } f \text{ is a meromorphic function} \\ \text{defined and } \underline{\text{nonvanishing}} \text{ at } 0.$$

You also get an absolute value

$$|r| = e^{-v(r)} \quad \text{which defines a metric.}$$

(Alternatively, if $v = v_p$, you can use base p .)

You get completions (power series, p-adic integers)
which (at least in this case) coincide with inverse limits.

30.5.

Chinese remainder theorem:

R = comm. ring

Let I_1, \dots, I_k be comaximal ideals ($I_i + I_j = R$ if $i \neq j$)

Consider the ring homomorphism

$$R \longrightarrow R/I_1 \times R/I_2 \times \dots \times R/I_k$$

$$r \longrightarrow (r, r, \dots, r)$$

whose kernel is exactly $I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_k$. Then, the map is surjective and $I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_k = I_1 \cdots I_k$.

Example. In \mathbb{Z} , $I_1 = (a)$ and $I_2 = (b)$ are comaximal iff a and b don't have a common factor.

Then, if they are

$$\mathbb{Z}/(ab) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Z}/(a) \times \mathbb{Z}/(b)$$

and similarly for bigger products.

Example. (Partial fractions)

Let $g(x) = (x-a_1) \cdots (x-a_r)$ where the a_i distinct.

$f(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ of degree $< r$.

$$\text{Then } \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{b_1}{x-a_1} + \dots + \frac{b_r}{x-a_r} \text{ for some } b_i.$$

Same if you replace \mathbb{C} by any field.

$$\text{Proof. } \frac{\mathbb{C}[x]}{((x-a_1) \cdots (x-a_r))} \xrightarrow{\sim} \frac{\mathbb{C}[x]}{(x-a_1)} \times \dots \times \frac{\mathbb{C}[x]}{(x-a_r)}.$$

Apply this to f and chase down the consequences.

31.1 . Proof.

Induction on k .

If $k=2$, look at

$$R \xrightarrow{\varphi} R/I_1 \times R/I_2$$

$$r \xrightarrow{\varphi} (r \bmod I_1, r \bmod I_2).$$

Will argue $(1,0)$ and $(0,1)$ in the image.

Since $I_1 + I_2 = R$, can solve $x_1 + x_2 = 1$, $x_i \in I_i$.

$$\text{Then } \varphi(x_1) = (x_1, 1 - x_2) = (0, 1)$$

$$\varphi(x_2) = (1 - x_1, x_2) = (1, 0).$$

So surjective.

Why $I_1 I_2 = I_1 \cap I_2$? Certainly $I_1 I_2 \subseteq I_1 \cap I_2$.

Conversely, if $z \in I_1 \cap I_2$, $z = z(x_1 + x_2)$

$$= zx_1 + zx_2$$

$$\in I_2 I_1 + I_1 I_2 = I_1 I_2.$$

If $k \geq 2$, follows by induction (with I_1, I_2, \dots, I_k)
if these two ideals are comaximal.

For each $i \geq 2$, write $1 = x_i + y_i$, now with $x_i \in I_1$,
 $y_i \in I_i$.

$$\text{Then } 1 = (x_2 + y_2)(x_3 + y_3) \cdots (x_k + y_k)$$

$$= \underbrace{y_2 y_3 \cdots y_k}_{\in I_2 \cdots I_k} + \underbrace{(\text{terms with at least one } x_i)}_{\in I_1}.$$

So done.

31.2.

Notice that the groups of units on both sides are thus proved to be isomorphic. So, if $(m, n) = 1$,

$$(\mathbb{Z}/mn)^{\times} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/m)^{\times} \times (\mathbb{Z}/n)^{\times}.$$

In particular, if $n = p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_k^{a_k}$ (prime factorization)

then

$$(\mathbb{Z}/n)^{\times} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p_1^{a_1})^{\times} \times \cdots \times (\mathbb{Z}/p_k^{a_k})^{\times}.$$

Writing $\varphi(n) = \# (\mathbb{Z}/n)^{\times} = \#$ residue classes mod n , we have $\varphi(n)$ is multiplicative:

$$\varphi(nm) = \varphi(n) \varphi(m) \text{ if } \gcd(n, m) = 1.$$

$$\text{Can also compute: } \varphi(p^a) = p^{a-1} \cdot (p-1).$$

//
Euclidean rings.

If R is an integral domain, a norm _{R} is any function $N: R \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ with $N(0) = 0$.

The norm is positive if $N(a) > 0$ for $a \neq 0$.

Def. R is a Euclidean domain if it has a norm N s.t.:

Given $a, b \in R$ with $b \neq 0$, there exist $q, r \in R$ with

$$a = qb + r$$

$$r = 0 \text{ or } N(r) < N(b).$$

31.3.

The point: can run the Euclidean algorithm.

Examples.

$$\mathbb{Z}, N(a) = |a|.$$

$$F[x] \text{ (} F \text{ a field), } N(f) = \deg(f).$$

Polynomial long division is a thing.

$\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is not.

You can't write $x^2 = q \cdot (2x) + r$
for any q and r with $\deg(r) < 2$.

$$\mathbb{Z}[i], N(a + bi) = a^2 + b^2.$$

Solve $a = qb + r$ again.

~~$$(a + bi) = q(c + di) + r$$~~

$$\text{Let } a = a_1 + a_2 i \quad (a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{Z})$$

$$b = b_1 + b_2 i$$

$$\text{Then, } \frac{a}{b} = \frac{(a_1 + a_2 i)(b_1 - b_2 i)}{b_1^2 + b_2^2}$$

~~$$= \frac{a_1 + b_1}{b_1^2 + b_2^2}$$~~

$$= \frac{a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2}{b_1^2 + b_2^2} + \frac{a_2 b_1 - a_1 b_2}{b_1^2 + b_2^2} i.$$

Write $c + di$ for the closest elt. of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$,

$$\text{so that } \frac{a}{b} = (c + di) + \frac{r}{b}.$$

31.4.

$$\text{Now, } \left| \operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{r}{b}\right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } \left| \operatorname{Im}\left(\frac{r}{b}\right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{so that } \frac{N(r)}{N(b)} = N\left(\frac{r}{b}\right) \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 < 1.$$

↖
This bears checking!

Note. This works for $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{D}]$ when $D = -2, -3, -7, -11$.
It eventually stops working.

Here's the point.

Theorem. Any Euclidean domain is a PID.

Proof. Given $I \triangleleft R$ in a Euclidean domain w/norm N .

Choose $d \in I$ nonzero of minimum norm.

Clearly $(d) \subseteq I$. If there exists $x \in I \setminus (d)$,

$$\text{write } x = qd + r$$

with $N(r) < N(d)$ (note: r can't be 0).

But $r \in I$, contradiction.

Note that gcd's exist in Euclidean domains.

$$\text{Also, in a ring } R, \quad b \mid a \iff a \in (b)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\ a = bx \text{ for } x \in R & & (a) \subseteq (b) \\ \text{(by def.)} & & \end{array}$$

Translating the definitions,

$$\text{in a PID, } (a) + (b) = (\gcd(a, b)).$$

$$\text{So } (a, b) = (\gcd(a, b)). \quad \text{Ha!}$$

$$\underline{31.5} = 32.1$$

They'll be unique up to units:

Prop. Let R be an integral domain and suppose $(d) = (d')$ for some d, d' . Then $d' = ud$ for some $u \in R^\times$.

Proof. Assume nonzero. $d' = xd$ and $d = yd'$
for some $x, y \in R$. So $d = xyd$, so $xy = 1$ (R a domain!)
So x and y are units.

Note also that you can write

$$\gcd(a, b) = ax + by \quad \text{for some } d \in R$$

(just as in NT).

Prop. Every nonzero prime ideal in a PID is maximal.

Proof. Given $(p) \subsetneq (m)$, $p = mx$ for some $x \in R$.
So $x \in (p)$ because m isn't.
But then $p = myp$ for some $y \in R$.
So m is a unit and $(m) = R$.

$$\underline{31.6.} = 32.2$$

Unique factorization:

Let R be an integral domain.

Def. (1) If $r \in R$ (nonzero, not a unit), r is irreducible if, whenever $r = ab$ in R , a or b is a unit.

(2) $p \in R$ is prime if (p) is.

Equivalently, $p \mid ab \Rightarrow p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.

Prop. In an integral domain, prime \Rightarrow irreducible.

Proof. Given $p = ab$. Then $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$.

WLOG $p \mid a$, so $a = px$

and once again $p = px \cdot b$,
 b is a unit.

The converse is NOT true.

Example. $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$. check: 3 is irreducible:

Suppose $3 = (a + b\sqrt{-5})(c + d\sqrt{-5})$. ~~$\Rightarrow bc = -ad$~~

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{(ac + 5bd)} + \sqrt{-5}(\cancel{bc + ad}) \Rightarrow$$

$$= (ac + 5bd) + \sqrt{-5}(bc + ad)$$

] Solve this?

uggh.....

Sensible way to think: Take the field norm.

$$9 = (a^2 + 5b^2)(c^2 + 5d^2)$$

There's no way to get 3, and $a^2 + 5b^2 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{a + b\sqrt{-5}} = \pm 1$$

a unit.

31.7 ~~32.3~~

But 3 is not prime, because:

$$9 = (2 + \sqrt{-5})(2 - \sqrt{-5})$$

$3 \mid 9$, but $3 \nmid 2 \pm \sqrt{-5}$.

But:

Prop. In a PID, irreducible \Rightarrow prime.

Proof. Given x irreducible.

Will show (x) maximal, therefore prime, therefore x prime.

So suppose $(x) \leq (y)$.

Then $x = yz$ for some $z \in R$.

Either y is a unit (so $(y) = R$)
or z is a unit (so $(y) = (x)$)

and so (x) is maximal.

Def. An integral domain R is a UFD nonzero (unique factorization domain) if every nonunit $r \in R$ satisfies:

(1) r can be written as a finite product of irreducibles;

(2) Unique up to units.

$$\text{If } r = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_n = q_1 \cdots q_m$$

then $n = m$ and after a reordering, $q_i = u_i p_i$ for units u_i .

32.4.

Examples.

Fields (vacuously)

\mathbb{Z} .

$R[x]$, whenever R is. (To be proved)

$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ is not.

$\mathbb{Z}[2i]$ is not, $4 = 2 \cdot 2 = (-2i) \cdot 2i$
and 2 and $\pm 2i$ do not differ by a
unit of this ring.

Prop. In a UFD, prime \implies irreducible.

Proof. \rightarrow already done.

Assume x irreducible and $x \mid ab$.

So $xy = ab$ for some $y \in R$.

Factor into irreducibles.

x has to occur as a factor dividing a or b .

Have the usual gcd formula

$$\gcd(u p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_n^{e_n}, v p_1^{f_1} p_2^{f_2} \cdots p_n^{f_n})$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{units}} \quad \quad \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \min(e_1, f_1) & \min(e_n, f_n) \end{matrix}$

$$= p_1^{\min(e_1, f_1)} \cdots p_n^{\min(e_n, f_n)}.$$

[Note: we assume the e_i and f_i are ≥ 0 , so we can
write the same prime factors for both.]

32.5.

Goal. Every PID (hence every Euclidean domain) is a UFD.

We need more structure theory first.

Def. A ring R is Noetherian if it satisfies the ascending chain condition wrt ideals: given a

chain $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq I_3 \subseteq \dots$

it must eventually stabilize, i.e. $I_i = I_j$ for $i, j \geq k$ (for some k).

Prop. Any PID is Noetherian.

Proof. Given an increasing chain of ideals

$$I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq I_3 \subseteq \dots$$

$$\text{here } (x_1) \subseteq (x_2) \subseteq (x_3) \subseteq \dots$$

Their union is also an ideal, hence (x) for some $x \in R$.

Must have $x \in (x_i)$ for some i , hence $(x) \subseteq (x_i)$
hence $(x) = (x_i)$.

[33.1] —

Thm. Every PID is a UFD.

Part 1. Existence of factorization into irreducibles.

Given x .

Irreducible? Yes \rightarrow Done.

\downarrow No

$$x = x_1 x_2.$$

Are both x_1 and x_2 irreducible?

Yes \rightarrow done.

No \rightarrow factor one of them.

$$32.6. = 33.2.$$

The claim is that the process must terminate:

We get a sequence of elements

$$x_1 \mid x \text{ and } (x) \subseteq (x_1), \text{ with } (x) \neq (x_1)$$

because x_2 is not
a unit.

$$\text{and } (x_1) \neq R$$

because x_1 not a unit.

$$\text{Similarly } (x) \subsetneq (x_2).$$

If the process doesn't terminate, would similarly get

$$(x_1) \subsetneq (x_3) \text{ or } (x_2) \subsetneq (x_3), \text{ and so on.}$$

But R was proved Noetherian.

Uniqueness. Given

$$r = p_1 \cdots p_n = q_1 \cdots q_m, \text{ induct on } n. \\ (\text{factored into irreducibles})$$

Since $\text{irred} \Rightarrow \text{prime}$ in a PID,

$$p_i \mid q_i \text{ for some } i. \text{ WLOG } p_1 \mid q_1.$$

$$\text{But } q_1 \text{ is irreducible so } q_1 = up_1 \text{ for some } u \in R^\times.$$

$$\text{Get } r = p_1 \cdots p_n = up_1 q_2 \cdots q_m$$

$$= p_1 \cdots p_n = p_1 (uq_2) \cdots q_m.$$

Now cancel p_1 and use induction.

33.3.

Note. See Ch. 8.3 (or Boylan's class) for prime factorization in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Summary.

Fields \subseteq Euclidean domains \subseteq PIDs \subseteq UFD's \subseteq Integral domains.

examples.

\mathbb{Q} $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ $\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{-19}}{2}\right]$ $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$.

Polynomial rings.

Let R be a commutative ring.

The polynomial ring $R[x]$ consists of formal sums $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$.

A polynomial is monic if $a_n = 1$.

The degree of the above is n .

Addition and multiplication as usual.

Have an injection $R \hookrightarrow R[x]$.

Prop. (easy) If R is a domain, then $R[x]$ is, and

(1) $\deg pq = \deg p + \deg q$ (if $pq \neq 0$)

(2) $R[x]^{\times} = R^{\times}$.

33.4.

Can also define polynomial rings in multiple variables

$$R[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] = R[x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}][x_n]$$

by induction. Can do infinitely many variables too.

Terminology:

A monic term $x_1^{d_1} x_2^{d_2} \dots x_n^{d_n}$ is a monomial
is the monomial part of $ax_1^{d_1} x_2^{d_2} \dots x_n^{d_n}$.

Any elt. of a polynomial ring is a finite sum of these.

The term has degree d_i in x_i for each i

$$d = d_1 + \dots + d_n \text{ (total degree).}$$

f is homogeneous if all terms have the same degree.

Prop. Let R be a comm. ring, $I \triangleleft R$.

Write (I) = ideal generated by I in $R[x]$.

(1) I is the set of polynomials with coeffs in I .

[Do by pure thought.]

$$(2) R[x]/(I) \cong (R/I)[x].$$

(So, for example, $\mathbb{Z}[x]/p\mathbb{Z}[x] = \mathbb{F}_p[x]$.)

(3) If I is a prime ideal of R , (I) is prime in $R[x]$.

Proof of (2). Define

$$R[x] \xrightarrow{\varphi} (R/I)[x]$$

Immediate to check:
 - is a homomorphism
 - kernel is polynomials w/ coeffs in I .

This is exactly (I) .

(I) prime in $R[x]$.

(3) I prime



R/I domain

$R[x]/(I)$ domain



$(R/I)[x]$ domain



$$\underline{33.5 = 34.1}$$

Prop. If F is a field, then $F[x]$ is Euclidean.

Given $f, g \in F[x]$ with $g \neq 0$, $\exists ! q, r \in F[x]$ with

$$f = qg + r, \quad r = 0 \text{ or } \deg(r) < \deg(g).$$

(Proof omitted. Do long division.)

Cor. $F[x]$ is a PID and a UFD.

Start here. (Dummit - Foote Ch. 9.3)

Gauss's Lemma. Let R be a UFD w/ fraction field F .

Given $p \in R[x]$.

Then, p reducible in $F[x] \implies p$ reducible in $R[x]$.

In other words: If we can write $p = fg$ for nonconstant polynomials f, g in $F[x]$, we can do so in $R[x]$.

Proof. Given a factorization $p = fg$ in $F[x]$,

Clear denominators to write $dp = f'g'$ in $R[x]$ for some f', g' . (Note: dashes don't denote derivatives here.)
Here $d \in R$.

If d is a unit we're done with $p = (d^{-1}f')g'$.

Otherwise, factor into irreducibles $d = d_1 d_2 \dots d_k$.

Look at $dp = f'g'$ in the ring $(R/d_1)[x]$:

d_1 irreducible in $R \implies d_1$ and (d_1) prime in R

$\implies (d_1)$ prime in $R[x]$

$\implies (R/d_1)[x]$ is an integral domain.

33.6 = 34.2

In $(R/d_1)[x]$, have $0 = dp = d_1 \cdots d_k p = f'g'$.

But $(R/d_1)[x]$ is a domain.

Conclusion: d_1 divides f' or g' .

So cancel it from ~~the~~ both sides, and move through the rest of the d_i 's.

Corollary. Let $R = \text{UFD}$ w/ fraction field F , $p \in R[x]$.

~~Then~~ Suppose further $\gcd(\text{coeffs of } p) = 1$.
(i.e., true if p is monic.)

Then, $p(x)$ irreducible in $R[x] \iff$ irred in $F[x]$.

Proof. ~~Then~~ \implies is Gauss' Lemma.

\Leftarrow : Suppose p is reducible in $R[x]$.

Then $p = fg$ in $R[x]$, but neither f nor
_{with f, g nonunits.} g can be a constant.

(Because no nonunit divides all the coeffs of p by hypothesis.)

So this is a factorization in $F[x]$.

Note. Why the condition on the gcd of the coeffs of p ?

Consider $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $F = \mathbb{Q}$, $p(x) = 5x^2 + 5$.

Then p is reducible in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, $5x^2 + 5 = 5(x+1)$
is a nontrivial factorization in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Neither 5 nor $x+1$ is a unit in this ring.

We still have $5x^2 + 5 = 5(x+1)$ in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$,

but now 5 is a unit, so this factorization "doesn't count".

34.3.

Thm. If R is a UFD, so is $R[x]$.

Note. $R[x]$ UFD $\longrightarrow R$ is.

Why? Factorizations of elements of R are the same in R and in $R[x]$. So are the units.

Proof. Existence of a factorization into irreducibles:

~~If f is irreducible in R , done.~~

~~Otherwise, factor $f = f_1 f_2$ in $F[x]$
(where $F = \text{fraction field}$)~~

First step.

Write $f = d \cdot f'$, where $d = (\text{gcd of coeffs of } f)$.

Such a factorization exists and is unique.

R is a UFD part, so handle d .

Also assume $\deg(f') > 0$. (Otherwise, take $f' = 1$.)

So: Reduced to the case where $d = 1$, $\text{gcd}(\text{coeffs of } f') = 1$.

Now, factor f' in $F[x]$, where $F = \text{fraction field of } R$.

Since $\text{gcd}(\text{coeffs of } f') = 1$,

reducible in $R[x] \iff$ reducible in $F[x]$.

Moreover, looking at the proof of Gauss's Lemma,
I don't think we need this.

If we factor $f' = gh$ in $F[x]$,

then our factorization in $R[x]$ looks like

$$f' = (cg)(c^{-1}h) \text{ for some } c \in F.$$

So keep factoring in R .

Note that, in $R[x]$ if we write $g = h_1 h_2$

for $g, h_1, h_2 \in R[x]$ and $\text{gcd}(\text{coeffs of } g) = 1$,

then we must also have

$\text{gcd}(\text{coeffs of } h_1) = \text{gcd}(\text{coeffs of } h_2)$ Hence 1.
divide $\text{gcd}(\text{coeffs of } g) = 1$.

34.4.

This means we can apply the corollary at every stage. Eventually we get a factorization in $R[x]$, which exactly follows that in $F[x]$.

Uniqueness.

Suppose that

$$f' = g_1 \cdots g_r = h_1 \cdots h_s \text{ in } R[x] \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{As before,} \\ \text{each } g_i, h_j \\ \text{must have the} \\ \text{gcd of its} \\ \text{coeffs} = 1. \end{array} \right)$$

Then, by unique factorization in $F[x]$,

$r=s$ and after reordering $g_i = c_i h_i$ for some
unit $c_i \in F[x]^*$,
i.e. for some $c_i \in F$.

Write $c_i = \frac{x}{y}$ with x, y coprime and in R .

Then $g_i = c_i h_i \Rightarrow y g_i = x h_i$ in R .

Choose any prime factor p of y .

Then $p \mid x h_i$, so $p \mid x$ or $p \mid h_i$.

But $p \nmid x$ by hypothesis that x, y coprime
 $p \nmid h_i$ because $\gcd(\text{coeffs of } h_i) = 1$.

So y can't have any prime factors

Hence $y \in R^*$ and similarly $x \in R^*$ and $c_i \in R^*$.

This means $g_i = c_i h_i$ where c_i lives in R^* .
... and we're done.

34.5 .

Cor. If R is a UFD, so is $R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Proof. Use above + induct on n .

Irreducibility criteria.

When can we tell if a polynomial is irreducible?

Example. $x^2 + 1$. Is it irreducible?

Depends. Is irreducible over \mathbb{R}
not over \mathbb{C} .

It is not irreducible over $\mathbb{Z}/2$: $(x^2 + 1) = (x + 1)^2$.

141 students:
We're trained professionals.
Don't try this at home.

For odd primes p ,

$x^2 + 1$ irreducible over $p \iff p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$.

Sketch proof.

Look at the group $(\mathbb{Z}/p)^{\times}$ of order $p - 1$.

It's cyclic (take this for granted).

The map $x \rightarrow x^2$ has kernel of size 2

(we know because the group is cyclic)

and image of size $\frac{p-1}{2}$.

The image is the set

$$\{a \in \mathbb{F}_p^{\times} : a = y^2 \text{ for some } y \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$$

$$= \{a \in \mathbb{F}_p^{\times} : y^2 - a = 0 \text{ has a solution } y \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$$

$$= \{a \in \mathbb{F}_p^{\times} : y^2 - a \text{ factors (i.e. is reducible) in } \mathbb{F}_p\}.$$

34.6.

If we write x for a generator of \mathbb{F}_p^\times ,

~~10~~ $-1 = x^{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ in \mathbb{F}_p .

(It's the unique element whose square is $x^{p-1} = 1$.)

If $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then

$$-1 = (x^{\frac{p-1}{4}})^2, \text{ so can factor } x^2 + 1.$$

If $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is odd

and the squares in \mathbb{F}_p are exactly

$$\{x^b : \text{~~0 \leq b \leq p-2~~ } 0 \leq b \leq p-2 : b \text{ even}\}.$$

This question is also interesting over prime powers.

Interesting Exercise. If $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ is prime, and $a \geq 1$ is any integer, then $x^2 + 1$ is reducible in \mathbb{Z}/p^a .

Proof sketch. Induction on a . Above is a base case.

Prove reducible in $\mathbb{Z}/p^a \rightarrow$ reducible in \mathbb{Z}/p^{a+1} .

This is actually fairly easy.

It's the first case of "Hensel's Lemma"

The argument also establishes that $x^2 + 1$ is reducible over the p -adic integers \mathbb{Z}_p

(basically all \mathbb{Z}/p^a mashed together).