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# LECTURE 1

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# 1 Rings

$\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $+$ : addition,  $\cdot$  multiplication

$$a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c \quad 0 \text{ - additive identity} \quad (1)$$

$$(ab)c = a(bc) \quad (2)$$

$$a + b = b + a : \text{multiplication doesn't have to be commutative} \quad (3)$$

$$(a + b)c = ac + bc : \text{distributivos} \quad (4)$$

$$a + (-a) = 0 : \text{additive inverse} \quad (5)$$

$1_R$ - Multiplicative identity (if exists)

if there exists  $1_R \in R$  then  $R$  is called unital or ring with unity.

If  $ab = ba, \forall a, b \in R$  then  $R$  is a commutative ring

$(R, +)$  is an abelian group

examples:  $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot), (2\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$  ring without 1,

$M_n(R) : n \times n$  matrices with entries in a ring  $R$ . - Not commutative ring.

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# 2 Integral Domain

Ring  $D$  (commutative, unital) is an Integral Domain if it enjoys cancellation property:

$$ab = ac \rightarrow b = c \text{ (if } a \neq 0)$$

**Definition 2.1** (Equivalent).

$$ab = ac \iff ab = ac = 0 \iff a(b - c) = 0$$

in other words:

$$ab = 0 \rightarrow (a = 0) \vee (b = 0)$$

**Definition 2.2** (zero divisors).

$$ab = 0 \text{ and } a, b \neq 0$$

then  $a$  and  $b$  are zero divisors

$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  (integer mod 6) or  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  (same thing diff notation)

proving that this is not an I.D. :  $2 \cdot 3 = 0$  but  $2, 3 \neq 0$

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# 3 Fields

A commutative ring where every element has a multiplicative inverse is called a Field.

**Definition 3.1** (unit).

An element  $a \in R$  is called a unit if it has a multiplicative inverse

(groups of unit)  $(ab)^{-1} = b^{-1}a^{-1}$ : units in a ring forms a group. Commutative ring then it is an abelian group.

example  $\mathbb{Z}$ : units are  $\{-1, 1\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$

K-field,  $K^* = K \setminus \{0\}$  and  $(K^*, \cdot)$  is an abelian group

example:  $R = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

I claim that  $(\sqrt{2}+1)$  is a unit. we show that it has a mult. inverse:  $(\sqrt{2}+1)(\sqrt{2}-1) = 1$  and we see that  $(\sqrt{2}+1)^k$  are all distinct units for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \geq 0$

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## 4 Ring Homomorphisms

maps between rings: (respect the structure of addition, multiplication)  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  is a homomorphism if:

1.  $\phi(a + b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b)$
2.  $\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b)$

property:

1.  $\phi(O_R) = O_S$
2.  $\phi(-r) = -\phi(r)$
3.  $\phi(R) \leq S$  (subring of S)

**Definition 4.1** (ker).

$$\ker(\phi) = \{r \in R \mid \phi(r) = 0_S\}$$

**Proposition 4.1.**  $\ker\phi$  is a subring of R

*Proof.*

$$\phi(ab) = \phi(a)\phi(b) = 0$$

$$a, b \in \ker\phi$$

$$\phi(a + b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b) = 0$$

$$\phi(ra) = 0 \text{ for all } r \text{ in } R$$

□

**Definition 4.2** (ideal).

$\ker\phi$  is an ideal of R.

Ideal: subring closed under multiplication by any element of R.

ideal  $I$  of  $R$  if  $\forall a, b \in I, r \in R \rightarrow a, b \in I$

1. closure under addition and additive inverse  $a - b \in I$
2.  $ra \in I$

Example:  $2\mathbb{Z}$  is an ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}$

k-field:  $\{0\}, R$  "not interesting" ideals contains only zero

Proper Ideal of  $R$  is an "interesting" ideal A proper ideal is any ideal that is a strict subset of  $R$  (so not  $R$  itself). These are considered "interesting" because they:

- Reveal the ring's algebraic structure
- Help classify rings
- Are used to construct quotient rings
- Can determine properties like primality and maximality

For example, in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (integers),  $(4) = \{\dots, -8, -4, 0, 4, 8, \dots\}$  is an interesting proper ideal, while  $\{0\}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  are uninteresting.

$\therefore I$ - ideal.

$$I \subsetneq R \Leftrightarrow 1_R \notin I \Leftrightarrow I \text{ contains no units}$$

*Proof.* Let  $I \subset K$  be a proper ideal. If  $a \neq 0$  and  $a \in I$ , then  $a \cdot a^{-1} \in I$  since  $I$  is an ideal. But  $a \cdot a^{-1} = 1$  (multiplicative identity), therefore  $1 \in I$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal, for any  $k \in K$ ,  $k \cdot 1 = k \in I$ . Thus  $I = K$ , contradicting that  $I$  is proper.  $\square$

## 5 Quotient Rings

$R/I$ : cosets of  $I$  :

$$a + I \forall a \in R$$

$$(a + I) \cdot (b + I) = ab + I$$

$$(a + I) + (b + I) = a + b + I$$

$$0_{R/I} = 0 + I = I$$

**Definition 5.1** (canonical projection).

$$\pi : R \rightarrow R/I$$

$$a \mapsto a + I$$

$$\ker \pi = I$$

$$\phi : R \rightarrow S$$

$$\text{im} \phi \cong R / \ker \phi$$

All ring homomorphisms are canonical projections (because kernel is always the ideal.)

## 6 Fields of Fraction (tbc)

$\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ ,

D integral Domain

**Definition 6.1** (rational).

$(a, b) : \frac{a}{b}, a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

but we have a problem:  $(1,2) = (2,4) = (3,6) = \dots$  So equivalence classes of pairs of integers

$$(a, b) \sim (a', b') \Leftrightarrow ab' = a'b$$

actions on rational numbers

1. multiplication:  $(a, b) \cdot (a', b') = (aa', bb')$  ID is needed.
2. addition:  $(a, b) + (a', b') = \frac{a}{b} + \frac{a'}{b'} = \frac{ab' + a'b}{bb'} = (ab' + a'b, bb')$

Why ID is needed:

*Proof.* The identity element  $(1,1)$  is required because:

1. In a ring, multiplication must have an identity element
2. For component-wise multiplication  $(a, b) \cdot (1, 1) = (a \cdot 1, b \cdot 1) = (a, b)$  must hold
3. Without  $(1,1)$ , the structure would not satisfy ring axioms:
  - Existence of multiplicative identity
  - Distributive property over addition
  - Closure under multiplication

This ensures the direct product maintains ring properties from its component rings.  $\square$

equivalence relation?

1.  $(a, b) \sim (a, b)$
2.  $(a, b) \sim (a', b') \Leftrightarrow (a', b') \sim (a, b)$
3.  $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$  and  $(a', b') \sim (a'', b'') \rightarrow (a, b) \sim (a'', b'')$

If  $(a, b) \sim (a', b')$  then  $\exists k_1 \in \mathbb{Q} : a - a' = k_1$  and  $b - b' = k_1$

If  $(a', b') \sim (a'', b'')$  then  $\exists k_2 \in \mathbb{Q} : a' - a'' = k_2$  and  $b' - b'' = k_2$

Adding equations:  $(a - a') + (a' - a'') = k_1 + k_2$  and  $(b - b') + (b' - b'') = k_1 + k_2$

Therefore  $a - a'' = k_1 + k_2$  and  $b - b'' = k_1 + k_2$  where  $k_1 + k_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$

Thus  $(a, b) \sim (a'', b'')$  ( there is an easier way i just pasted the above from claude )

this construction adds a multiplicative inverse to every non-zero element, making it into a field.  $\mathbb{Q}(D)$