
RINGS

Cosets

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1 prime elements unique factorization domains.

exercise show that the field of fractions of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ is $\mathbb{Q}[i]$

Definition 1.1. 1. A non-zero element in $x \in R - R^*$ Has a factorization into irreducible element if \exists irreducible elements

$$p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \in R$$

such that $x = p_1 p_2 \dots p_n$

2. We say x has a unique factorization into irreducible elements if for any other irreducible factorization

$$x = q_1 q_2 \dots q_n$$

Every $p_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ divides some q_j for some $j = 1, \dots, m$

remark Since q_i is irreducible, $q_i \mid q_j$ implies $q_j = up_i$ for some $u \in R^*$ therefore $n = m$

Definition 1.2. A domain R such that every nonzero element in $R - R^*$ has a unique factorization into irreducible elements is called a unique factorization domain UFD

Definition 1.3. A Nonzero element $p \in R - R^*$ is called a prime element if $p \mid xy \rightarrow p \mid x \vee p \mid y$

exercise If p is prime and $p \mid x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$, then $p \mid x_i$ for some $i = 1, \dots, n$

Proposition 1.1. (3.5.2)

A prime element is irreducible

Proof. let $p \in R - R^*$ be prime

If $p \mid xy$, then $p \mid x$ or $p \mid y$

wlog $p \mid x$

Then $x = rp$ for some $r \in R$

Then $p = rpy$ AND since R is a domain we can cancel. thus $1 = ry$

Hence, y is a unit so p is irreducible

□

example

$$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] = \{a + b\sqrt{-5} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \mathbb{C}$$

$$6 = (1 - \sqrt{-5})(1 + \sqrt{-5})$$

Claim: $2 \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ is irreducible but not prime

Proof. 1. 2 is not prime:

$2 \mid (1 - \sqrt{-5})(1 + \sqrt{-5})$ but 2 does not divide $1 - \sqrt{-5}$ nor $1 + \sqrt{-5}$

since $\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{-5}}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$

2. 2 is irreducible

$$N : \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$N(z) = z\bar{z}$$

$$N(a + b\sqrt{-5}) = a^2 + 5b^2$$

$$z \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]^* \Leftrightarrow N(z) = 1$$

$$\text{Then } a + b\sqrt{-5} \text{ is a unit } \Leftrightarrow a = \pm 1, b = 0$$

Let

$$2 = xy$$

$$\text{where } x = a + b\sqrt{-5}$$

$$y = c + d\sqrt{-5}$$

$$\text{Then } N(2) = 4 = N(x)N(y)$$

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

$$= a^2c^2 + 5a^2d^2 + 5b^2c^2 + 25b^2d^2$$

therefore,

$$4 = a^2c^2 \text{ and } b = d = 0$$

$$ac = \pm 2 \text{ so } a \text{ or } c \text{ is } \pm 1$$

So x, or y is a unit

□

2 principle ideal domains and UFD

Goal: we will show that every PID is a UFD (the converse is not true)

example $\mathbb{R}[x, y] = \{\text{polynomials in } x \text{ and } y \text{ with real coefficients}\}$ is a UFD but is not a PID

$$I = \langle x, y \rangle$$

is not principal

Lemma 2.1 (3.5.5). Let R be a PID and $r \in R$ a non zero element, Then r has an irreducible factorization.

Claim: IF $\langle a_1 \rangle \subseteq \langle a_2 \rangle \subseteq \dots \in R$ where R is a PID, Then

$$\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$$

such that $\langle a_i \rangle = \langle a_{i+1} \rangle \forall i > N$

proof of claim.

in the HW we showed that the

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle a_i \rangle$$

is an ideal
since R is a PID,

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \langle a_i \rangle = \langle d \rangle$$

for some $d \in R$

Thus $d \in \langle a_N \rangle$ for some N , and so $\langle d \rangle \subseteq \langle a_N \rangle$ and hence $\langle a_i \rangle = \langle d \rangle$ for $i \geq N$
Suppose $r \in R - R^*$ is a non zero element which is not a product of irreducibles. then

$$r = a_1 b_1, a_1, b_1 \notin R^*$$

where at least one of a_1, b_1 is not a product of irreducibles.

WLOG a_1 is not a product of irreducibles.

Then $a_1 = a_2 b_2, a_2, b_2 \notin R^*$ where at least of a_2, b_2 is not a product of irreducibles ..

Then

$$\langle R \rangle \subsetneq \langle a_1 \rangle \subsetneq \langle a_2 \rangle \subsetneq \langle a_3 \rangle \subsetneq \dots$$

which contradicts the claim hence R must have an irreducible factorization. □

Proposition 2.2 (3.5.6).

suppose R is a PID that is not a field. An ideal $\langle x \rangle \subset R$ is a Maximal Ideal IFF x is irreducible.

Proof. 1. \rightarrow Assume $\langle x \rangle$ is a maximal and $x = ab$, we want to show that a or b is a unit.

Assume neither a or b is a unit

Then $\langle x \rangle \subsetneq \langle a \rangle$ since b is not a unit

$\langle x \rangle \subsetneq \langle b \rangle$ since a is not a unit

contradicting maximality of $\langle x \rangle$ hence a or b must be a unit

2. \leftarrow Suppose x is irreducible.

IF $\langle x \rangle \subseteq \langle y \rangle$ then

$x = \lambda y$ for some $\lambda \in R$

since x is irreducible

λ or y is a unit

If λ is a unit, then $\langle x \rangle = \langle y \rangle$

If y is a unit, $\langle y \rangle = R$

Hence $\langle x \rangle$ is maximal. □

Theorem 2.3 (3.5.7). A PID R is a UFD

Proof. By lemma 3.5.5 since R is PID, irreducible factorization exists. We need to show uniqueness. We will show that irreducibility elements are prime and then apply Prop 3.5.3 to show that R is a UFD

□

Proposition 2.4 (3.5.3). Let R be a ring where every non-zero element $r \in R - R^*$ has a factorization into irreducibles. Every irreducible element is a prime element in R iff R is a UFD

Proof. 1. \rightarrow Suppose $x \in R - R^*$ with $x = p_1 p_2 \dots p_n = q_1 q_2 \dots q_m$ where p_i, q_j are irreducible.

2. \leftarrow Let R be a ufd and $p \in R$ irreducible. Suppose $p \mid xy$ since R is a UFD, x and y each have unique factorizations and by uniqueness one of these factorizations must have an irreducible factor that is divisible by p .

Hence $p \mid x$ or $p \mid y$ so p is prime.

□

To see that every PID is a UFD we will show that irreducible elements are prime and apply prop 3.5.3 to show R is a UFD.

Let $p \in R$ p irreducible, with $p \mid ab$ and $p \nmid a$

WTS $p \mid b$

since $p \nmid a, a \notin \langle p \rangle$

Then, $\langle p \rangle \subsetneq \langle a, p \rangle$

Since p is irreducible, $\langle p \rangle$ is maximal by the earlier prop 3.5.6

Hence $\langle a, p \rangle = R$ so exists $x, y \in R$ so that $xa + yp = 1$

Multiplying both sides by b : $xab + ypb = b$

Since $p \mid ab$, it follows that $p \mid b$