

Lecture 11

# Integral Domains (整域)

11.1 Euclidean Domains (ユークリッド整域)

11.2 Factorization (分解) in Integral Domains

## 11.1 Euclidean Domains

(ユークリッド整域)

We have seen that both rings  $\mathbb{Z}$  and F[x], where F is a field, have a **division algorithm**. In this lecture, we discuss the properties for **integral domains (整域)**.

Recall in Lecture 1, we defined Complement of Set as

#### **Definition 1.4**

Given two sets A and B, the relative complement of B in A, denoted by the set difference  $A \setminus B$ , is the set

$$A \setminus B = A \cap B' = \{x \mid x \in A, \text{ but } x \notin B \}.$$

#### **Definition 11.1**

A Euclidean domain is an integral domain  $(E, +, \cdot)$  together with a function  $v : E \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ 

(Here Z# denotes the set of nonnegative (非負の) integers) such that

(i) for all  $a, b \in E$  with  $b \neq 0$ , there exist  $q, r \in E$  such that a = qb + r, where either r = 0 or v(r) < v(b)

and

(ii) for all  $a, b \in E \setminus \{0\}, v(a) \le v(ab)$ .

The function v is called a **Euclidean valuation** (ユークリッド賦値).

#### Example 11.1

Let  $(E, +, \cdot)$  be a Euclidean domain with Gaussian valuation v.

- (a) Show that v(a) = v(-a) for all  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$ .
- (b) Show that for all  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $v(a) \ge v(1)$ , where equality holds if and only if a is a **unit** in E.
- (c) Let n be an integer such that  $v(1) + n \ge 0$ . Show that the function

$$v_n \colon E \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$$

defined by  $v_n(a) = v(a) + n$  for all  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$  is a **Euclidean valuation**.

#### **Solution**

- (a) For all  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $v(a) = v((-1)(-a)) \ge v(-a) = v((-1)a) \ge v(a)$  according to definition 11.1. Hence, v(a) = v(-a) for all  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$ .
- (b) Let  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$ . Now  $v(a) = v(1a) \ge v(1)$ . Suppose a is a **unit**. Then there exists an element  $c \in E$  such that ac = 1. Thus,  $v(1) = v(ac) \ge v(a)$ . This implies that v(a) = v(1). Conversely, suppose that v(a) = v(1). Since  $a \ne 0$ , there exist  $q, r \in E$  such that 1 = qa + r, where r = 0 or v(r) < v(1). Now v(r) < v(1) is impossible. Hence, r = 0, showing that 1 = qa. Thus, a is a unit.
- (c) Let  $a \in E \setminus \{0\}$ . Then  $v_n(a) = v(a) + n \ge v(1) + n \ge 0$ . Hence,  $v_n(a) \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ . Suppose  $a, b \in E$  with  $b \ne 0$ . There exist  $q, r \in E$  such that a = qb + r, where either r = 0 or v(r) < v(b). Now v(r) < v(b) implies that v(r) + n < v(b) + n. Thus,  $v_n(r) < v_n(b)$ . Also, for  $a, b \in E \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $v_n(ab) = v(ab) + n \ge v(a) + n = v_n(a)$ . Therefore,  $v_n$  is a **Euclidean valuation** on E.

## Example 11.2

The ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers can be considered a **Euclidean domain** with  $v(a) = |a|, a \neq 0$ .

#### Theorem 11.1

If F is a field, then the polynomial ring F[x] is a Euclidean domain.

**Proof** (See page 185 of Ref. Textbook, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

#### Example 11.3

Any field can be considered as a Euclidean domain with v(a) = 1 for all  $a \neq 0$ .

$$(a = (ab^{-1})b + 0.)$$

## **Definition 11.2**

The subset  $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi \mid a, b \in Z\}$  of the complex numbers is called the set of Gaussian integers (ガウス整数).



Carl Gauss (German mathematician, 1777-1885) was the first to study  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  and hence in his honor  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is called **the ring of Gaussian integers**.

## Theorem 11.2

The set  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  of **Gaussian integers** is a **subring** of  $\mathbb{C}$ . The units of  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  are  $\pm 1$  and  $\pm i$ .

**Proof** (See page 186 of Ref. Textbook, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

**Notice**: The (field) **norm** N is a particular mapping defined in field theory, which maps elements of a larger field into a subfield.

#### Theorem 11.3

The ring  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  of Gaussian integers becomes a Euclidean domain when we let the function,

$$N: \mathbb{Z}[i] \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$$

defined by  $N(a + bi) = (a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 + b^2$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ , serve as a **Euclidean valuation** function v.

**Proof** (See page 186 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction to Abstract Algebra*)

We now consider the ideals of a Euclidean domain.

Recall that an ideal I of a ring R is called a principal ideal if  $I = \langle a \rangle = \{ar: r \in R\}$  for some  $a \in I$ .

#### **Definition 11.3**

Let R be a commutative ring with identity. If every ideal of R is a principal ideal, then R is called a principal ideal ring. An integral domain which is also a principal ideal ring is called a principal ideal domain (PID) (単項イデアル整域).

## Theorem 11.4

Every Euclidean domain is a principal ideal domain (PID).

Proof (See page 186 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

#### Theorem 11.5

Let R be a commutative ring with identity. The following conditions are equivalent.

- (i) R is a field.
- (ii) R[x] is a Euclidean domain.
- (iii) R[x] is a PID.

**Proof** (See page 187 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, Introduction of Abstract Algebra)

# Corollary 11.1

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

#### **Proof**

Now  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a commutative ring with identity. Since  $\mathbb{Z}$  is not a field,  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is not a **PID** by Theorem 11.5.

# 11.2 Factorization (分解) in

**Integral Domains** 

#### **Definition 11.4**

Let R be a commutative ring and  $a, b \in R$  be such that  $a \neq 0$ . If there exists  $c \in R$  such that b = ac, then a is said to divide b or a is said to be a divisor of b and we write  $a \mid b$ .

#### **Definition 11.5**

Let R be a commutative ring with identity. A nonzero element  $a \in R$  is said to be an <u>associate</u> (同伴) of a nonzero element  $b \in R$  if a = ub for some unit  $u \in R$ .

#### Example 11.4

- (i) In  $\mathbb{Z}$ , 1 and -1 are the only **units**. For every  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a \neq 0$ , we know a and -a are **associates**.
- (ii) In  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ , 1, -1, i, -i are the **only units**. Thus, 1 + i, -1 i, -1 + i, 1 i are all **associates** of 1 + i.

#### Example 11.5

In the **polynomial ring** F[x] over a field F, the units form the set  $F\{0\}$ . A **nonconstant polynomial** f(x) has uf(x) for an **associate**, where u is a **unit** in F.

## **Definition 11.6**

Let R be a commutative ring with identity.

- (i) An element p of R is called irreducible (既約な) if p is nonzero and a nonunit and p = ab with  $a, b \in R$  implies that either a or b is a unit. An element p of R is called reducible if p is not irreducible.
- (ii) An element p of R is called **prime** if p is **nonzero** and a **nonunit**, and if whenever  $p \mid ab$ ,  $a, b \in R$ , then either p divides a or p divides b. (iii) Two elements a and b of R are called **relatively prime** if their only **common divisors** are **units**.

From the definition of an irreducible element, it follows that the **only divisors of an irreducible** element p are the associates of p and the unit elements of p.

The converse of this result does not always hold in a commutative ring with identity.

#### Theorem 11.6

Let R be an integral domain and  $p \in R$  be such that p is nonzero and a nonunit. Then p is irreducible if and only if the only divisors of p are the associates of p and the unit elements of R.

**Proof** (See page 194 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

#### Example 11.6

In  $\mathbb{Z}$ , 1 and -1 are the only units, and therefore 2 is divisible by  $\pm 1$  and  $\pm 2$ . It follows that 2 is not divisible by any other integer. Therefore, 2 is an irreducible element.

Suppose now  $2 \mid ab$  and 2 does not divide a for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since 2 does not divide a, a is an odd integer and so gcd(2, a) = 1.

Therefore, there exist  $c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that 1 = 2c + ad. Thus, b = 2bc + abd. Since  $2 \mid ab$  and  $2 \mid 2bc$ , it follows that  $2 \mid b$ . Hence, 2 is prime.

#### Example 11.7

Consider the integral domain

$$\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}] = \{a + bi\sqrt{5} | a, b \in Z\}$$

Let us show that  $3 = 3 + 0i\sqrt{5} \in Z[i\sqrt{5}]$  is **irreducible**, **but not prime**. Suppose  $3 = (a + bi\sqrt{5})(c + di\sqrt{5})$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}]$ . Then  $3 = \overline{3} = \overline{(a + bi\sqrt{5})(c + di\sqrt{5})} = (a - bi\sqrt{5})(c - di\sqrt{5})$ . Hence,  $9 = (a^2 + 5b^2)(c^2 + 5d^2)$ . Since a, b, c, d are integers, the previous equality implies that

$$a^2 + 5b^2 = 3$$
 and  $c^2 + 5d^2 = 3$  (11.1)

or

$$a^2 + 5b^2 = 1$$
 and  $c^2 + 5d^2 = 9$  (11.2)

or

$$a^2 + 5b^2 = 9$$
 and  $c^2 + 5d^2 = 1$  (11.3)

Clearly there do not exist integers a,b,c,d satisfying Eqs. (11.1). The first equation of Eqs. (11.2) implies that b=0 and  $a=\pm 1$ . Thus, it follows that  $a+bi\sqrt{5}$  is a unit. Similarly, the second equation of Eqs. (11.3) implies that  $c+di\sqrt{5}$  is a unit. Hence, 3 is irreducible. Now  $3 \mid 6$  and  $6=(1+i\sqrt{5})(1-i\sqrt{5})$ . Suppose  $3 \mid (1+i\sqrt{5})$ . Then  $1+i\sqrt{5}=3(a+bi\sqrt{5})$  for some  $a,b\in\mathbb{Z}$ . This implies that 3a=1, a contradiction, since the equation 3a=1 has no solution in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Hence, 3 does not divide  $(1 + i\sqrt{5})$ . Similarly, 3 does not divide  $(1 - i\sqrt{5})$ . Thus, 3 is not prime.

Every field is also an integral domain; however, there are many integral domains that are not fields. For example, the integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  form an integral domain but not a field. A question that naturally arises is how we might associate an integral domain with a field.

There is a natural way to construct the rationals Q from the integers: the rationals can be represented as formal quotients of two integers. The rational numbers are certainly a field. In fact, it can be shown that the rationals are the smallest field that contains the integers.

Given an integral domain D, our question now becomes how to construct a smallest field F containing D. We will do this in the same way as we constructed the rationals from the integers.

Let's introduce the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic (算術の基本定理).

## Theorem 11.7 (Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic)

Let n be an **integer** such that n > 1. Then

$$n = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k$$

where  $p_1, p_2, ..., p_k$  are primes (not necessarily distinct).

Furthermore, this factorization is unique; that is, if

$$n = q_1 q_2 \cdots q_l$$

then k = l and the  $q_i$ 's are just the  $p_i$ 's rearranged.

**Proof** (See page 13 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

We study those integral domains in which an analogue of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic holds.

## Definition 11.7

A nonzero nonunit element a of an integral domain D is said to have a factorization (分解) if a can be expressed as

$$a = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k$$

where  $p_1, p_2, ..., p_k$  are irreducible elements of D. The expression  $p_1p_2 \cdots p_k$  is called a factorization of a.

#### **Definition 11.8**

An integral domain *D* is called a factorization domain (FD) if every nonzero nonunit element has a factorization.

In an integral domain D every nonzero element  $a \in D$  is always divisible by the associates of a and the units of D. These are called the **trivial factors** of a. **All other factors (if any) of** a are called **nontrivial**. For example,  $\pm 2$  and  $\pm 3$  are **nontrivial factors** of 6 in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

In the following lemma, we show that a nonzero nonunit element that has no factorization as a product of irreducible elements can be expressed as a product of any number of nontrivial factors.

#### **Lemma 11.1**

Let D be an integral domain. Let a be a nonzero nonunit element of D such that a does not have a factorization. Then for every positive integer n, there exist nontrivial factors  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \in D$  of a such that  $a = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$ .

#### Theorem 11.8

Let *D* be an **integral domain** with a function  $N: D\setminus\{0\} \to \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$  such that for all  $a,b\in D\setminus\{0\}$ ,  $N(ab)\geq N(b)$ , where equality holds if and only if a is a unit. Then *D* is a **FD**.

**Proof** (See page 199~200 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

#### Example 11.8

Consider the integral domain  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Define

$$N: \mathbb{Z}[i] \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$$

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

It is easy to verify that a + bi is a **unit** if and only if N(a + bi) = 1.

Let a + bi, c + di be two nonzero elements of  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

Then 
$$N((a + bi)(c + di)) = N((ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i)$$
  
 $= (ac - bd)^2 + (ad + bc)^2$   
 $= a^2c^2 - 2acbd + b^2d^2 + a^2d^2 + 2adbc + b^2c^2$   
 $= a^2(c^2 + d^2) + b^2(c^2 + d^2)$   
 $= (a^2 + b^2)(c^2 + d^2)$   
 $\geq (c^2 + d^2)$   
 $= N(c + di)$ 

where the equality holds if and only if N(a + bi) is a **unit**. Hence,  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a **FD**.

#### **Definition 11.9**

An integral domain D is called a unique factorization domain (UFD) (一意分解整域) if the following two conditions hold in D:

(i) every nonzero nonunit element of D can be expressed as

$$a = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k$$

where  $p_1, p_2, ..., p_k$  are irreducible elements of D and

(ii) if  $a = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k = q_1 q_2 \cdots q_l$  are two factorizations of a as a finite product of irreducible elements of D,

then k = l and there is a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, 2, ..., k\}$  such that  $p_i$  and  $q_{\sigma(i)}$  are associates for all i = 1, 2, ..., k.

From the above definition, it follows that an integral domain D is a UFD if and only if D is a FD and every nonzero nonunit element of D is uniquely expressible (apart from unit factors and order of the factors) as a finite product of irreducible elements.

#### Theorem 11.9

In a unique factorization domain (UFD), every irreducible element is prime.

**Proof** (See page 201 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

#### **Theorem 11.10**

A factorization domain (FD) D is a UFD if and only if every irreducible element of D is a prime element.

**Proof** (See page 201 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

## **Theorem 11.11**

A Euclidean domain is a unique factorization domain (UFD).

**Proof** (See page 202 of Ref. Textbook, Malik, *Introduction of Abstract Algebra*)

#### Example 11.9

Consider the integral domain  $\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}] = \{a + bi\sqrt{5} | a, b \in Z\}$ . Define  $N: Z[i\sqrt{5}] \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ 

by

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

We can show that  $a + bi\sqrt{5}$  is a unit if and only if  $N(a + bi\sqrt{5}) = 1$ . Let  $a + bi\sqrt{5}$ ,  $c + di\sqrt{5}$  be two nonzero elements of  $\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}]$ .

Then  $N\left((a+bi\sqrt{5})(c+di\sqrt{5})\right) = N\left((ac-5bd)+i(ad+bc)\sqrt{5}\right) = (ac-5bd)^2+5(ad+bc)^2 = (a^2+5b^2)(c^2+5d^2) \ge (c^2+5d^2) = N\left((c+di\sqrt{5})\right)$ , where equality holds if and only if  $N(a+i\sqrt{5}) = 1$ , i.e., if and only if  $a+bi\sqrt{5}$  is a unit. Hence,  $\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}]$  is a FD by Theorem 11.8. In Example 11.7, we showed that 3 is an irreducible element. Now  $3 \mid (2+i\sqrt{5})(2-i\sqrt{5})$ . Suppose  $3 \mid (2+i\sqrt{5})$ . Then  $2+i\sqrt{5}=3(m+ni\sqrt{5})$  for some  $m+ni\sqrt{5}\in\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}]$ . This implies 2=3m and 1=3n, which is impossible for integers m and n. Therefore, 3 does not divide  $(2+i\sqrt{5})$ . Similarly, 3 does not divide  $(2-i\sqrt{5})$ . Thus, 3 is not prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}]$ . Hence,  $\mathbb{Z}[i\sqrt{5}]$  is not a **UFD** by Theorem 11.9.

## Review for Lecture 11

- Euclidean Domain (ユークリッド整域)
- Gaussian Integers (ガウス整数)
- Associate (同伴)
- Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic (算術の基本定理)
- Unique Factorization Domain (UFD) (一意分解整域)

## Assignment

Please Check <a href="https://github.com/uoaworks/Applied-Algebra">https://github.com/uoaworks/Applied-Algebra</a>

## References

- [1] Thomas W. Judson etc. Abstract Algebra Theory and Applications, 2018
- [2] D. S. Malik, John N. Mordeson, M.K. Sen, Introduction to Abstract Algebra, 2007
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- [4] Wikipedia
- [5] Materials from internet.