

Ring Theory

1.1. Definitions and examples

Definition 1.1.1 A ring R is a nonempty set together with two binary operation $+$ and \cdot (called addition and multiplication defined on R) if satisfying the following axioms:

- (1) $(R, +)$ is an abelian group,
- (2) (R, \cdot) is semi-group,
- (3) the distributive law hold in R : for all $a, b, c \in R$,
 $a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$ and $(a + b) \cdot c = a \cdot c + b \cdot c$

Example. $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$, $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$, $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$ and $(\mathbb{C}, +, \cdot)$ are ring.

Definition 1.1.2. The ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called commutative if multiplication is commutative ($a \cdot b = b \cdot a$, for all $a, b \in R$).

Remark. The identity of the operation $+$ in a ring is usually written 0 and called zero.

Definition 1.1.3. The ring R is said to be ring with identity 1_R if $a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a$ for all $a \in R$.

Example:

$(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$, $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$, $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$ and $(\mathbb{C}, +, \cdot)$ are commutative ring with identity.

Definition 1.1.4. Let R be a ring with identity. An element $a \in R$ is called a unit (or an invertible element) if there exists $b \in R$ such that $ab = 1 = ba$. We denoted the set of all unit elements in R by R^* .

Theorem 1.1.5. Let R be a ring with identity. Then (R^*, \cdot) is a group.

Proof. Since $1_R \in R^*$, then R^* is a non-empty set.

Now we prove that the axioms of group are satisfies:

1- let $x, y \in R^*$, that is each of x and y has inverse multiplication. Hence

$$(x \cdot y)(y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}) = x \cdot (y \cdot y^{-1}) \cdot x^{-1} = x \cdot 1_R \cdot x^{-1} = x \cdot x^{-1} = 1_R \text{ and } (y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}) \cdot (x \cdot y) = y^{-1} \cdot (x^{-1} \cdot x) \cdot y = y^{-1} \cdot 1_R \cdot y = y^{-1} \cdot y = 1_R.$$

This implies that $y^{-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is invers of $x \cdot y$ and $x \cdot y \in R^*$. Hence the set R^* is closed under multiplication.

2- associative law are holds because $(R, +, \cdot)$ is ring.

3- $1_R \in R^*$ is identity element.

4- If $x \in R^*$, then $x \cdot x^{-1} = x^{-1} \cdot x = 1_R \implies x^{-1} \in R^*$.

(R^*, \cdot) is group.

Example.(1) In $(\mathbb{Z}_6, +_6, \cdot_6)$ we see $(\mathbb{Z}_6^* = \{1, 5\})$ and $(\mathbb{Z}_6^*, \cdot_6)$ is an abelian group.

(2) Let X be a non-empty set. If $P(X)$ is a power set of X , then show that $(P(X), \Delta, \cap)$

Is a commutative ring with identity?

(3) Let $M_2(\mathbb{R}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ be the square matrix of \mathbb{R} . Show that $(M_2(\mathbb{R}), +, \cdot)$ a ring with identity.

Definition 1.1.6. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring. For all $a \in R$ and for all integer n define

$$na = \begin{cases} \underbrace{a + a + \dots + a}_{n\text{-times}} & \text{if } n > 0 \\ \underbrace{(-a) + (-a) + \dots + (-a)}_{|n|\text{-times}} & \text{if } n < 0 \\ 0_R & \text{if } n = 0 \end{cases}$$

and define

$$a^n = \underbrace{a \cdot a \dots a}_{n\text{-times}} \quad \text{if } n > 0$$

If R with identity, then $a^0 = 1_R$.

If R with identity and a has a multiplicative inverse, then

$$a^n = \underbrace{a^{-1} \cdot a^{-1} \dots a^{-1}}_{|n|\text{-times}} \quad \text{if } n < 0$$

Theorem 1.1.7. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring, for $a, b \in R$ and arbitrary integers n and m the following hold:

- 1- $(n + m)a = na + ma$,
- 2- $n(a + b) = na + nb$,
- 3- $(nm)a = n(ma)$.

Theorem 1.1.8. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring and 0_R be a zero element. The for all $a, b, c \in R$ the following hold:

- 1- $a \cdot 0_R = 0_R \cdot a = 0_R$.
- 2- $a \cdot (-b) = (-a) \cdot b = -(a \cdot b)$.
- 3- $(-a) \cdot (-b) = a \cdot b$.
- 4- $a \cdot (b - c) = a \cdot b - a \cdot c$.

Proof. 1- Since $a \cdot 0_R = a \cdot (0_R + 0_R) = a \cdot 0_R + a \cdot 0_R$.

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} a0_R + a0_R &= a(0_R + 0_R) = a0_R \\ \Rightarrow (a0_R + a0_R) + (-(a0_R)) &= a0_R + (-(a0_R)) \\ \Rightarrow a0 + (a0 + (-(a0))) &= 0 \quad \text{because } a0_R + (-(a0_R)) = 0_R \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow a0_R + 0_R &= 0_R \\ \Rightarrow a0_R &= 0_R \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{because } a0_R + (-a0_R) &= 0_R \\ \text{because } a0_R + 0_R &= a0_R. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $0_R a = 0_R$.

2-H.w

3-By (2) we get $(-a) \cdot (-b) = -(a \cdot (-b)) = -(-a \cdot b) = a \cdot b$.

4-H.w

Corollary 1.1.9. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring with identity such that $R \neq \{0_R\}$. Then the element 0_R and 1_R are distinct.

Proof. Suppose $R \neq \{0_R\}$. Let $a \in R$ be such that $a \neq 0$. Suppose $0_R = 1_R$. It follows $a = a \cdot 1_R = a \cdot 0_R = 0_R$, a contradiction. Thus, $0_R \neq 1_R$.

Corollary 1.1.10. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring with identity such that $R \neq \{0_R\}$. Then for all $a \in R$, the following are hold:

- 1- $(-1) \cdot a = -a$ and
- 2- $(-1) \cdot (-1) = 1$.

Definition 1.1.11. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring and let S be a non empty subset of R (*i. e* $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq R$). If $(S, +, \cdot)$ is itself a ring, then $(S, +, \cdot)$ is said to a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Remark. Every ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ has two trivial subring; for, if 0 denote the zero element of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, then both $(\{0\}, +, \cdot)$ and the ring itself are subrings of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Definition 1.1.12. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring and $\emptyset \neq S \subseteq R$. Then $(S, +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$ if and only if

- 1- $a - b \in S$, for all $a, b \in S$ (closed under differences)
- 2- $a \cdot b \in S$, for all $a, b \in S$ (closed under multiplication)

Examples.

- 1- $(Z, +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $(Q, +, \cdot)$.
- 2- $(Z_e, +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(Z, +, \cdot)$.
- 3- Let R denote the set of all functions $f: R^\# \rightarrow R^\#$. The sum $f + g$ and the product $f \cdot g$ of two function $f, g \in R$ are defined by

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x),$$

$$(f \cdot g)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x), x \in R^\#$$

Suppose $(R, +, \cdot)$ is the commutative ring of function of above. Define

$$S = \{f \in R \mid f(1) = 0\}.$$

Definition 1.1.13. The center of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, denoted by **cent** (R), is the set

$Cent(R) = \{c \in R \mid c.x = x.c, \text{ for all } x \in R\}$.

Remark. If $(R, +, \cdot)$ is commutative, then $cent(R) = R$.

Theorem 1.1.14. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring. Then $(cent(R), +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Proof. Since $a \cdot 0_R = 0_R \cdot a$, for all $a \in R$, then $0_R \in cent(R)$, hence $cent(R) \neq \emptyset$.

Let $x, y \in cent(R)$. To prove that $x - y \in cent(R)$.

For all $a \in R$, then

$$(x - y) \cdot a = x \cdot a - y \cdot a = a \cdot x - a \cdot y = a(x - y).$$

Therefore $x - y \in cent(R)$, and

$$(x \cdot y) \cdot a = x \cdot (y \cdot a) = x \cdot (a \cdot y) = (x \cdot a) \cdot y = (a \cdot x) \cdot y = a \cdot (x \cdot y).$$

Therefore $x \cdot y \in cent(R)$, hence $(cent(R), +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Solve the following problems

Q1/ In a ring (Z, \oplus, \odot) , where $a \oplus b = a + b - 1$ and $a \odot b = a + b - ab$, for all $a, b \in Z$. Find zero element and identity element.

Q2/ Let R denote the set of all functions $f: R^\# \rightarrow R^\#$. The sum $f + g$ and the product $f \cdot g$ of

two function $f, g \in R$ are defined by

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x), \quad (f \cdot g)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x), x \in R^\#.$$

Show that $(R, +, \cdot)$ is the commutative ring.

Q3/ Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be an arbitrary ring. In R define a new binary operation $*$ by

$$a * b = a \cdot b + b \cdot a \text{ for all } a, b \in R. \text{ Show that } (R, +, *) \text{ is a commutative ring.}$$

Q4/ Show that the multiplicative identity in a ring with unity R is unique.

Q5/ Suppose that R is a ring with unity and that $a \in R$ is a unit of R . Show that the multiplicative inverse of a is unique.

Q6/ Let $(3Z, +)$ be an abelian group under usual addition where $3Z = \{3n \mid n \in Z\}$. Show that $(3Z, +, \odot)$ is a commutative ring with identity 3, where $a \odot b = \frac{ab}{3}$, for all $a, b \in 3Z$.

Q6/ Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring which has the property that $a^2 = a$ for every $a \in R$. Prove that $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a commutative ring. [Hint: First show $a + a = 0$, for any $a \in R$].

Q7/ Prove that a ring R is commutative if and only if

$$a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)a - b, \text{ for all } a, b \in R.$$

Q8/ Prove that a ring R is commutative if and only if

$$(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2, \text{ for all } a, b \in R.$$

Q9/ Let R be the set of all ordered pairs of nonzero real numbers. Determine whether $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a commutative ring with identity.

(a) $(a, b) + (c, d) = (ac, bc + d), (a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac, bd)$

(b) $(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d), (a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac, ad + bc).$

Q10/ Find all units in the rings

1- $(Z_9, +_9, \times_9).$ 2- $Z \times Z$ 3- $Z_3 \times Z_3$ 4- $Z_4 \times Z_6.$

Q11/ Is Z_2 a subring of Z_6 ? Is $3Z_9$ a subring of Z_9 ?

1.2. Some type of rings.

Definition 1.2.1. A nonzero element a in a ring R is called a zero divisor if there exists $b \in R$ such that $b \neq 0$ and $ab = 0$.

In particular, a is a left divisor of zero and b is a right divisor of zero.

Definition 1.2.2. An integral domain is a commutative ring with identity which does not have divisors of zero.

Examples. $(Z, +, \cdot), (Q, +, \cdot)$ and $(Z_p, +_p, \cdot_p)$ are integral domain but $(Z_6, +_6, \cdot_6)$ is not integral domain.

Definition 1.2.3. An element a of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is said to be a nilpotent if there exists a positive integer n such that $a^n = 0$.

Example. Find nilpotent element in Z_8 and $Z_4 \times Z_6$.

The nilpotent element in Z_8 are 0, 2, 4 and 6.

The nilpotent element in Z_4 are 0 and 2, and the nilpotent element in Z_6 is 0, hence The nilpotent element in $Z_4 \times Z_6$ are (0, 0) and (2, 0).

Theorem 1.2.4. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a commutative ring with identity. Then $(R, +, \cdot)$ is an integral domain if and only if the cancellation law holds for multiplication.

Proof. We suppose that R is an integral domain. Let $a, b, c \in R$ such that $a \neq 0$ and

$a \cdot b = a \cdot c$. Hence $b = c$.

Conversely, suppose that the cancellation law holds and $a \cdot b = 0$.

If the element $a \neq 0$, then by Theorem 2.1.6 we have $a \cdot 0 = 0$, hence

$a \cdot b = 0 = a \cdot 0$, consequently $b = 0$. That is R has no divisors of zero and R commutative with identity, we get R is an integral domain.

Corollary 1.2.5. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be an integral domain. Then the only solution of the equation $a^2 = a$ are $a = 0$ and $a = 1$.

Proof. Clearly 0 is the solution of the equation $a^2 = a$.

Now, if $a^2 = a$ and $a \neq 0$, since $a = a \cdot 1$ and $a \cdot a = a^2 = a = a \cdot 1$, hence by cancellation law we get $a = 1$.

Definition 1.2.6. A ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is said to be a division ring (skew field) if it is a ring with identity in which every nonzero element has a multiplicative inverse.

Definition 1.2.7. A field is a commutative ring with identity in which each nonzero element has an inverse under multiplication.

Examples:

- 1- $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$, $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$ and $(\mathbb{C}, +, \cdot)$ are field (field of rational numbers, field of real numbers, field of Complex numbers).
- 2- $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \cdot_n)$ is a field if and only if n is a prime number.
- 3- $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$ is an integral domain but not a field.

Theorem 1.2.8. Every field is an integral domain.

Proof. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a field. Then R is a commutative ring with identity.

Let $a, b \in R$ and $a \cdot b = 0$ with $a \neq 0$.

Since R is a field, then the element a has an inverse. The hypothesis $a \cdot b = 0$ yields

$$a^{-1} \cdot (a \cdot b) = a^{-1} \cdot 0 \Rightarrow (a^{-1} \cdot a) \cdot b = 0 \Rightarrow b = 0.$$

That is R contains no divisors of zero. Hence R is an integral domain.

Theorem 1.2.9. Any finite integral domain is a field.

Proof. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be an integral domain contains n distinct elements say x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n .

Let $x \neq 0$ be any element of R , consider the elements $x \cdot x_1, x \cdot x_2, \dots, x \cdot x_n \in R$. These products are all distinct because

If $x \cdot x_i = x \cdot x_j$, for $i \neq j \Rightarrow x \cdot (x_i - x_j) = 0$, but $x \neq 0 \Rightarrow x_i - x_j = 0 \Rightarrow x_i = x_j$,

which is contradiction to x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are all distinct.

Since $1 \in R$, then $x \cdot x_k = 1$ for some k and $x \cdot x_k = x_k \cdot x = 1 \Rightarrow x$ has multiplicative inverse and $x^{-1} = x_k$. That is $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a field.

Theorem 1.2.10. The ring $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \cdot_n)$ of integers modulo n is a field if and only if n is a prime number.

Proof. Suppose that R is a field. To prove that n is a prime number.

If n is not prime, then $n = a \cdot b$ where $0 < a < n$ and $0 < b < n$. It follows

$$[a]_{\cdot n} [b] = [a \cdot b] = [n] = [0].$$

Since $[a] \neq [0]$, $[b] \neq [0]$. This means that the system $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \cdot_n)$ is not an integral domain and hence not a field.

Conversely suppose that n is a prime number. To prove that $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \cdot_n)$ is a field, enough to show that is an integral domain.

Let $[a], [b] \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ and $[a]_{\cdot n} [b] = [0] \Rightarrow [a \cdot b] = [0] = [n]$

$$\Rightarrow a \cdot b \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow a \cdot b = kn, \text{ for some integer } k$$

$$\Rightarrow n \text{ divides } a \cdot b \Rightarrow p \text{ divides } a \text{ or } p \text{ divides } b \Rightarrow$$

$$a \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \text{ or } b \equiv 0 \pmod{n} \Rightarrow [a] = [0] \text{ or } [b] = [0]$$

Hence $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \cdot_n)$ has no divisors of zero, that is $(\mathbb{Z}_n, +_n, \cdot_n)$ is an integral domain.

Definition 1.2.11. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring. If there exists a positive integer n such that $na = 0$ for all $a \in R$, then the smallest such integer is called the characteristic of the ring. If no such positive integer exists, then we say $(R, +, \cdot)$ has characteristic zero.

Example. The rings $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$ have characteristic 0.

Theorem 1.2.12. : Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring with identity. Then $(R, +, \cdot)$ has characteristic $n > 0$ if and only if n is the least positive integer for which $n \cdot 1 = 0$.

Proof: If the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is of characteristic $n > 0$, it follows that $n \cdot 1 = 0$.

Where $m \cdot 1 = 0$, where $0 < m < n$, then

$m \cdot a = m \cdot (1 \cdot a) = (m \cdot 1) \cdot a = 0 \cdot a = 0$ for every $a \in R$. This mean The characteristic of $(R, +, \cdot)$ is less than n , which is contradiction.

Conversely, Let n be the least positive integer in which $n \cdot 1 = 0$.

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

$$n \cdot a = n \cdot (1 \cdot a) = (n \cdot 1) \cdot a = 0 \cdot a = 0$$

Then $(R, +, \cdot)$ has characteristic $n > 0$.

Corollary 1.2.13. The characteristic of an integral domain $(R, +, \cdot)$ is either zero or a prime.

Proof. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a positive characteristic n and assume that n is not a prime

Then n can be written as $n = a \cdot b$ with $1 < a, b < n$.

By Theorem 1.2.12 we have $0 = n \cdot 1 = (a \cdot b) \cdot 1^2 = (a \cdot 1) \cdot (b \cdot 1)$.

Since by hypothesis $(R, +, \cdot)$ is without zero divisors, then either $a \cdot 1 = 0$ or $b \cdot 1 = 0$. But this contradicts the choice of n as the least positive integer such that $n \cdot 1 = 0$.

Hence the characteristic of $(R, +, \cdot)$ must be prime.

Example. Show that the characteristic of the ring $(P(X), \Delta, \cap)$ is equal two.

Since \emptyset is the zero element of the ring $(P(X), \Delta, \cap)$.

Now for all $A \in P(X)$, then

$$2A = A \Delta A = (A - A) \cup (A - A) = \emptyset.$$

From the definition of characteristic, then the characteristic of $(P(X), \Delta, \cap)$ is 2.

Solve the following problems

Q1/ Give an example of a division ring which is not a field.

Q2/ Prove that $T = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ is a subring of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$.

Q3/ In $(Z_{12}, +_{12}, \times_{12})$, find (i) $(2)^2 +_{12} (9)^{-2}$.

Q4/ Suppose that a and b belong to a commutative ring and ab is a zero-divisor. Show that either a or b is a zero-divisor.

Q5/ Complete the operation tables for the ring $R = \{a, b, c, d\}$:

+	a	b	c	d
a	a	b	c	d
b	b	a	d	c
c	c	d	a	b
d	d	c	b	a

.	a	b	c	d
a	a	a	a	a
b	a	b		
c	a			a
d	a	b	c	

Is R a commutative ring? Does it have a unity? What is its characteristic?

Hint. $c \cdot b = (b + d) \cdot b$; $c \cdot c = c \cdot (b + d)$; etc.

Q6/ Let R and S be commutative rings. Prove or disprove the following statements.

(a) An element $(a, b) \in R \times S$ is nilpotent if and only if a nilpotent in R and b is nilpotent in S .

(b) An element $(a, b) \in R \times S$ is a zero divisor if and only if a is a zero divisor in R and b is a zero divisor in S .

Q7/ Show that $Q[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \in R \mid a, b \in Q\}$ is a subfield of the field R .

1.3. Ideals and Quotient rings.

Definition 2.3.1. A subring $(I, +, \cdot)$ of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$ if and only if $r \in R$ and $a \in I$ imply both $r \cdot a \in I$ and $a \cdot r \in I$.

Definition 2.3.2. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring. Let I be a nonempty subset of R .

- (i) I is called a left ideal of R if for all $a, b \in I$ and for all $r \in R, a - b \in I, ra \in I$.
- (ii) I is called a right ideal of R if for all $a, b \in I$ and for all $r \in R, a - b \in I, ar \in I$.
- (iii) I is called a (two-sided) ideal of R if I is both a left and a right ideal of R .

Remark. In a commutative ring, every right ideal is left ideal.

Examples.

- 1) The subring $(\{0, 2, 4\}, +_6, \cdot_6)$ is an ideal of $(Z_6, +_6, \cdot_6)$.
- 2) The trivial subrings $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $(\{0\}, +, \cdot)$ of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ are both ideals. Any ideal different from $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called proper ideal.
- 3) In the ring $(Z, +, \cdot)$, $I = \langle a \rangle = \{na \mid n \in Z\}$ for a fixed integer a . Then I is an ideal of $(Z, +, \cdot)$ because $na - ma = (n - m)a \in I$ and $m(na) = (mn)a \in I$, where $n, m \in Z$.
- 4) $(Z, +, \cdot)$ is not ideal of $(Q, +, \cdot)$ but $(Z, +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(Q, +, \cdot)$. Since $1 \in Z$ and $\frac{1}{2} \in Q$, then $1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \notin Z$. Then $(Z, +, \cdot)$ is not ideal of $(Q, +, \cdot)$.
- 5) Let $(M_2(R), +, \cdot)$ be the square matrix ring over the field of real number. Then $(cent(R), +, \cdot)$ is not an ideal.

Definition 2.3.3. A ring which contains no ideals except trivial ideals is said to be a simple ring.

Definition 2.3.4. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a commutative ring with identity. An ideal $(I, +, \cdot)$ is called a principal ideal of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ if generated by a single element a and denoted by $I = (a) = \{r \cdot a \mid r \in R\}$.

Example. In the ring $(Z, +, \cdot)$ the ideal $(2) = \{2 \cdot r \mid r \in Z\} = 2Z$ is a principal ideal generated by 2 and $(3) = \{3 \cdot r \mid r \in Z\} = 3Z$ is a principal ideal generated by 3.

Theorem 2.3.5. If $(I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of the ring $(Z, +, \cdot)$, then $I = (n)$ for some nonnegative integer n .

Proof. If $I = (0)$, then the theorem is true.

Suppose then that $I \neq (0)$, that is there exists $0 \neq m \in I$. Since I is an ideal, then $-m \in I$, so I contains positive integers.

Let n be the least positive integer in I . We claim $I = (n)$.

Since $n \in I$ and $(I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(Z, +, \cdot)$, then $kn \in I$, for all $k \in Z$, that is $(n) \subseteq I$.

On the other hand, any integer $k \in I$. By division Algorithm there exists $q, r \in Z$ such that $k = qn + r$, where $0 \leq r < n$.

Since k and qn are members of I , it follows that $k - qn = r \in I$.

Our n be a least integer implies $r = 0$, and consequently $k = qn \implies k \in (n)$

Therefore $I = (n)$.

Definition 2.3.6. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a commutative ring with identity. A ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a principal ideal ring if every ideal is principal.

Theorem 2.3.7. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring with identity element and I be an ideal of R containing identity element. Then $I = R$.

Proof. Since I is an ideal of R , then $I \subseteq R$.

Let $r \in R$, then $r = r \cdot 1 \in I$ (because I is an ideal of R) $\Rightarrow r \in I \Rightarrow R \subseteq I \Rightarrow I = R$.

Theorem 2.3.8. If $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a proper ideal of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ with identity, then no element of I has a multiplicative inverse; that is $I \cap R^* = \emptyset$.

Proof. Suppose to the contrary that there is $0 \neq a \in I$ such that a^{-1} exists.

Since I is an ideal, then $1 = a \cdot a^{-1} \in I \Rightarrow I = R$, contradiction the hypothesis that I is a proper subset of R .

Theorem 2.3.9. If $(I_1, +, \cdot)$ and $(I_2, +, \cdot)$ are two ideals of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, then $(I_1 \cap I_2, +, \cdot)$ is also an ideal.

Proof. Since $(I_1, +, \cdot)$ and $(I_2, +, \cdot)$ are ideals of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, then $0 \in I_1$ and $0 \in I_2$, hence $0 \in I_1 \cap I_2$. This implies that $I_1 \cap I_2 \neq \emptyset$.

Suppose $a, b \in I_1 \cap I_2$ and $r \in R$. Then $a, b \in I_1$ and $a, b \in I_2$.

As the $(I_1, +, \cdot)$ and $(I_2, +, \cdot)$ are ideals of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, it follows from definition

$a - b \in I_1, ar \in I_1$ and $ra \in I_1$, and also $a - b \in I_2, ar \in I_2$ and $ra \in I_2$.

Hence $a - b \in I_1 \cap I_2, ar \in I_1 \cap I_2$ and $ra \in I_1 \cap I_2$, which implies that $(I_1 \cap I_2, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Theorem 3.2.10. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a commutative ring with identity. Then $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a field if and only if $(R, +, \cdot)$ has no nontrivial ideals.

Quotient rings

We now give the analogue of quotient groups for rings. Let R be a ring and I an ideal of R . Let $x \in R$.

Let $x + I$ denote the set $x + I = \{x + a \mid a \in I\}$.

The set $x + I$ is called a coset of I . For $x, y \in R$, By Theorem 6.1, $x + I = y + I$ if and only if $x - y \in I$.

Let R/I denote the set $R/I = \{x + I \mid x \in R\}$. Because $I = 0 + I \in R/I$, R/I is a nonempty set.

Define the operations $+$ and \cdot on R/I as follows:

for all $x + I, y + I \in R/I$

$(x + I) + (y + I) = (x + y) + I$, and $(x + I) \cdot (y + I) = xy + I$.

We leave it as an exercise for verify that $+$ and \cdot are binary operations on R/I .

Under these binary operations $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ satisfies the properties of a ring.

Let us verify some of these properties.

Let $x + I, y + I, z + I \in R/I$. Now

$$\begin{aligned}
(x + I) + ((y + I) + (z + I)) &= (x + I) + ((y + z) + I) = (x + (y + z)) + I \\
&= ((x + y) + z) + I, \\
&= ((x + y) + I) + (z + I) = ((x + I) + (y + I)) + (z + I).
\end{aligned}$$

This shows that $+$ is associative in R/I . Similarly, $+$ is commutative. Next, note that $0 + I = I$ is the additive identity and for $x + I \in R/I$, $(-x) + I$ is the additive inverse of $x + I$. As in the case of the associativity for $+$,

we can show that \cdot is associative.

Next, let us verify one of the distributive law. Now

$$\begin{aligned}
(x + I) \cdot ((y + I) + (z + I)) &= (x + I) \cdot ((y + z) + I) = (x(y + z)) + I \\
&= (xy + xz) + I = (xy + I) + (xz + I) \\
&= ((x + I) \cdot (y + I)) + ((x + I) \cdot (z + I)).
\end{aligned}$$

In a similar manner, we can verify the right distributive property.

Theorem 2.3.10. If $(I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$, then the ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is ring, known as the quotient ring of R by I .

Definition 2.3.11. An ideal $(I, +, \cdot)$ of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal if for all $a, b \in R$, $a \cdot b \in I$ implies either $a \in I$ or $b \in I$.

Example.(1) The ideal $((3), +, \cdot)$ of the ring $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal.

(2) A commutative ring with identity is an integral domain if and only if the zero ideal is a prime ideal

Theorem 2.3.12. Let $(I, +, \cdot)$ be a proper ideal of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$. Then $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal if and only if the quotient ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is an integral domain.

Proof. First, take $(I, +, \cdot)$ to be a prime ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$. Since $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a commutative ring with identity, so is the quotient ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$. It remains to show $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ has no divisor of zero. For this, assume that

$(a + I) \cdot (b + I) = I \Rightarrow a \cdot b + I = I \Rightarrow a \cdot b \in I$. Since $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal, hence $a \in I$ or $b \in I \Rightarrow a + I = I$ or $b + I = I$, hence $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is without zero divisors.

To prove the converse, suppose $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is an integral domain and $a \cdot b \in I$. Then we have $a \cdot b + I = I \Rightarrow (a + I) \cdot (b + I) = I$.

By hypothesis, $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ contains no divisors of zero, that either

$a + I = I$ or $b + I = I \Rightarrow a \in I$ or $b \in I$. That is $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal.

Theorem 2.3.13. Let $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$ be the ring of integers and $n > 1$. Then the principal ideal $((n), +, \cdot)$ is prime if and only if n is a prime number.

Proof. First, suppose $((n), +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal of $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$. If the integer n is not prime, then $n = p \cdot q$, where $1 < p, q < n$. This implies the $p \cdot q \in (n)$ and such that $((n), +, \cdot)$

is a prime ideal, this implies $p \in (n)$ or $q \in (n)$ and this contradiction to the hypothesis of p and q are less than n , therefore n must be a prime number.

Conversely, suppose n is a prime number and a, b two integers such that $a \cdot b \in (n)$ with $a \notin (n)$.

Since $a \cdot b \in (n) \Rightarrow n|a \cdot b$ and since n is a prime number implies that $n \nmid a \rightarrow n|b \Rightarrow b \in (n)$, therefore $((n), +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal.

Definition 2.3.14. An ideal $(I, +, \cdot)$ of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a maximal ideal provided $I \neq R$ and whenever $(J, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$ with $I \subset J \subseteq R$, then $J = R$.

Remark. An element is invertible is not belongs to maximal ideal.

Definition 2.3.14. An ideal $(I, +, \cdot)$ of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a maximal ideal provided $I \neq R$ and whenever $(J, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$ with $I \subset J \subseteq R$, then $J = R$.

Remark. An element is invertible is not belongs to maximal ideal.

2- $((6), +, \cdot)$ is not a maximal ideal since $(6) \subset (3) \subset Z$

3- $(2Z \times \{0\}, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal of the ring $(Z \times Z, +, \cdot)$ but is not a maximal ideal since $2Z \times \{0\} \subset 2Z \times 2Z \subset Z \times Z$.

4- $(\{0\}, +, \cdot)$ is a prime ideal of the ring $(Z, +, \cdot)$ but not a maximal ideal.

Theorem 2.3.15. Let $(I, +, \cdot)$ be a proper ideal of the commutative ring with identity $(R, +, \cdot)$. Then $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a maximal ideal if and only if the quotient ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is a field.

Proof. Let $(I, +, \cdot)$ be a maximal ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$. Since $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a commutative ring with identity, then the quotient ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is also a commutative ring with identity. It remains to show that every non-zero element in R/I has inverse.

$a + I \in R/I$ such that $a + I \neq I \Rightarrow a \notin I$.

Since $((a), +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$, the $((a) + I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $a \notin I \Rightarrow I \subset (a) + I$. By suppose $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a maximal ideal, then $(a) + I = R$.

$R = ((a), I) = \{a \cdot r + b \mid b \in I, r \in R\}$.

Since $1 \in R \Rightarrow 1 \in (a) + I \Rightarrow 1 = a \cdot r + b, r \in R, b \in I \Rightarrow b = 1 - a \cdot r \in I$.

That is $1 - a \cdot r \in I \Rightarrow 1 + I = a \cdot r + I = (a + I) \cdot (r + I)$.

Therefore $a + I$ has an inverse, consequently $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is a field.

Conversely, suppose $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is a field and $(J, +, \cdot)$ is any ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$ such that $I \subset J \subseteq R$.

Since $I \subset J$, then there exist an element $a \in J$ and $a \notin I \Rightarrow a + I \neq I$.

Since $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is a field, then $a + I$ has an inverse say $b + I$, therefore

$$(a + I) \cdot (b + I) = 1 + I \Rightarrow a \cdot b + I = 1 + I \Rightarrow 1 - a \cdot b \in I \subset J \Rightarrow 1 - a \cdot b \in J$$

Since $a \cdot b \in J \Rightarrow 1 \in J \Rightarrow J = R$. Hence $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a maximal ideal.

Definition 2.3.16. A ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is called a local ring if has only one maximal ideal.

Definition 2.3.17. The **radical** of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$, denoted by $rad R$, is the set

$$rad(R) = \bigcap \{M : (M, +, \cdot) \text{ is a maximal ideal of ring } (R, +, \cdot)\}.$$

If $rad(R) = \{0\}$, then we say $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a ring without radical or is a semi-

simple ring.

Example. In $(Z_{12}, +_{12}, \cdot_{12})$, find $rad(Z_{12})$

Remark. $(rad(R), +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Definition 2.3.18. An ideal $(I, +, \cdot)$ of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is said to be a **primary ideal** if $a \cdot b \in I$ with $a \notin I$ implies $b^n \in I$ for some positive integer n .

Example. An ideal $((4), +, \cdot)$ of $(Z, +, \cdot)$ is a primary.

Definition 2.3.19. An element a of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is said to be a nilpotent if there exists a positive integer n such that $a^n = 0$.

Theorem 2.3.19. Let $(I, +, \cdot)$ be an ideal of a ring $(R, +, \cdot)$. Then $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a primary if and only if every zero divisor of the quotient ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is nilpotent.

Proof. Suppose $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a primary ideal and $a + I$ is a zero divisor in R/I .

That is there exists a nonzero element $b + I$ such that

$$(a + I) \cdot (b + I) = I \Rightarrow a \cdot b + I = I \Rightarrow a \cdot b \in I.$$

Since $b \notin I$ and $(I, +, \cdot)$ is a primary, then there exists a positive integer n such that $a^n \in I \Rightarrow a^n + I = I \Rightarrow (a + I)^n = I$. Hence $a + I$ is nilpotent element in R/I .

Conversely, suppose every zero divisor is nilpotent.

Let $a, b \in R$ such that $a \cdot b \in I$ with $a \notin I$. We must show that $b^n \in I$, for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

If $b \in I$, it is trivial.

If $b \notin I \Rightarrow b + I \neq I$. Since $(a + I) \cdot (b + I) = a \cdot b + I = I$, hence $b + I$ is divisor of zero.

By hypothesis $b + I$ is a nilpotent element, that is there exist a positive integer n such that $b^n + I = (b + I)^n = I \Rightarrow b^n \in I$, consequently $(I, +, \cdot)$ is primary.

2.4. Homomorphisms

Definition 2.4.1. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $(R', +', \cdot')$ be two rings and f a function from R into R' ; in symbols, $f: R \rightarrow R'$. Then f is said to be a (ring) homomorphism from $(R, +, \cdot)$ into $(R', +', \cdot')$ if and only if

1- $f(a + b) = f(a) +' f(b)$,

2- $f(a \cdot b) = f(a) \cdot' f(b)$

for every $a, b \in R$.

Example. Let $f: (R, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (R', +', \cdot')$ be the function defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f(a) &= 0', \text{ for all } a \in R \\ f(a + b) &= 0' = 0' + '0' = f(a) + 'f(b), \\ f(a \cdot b) &= 0' = 0' \cdot '0' = f(a) \cdot 'f(b), a, b \in R. \end{aligned}$$

Hence f is a ring homomorphism.

Example. Let $f: (Z, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (Z_e, +, \cdot)$ be the function defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f(a) &= 2a, \text{ for all } a \in R \\ f(a + b) &= 2(a + b) = 2a + 2b = f(a) + f(b), \\ f(a \cdot b) &= 2(a \cdot b) = 2a \cdot b \neq f(a) \cdot f(b), a, b \in R. \end{aligned}$$

Hence f is not a ring homomorphism.

Definition. A homomorphism f from the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ into ring $(R', +', \cdot')$ is called an isomorphism if f is one to one and onto.

If there exist an isomorphism function between two rings, then is said an isomorphic and denoted by $(R, +, \cdot) \cong (R', +', \cdot')$.

Theorem 2.4.2. Let f be a homomorphism from the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ into the ring $(R', +', \cdot')$. Then the following hold: .

- 1) $f(0) = 0'$, where $0'$ is the zero element of $(R', +', \cdot')$.
- 2) $f(-a) = -f(a)$ for all $a \in R$.
- 3) The triple $(f(R), +', \cdot')$ is a subring of $(R', +', \cdot')$.

If, in addition, $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $(R', +', \cdot')$ are rings with identity elements 1 and $1'$, respectively, and $f(1) = 1'$, then

- 4) $f(1) = 1'$,
- 5) $f(a^{-1}) = f(a)^{-1}$ for each invertible element $a \in R$.

Proof. Similar of Theorem 8.4

Theorem .

- 1- Let $f: (R, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (S, +, \cdot)$ and $g: (S, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (T, +, \cdot)$ be two homomorphisms. Then $g \circ f: (R, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (T, +, \cdot)$ is also a homomorphism.
- 2- Let $f: (R, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (S, +, \cdot)$ be a homomorphism. Then Let $f^{-1}: (S, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (R, +, \cdot)$ Is also homomorphism.

Proof. 1. Let $x, y \in R$. Then

$$g \circ f(x + y) = g(f(x + y)) = g(f(x) + f(y)) = g(f(x)) + gf(y) = g \circ f(x) + g \circ f(y), \text{ and}$$

$$g \circ f(x \cdot y) = g(f(x \cdot y)) = g(f(x) \cdot f(y)) = g(f(x)) \cdot gf(y) = g \circ f(x) \cdot g \circ f(y).$$

Hence $g \circ f$ is a homomorphism.

Proof. 2. Since f is a one to one and onto function, then so is f^{-1} .

Let $x, y \in S$. Then there exists $r, t \in R$ such that $f(r) = x$ and $f(t) = y$.

Since $x + y = f(r) + f(t) = f(r + t)$, thus we get

$$f^{-1}(x + y) = r + t = f^{-1}(x) + f^{-1}(y).$$

and $x \cdot y = f(r) \cdot f(t) = f(r \cdot t)$, thus we get

$$f^{-1}(x \cdot y) = r \cdot t = f^{-1}(x) \cdot f^{-1}(y).$$

Therefore f^{-1} is a homomorphism.

Theorem 2.4.3. Let f be a homomorphism from the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ into the ring $(R', +', \cdot')$. Then

- 1- If $(S, +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$, then $(f(S), +', \cdot')$ is a subring of $(R', +', \cdot')$.
- 2- If $(S', +', \cdot')$ is a subring of the ring $(R', +', \cdot')$, then $(f^{-1}(S'), +, \cdot)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$.
- 3- If $(I, +', \cdot')$ is an ideal of the ring $(S, +', \cdot')$, then $(f^{-1}(I), +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$.
- 4- If $f(R) = S$ and $(J, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$, then $(f(J), +', \cdot')$ is an ideal of $(S, +', \cdot')$.

Proof. 1- $f(S) = \{f(x) : x \in S\}$

Since $e \in S$, then $f(e) \in f(S) \Rightarrow f(S) \neq \emptyset$.

Let $f(x), f(y) \in f(S)$, for $x, y \in S$.

Now $f(x) - f(y) = f(x - y) \in f(S)$, Since $x - y \in S$, and

$f(x) \cdot f(y) = f(x \cdot y) \in f(S)$, Since $x \cdot y \in S$

Therefore by Definition 2.1.12, we get $f(S)$ is a subring of R' .

3- By part (2) $(f^{-1}(I), *)$ is a subring of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

To show that $(f^{-1}(I), +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$, such that

$$f^{-1}(I) = \{r \in R : f(r) \in I\}$$

Now suppose $x, y \in f^{-1}(I) \Rightarrow f(x), f(y) \in I$.

Since f is a homomorphism and $(I, +', \cdot')$ is a subring of $(R', +', \cdot')$, then we have

$$f(x - y) = f(x) - f(y) \in I, \text{ Since } (I, +', \cdot') \text{ is an ideal of } (R', +', \cdot').$$

Therefore $x - y \in f^{-1}(I)$, and

Let $r \in R \Rightarrow f(r) \in R'$ and $x \in f^{-1}(I) \Rightarrow f(x) \in I$.

Since $(I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R', +, \cdot)$, then $f(r) \cdot f(x), f(x) \cdot f(r) \in I$.

Hence since f is a homomorphism, we get

$$f(r \cdot x) = f(r) \cdot f(x) \in I \Rightarrow r \cdot x \in f^{-1}(I) \quad \text{and}$$

$$f(x \cdot r) = f(x) \cdot f(r) \in I \Rightarrow x \cdot r \in f^{-1}(I)$$

Therefore $(f^{-1}(I), +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Example. $f: (\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot) \rightarrow (\mathfrak{R}, +, \cdot)$ defined by $f(x) = x$, for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ is a homomorphism and $f(\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}$ but $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$ is not an ideal of $(\mathfrak{R}, +, \cdot)$.

Definition 2.4.4. Let f be a homomorphism from the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ into the ring $(R', +, \cdot)$. Then **kernel of f** , denoted by $\ker f$, is the set

$$\ker f = \{x \in R : f(x) = e'\}.$$

Theorem 2.4.5. If f is a homomorphism from the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ into the ring $(R', +, \cdot)$, then $(\ker f, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Proof. Since $(\{e'\}, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R', +, \cdot)$ and $\ker f = f^{-1}(\{e'\})$, then by Theorem 2.4.3 $(\ker f, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$.

Theorem 2.4.5. Let f be a homomorphism from the field $(F, +, \cdot)$ onto the field $(F', +, \cdot)$. Then either f is the trivial homomorphism or else $(F, +, \cdot)$ and $(F', +, \cdot)$ are isomorphic.

Proof. By Theorem 2.4.4 $(\ker f, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of the field $(F, +, \cdot)$.

Since $(F, +, \cdot)$ is a field has no ideal other than $(F, +, \cdot)$ itself and $(\{0\}, +, \cdot)$.

Hence either the set $\ker f = \{0\}$ or else $\ker f = F$.

If $\ker f = F$, then $f(x) = 0$, for all $x \in F$ and this contradiction for $f(1) = 1$, hence $\ker f = \{0\}$ and this implies that f is one-to-one. Therefore f is an isomorphism, consequently $(F, +, \cdot) \cong (F', +, \cdot)$.

Definition 2.4.6. We said that $(F', +, \cdot)$ is a subfield of the field $(F, +, \cdot)$ is meant any subring of $(F, +, \cdot)$ which is itself a field.

Example. The ring $(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot)$ of rational numbers is a subfield of the field $(\mathfrak{R}, +, \cdot)$.

Is equivalent to

The triple $(F', +, \cdot)$ will be a subfield of the field $(F, +, \cdot)$ provided

- (1) $(F', +)$ is a subgroup of the additive group $(F, +)$ and
- (2) $(F' - \{0\}, \cdot)$ is a subgroup of the multiplicative group $(F - \{0\}, \cdot)$.

Definition 2.4.7. A ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ is imbedded in a ring $(R', +, \cdot)$ if there exists some subring $(S, +, \cdot)$ of $(R', +, \cdot)$ such that $(R, +, \cdot) \cong (S, +, \cdot)$.

The field of quotient of an integral domain.

Let D be an integral domain.

$D \times D = \{(a, b) : a, b \in D\}$. Let S be the subset of $D \times D$ given by

$S = \{(a, b) : a, b \in D, b \neq 0\}$. Define a relation on S as follows:

Two elements (a, b) and (c, d) in S are equivalent (denoted by $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$) if

$$ad = bc.$$

Lemma 2.4.8. The relation \sim is an equivalence relation.

Proof.

- (1) Reflexive: $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$, since multiplication in D is commutative.
- (2) Symmetric: Suppose that $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$, then $ad = bc$. Hence $cb = da$, consequently $(c, d) \sim (a, b)$.
- (3) Transitive: suppose that $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$ and $(c, d) \sim (e, f)$. Then $ad = bc$ and $cf = de$, so
 $afd = fad = fbc = bfc = bde = bed$ (D is commutative)

since $d \neq 0$ and D is an integral domain, hence $afd = bed \leftrightarrow af = be$

$\leftrightarrow (a, b) \sim (e, f)$. From (1), (2) and (3) we get that \sim is an equivalence relation.

Hence it gives a partition of S into equivalence class. We write the equivalence class of (a, b) by $[(a, b)]$.

Let $F = \{[(a, b)] : (a, b) \in S\}$. Define addition and multiplication on F as follows:

$$[(a, b)] + [(c, d)] = [a.d + b.c, b.d] \text{ and}$$

$$[(a, b)] \cdot [(c, d)] = [(a.c, b.d)].$$

Now we show that the operations defined above is well-defined.

First note that if $[(a, b)]$ and $[(c, d)] \in F$, then $b \neq 0$ and $d \neq 0$. Since D is an integral domain, then $bd \neq 0$, so both $[(a.d + b.c, b.d)]$ and $[(a.c, b.d)] \in F$.

To show that the multiplication (\cdot) is well-defined, suppose that

$$(a, b) \sim (a_1, b_1) \text{ and } (c, d) \sim (c_1, d_1). \text{ We have to show that } [(a, b)] [(c, d)] = [(a_1, b_1)] [(c_1, d_1)].$$

$ab_1 = a_1b$ and $cd_1 = c_1d \rightarrow ab_1 cd_1 = b_1a d_1c \rightarrow ab_1 cd_1 = b_1a d_1c$. This means that

$$(a_1 c_1, b_1 d_1) \sim (ac, bd) \text{ which means that the multiplication is well-defined.}$$

Theorem 2.4.9. Let D be an integral domain and $S = \{(a, b) : a, b \in D, b \neq 0\}$.

Define a relation on S as follows: $(a, b) \sim (c, d)$ if $ad = bc$. Then

$F = \{[(a, b)] : (a, b) \in S\}$ is a field with addition and multiplication defined as follows: $[(a, b)] + [(c, d)] = [(ad + bc, bd)]$ and $[(a, b)] [(c, d)] = [(ac, bd)]$.

Proof.

(1) $+$ is a commutative :

$$[(a, b)] + [(c, d)] = [(ad + bc, bd)] = [(cd + da, db)] = [(c, d)] + [(a, b)].$$

(2) It is easy to show that $+$ is a associative

(3) $[(0,1)]$ is identity for addition in F : $[(a, b)] + [(0,1)] = [(a + 0, b)] = [(a, b)]$

(4) $[(-a, b)]$ is an additive inverse of $[(a, b)]$ in F :

$[(a, b)] + [(-a, b)] = [(ab - ba, b^2)] = [(0, b^2)] = [(0,1)]$ (since $(0, b^2) \sim (0,1)$ because $0 \cdot 1 = 0 \cdot b^2$) Thus $[(a, b)] + [(-a, b)] = [(0,1)]$.

(5) It is easy to show that multiplication is a associative.

(6) $[(1,1)]$ is identity for multiplication in F :

$$[(a, b)] \cdot [(1,1)] = [(a \cdot 1, b \cdot 1)] = [(a, b)]$$

(7) Multiplication is commutative

(8) The distributive law hold in F

(9) Let $[(a, b)] \in F$ and $[(a, b)] \neq [(0,1)]$ hence $a \neq 0$ because if $a = 0$, then

$a \cdot 1 = b \cdot 0 = 0$, so $(a, b) \sim (0,1)$, consequently $[(a, b)] = [(0,1)]$ which is a contradiction.

Thus a is a non zero element in F . Now $[(a, b)] [(b, a)] = [(ab, ba)] = [(1,1)] \Leftrightarrow [(b, a)]$ is a multiplicative inverse of $[(a, b)]$. Hence F is a field. This field called the field of quotients of R . the quotient field of an integral domain $(D, +, \cdot)$ is the smallest field containing D as a subring.

Example. The field of quotients of Z , is the ring of integers is Q

Theorem 2.4.10. The integral domain $(R, +, \cdot)$ can be imbedded in its of quotients

$(F, +', \cdot')$.

Proof. Consider the subset F' of F consisting of all elements of the form $[a, 1]$, where 1 is the multiplicative identity of $(R, +, \cdot)$:

$F' = \{[a, 1] : a \in R\}$. Now it is must be show that $(F', +', \cdot')$ is a subring.

Let $f : R \rightarrow F'$ be onto mapping defined by $f(a) = [a, 1]$, for each $a \in R$.

Since the condition $[a, 1] = [b, 1]$ implies $a \cdot 1 = b \cdot 1$ or $a = b$, we see f is one to one.

Now we show that f is homomorphism:

$$f(a + b) = [a + b, 1] = [a, 1] + '[b, 1] = f(a) + ' f(b) \text{ and}$$

$$f(a \cdot b) = [a \cdot b, 1] = [a, 1] \cdot '[b, 1] = f(a) \cdot ' f(b)$$

Accordingly $(R, +, \cdot) \cong (F', +', \cdot')$.

Theorem 2.4.11. (First isomorphism theorem)

If f is a homomorphism from the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ onto the ring $(R', +', \cdot')$. Then

$$\left(R / \ker f, +, \cdot \right) \cong (R', +', \cdot').$$

Proof. Put $\ker f = K$. We define a function $\varphi: R/K \rightarrow R'$ by

$$\varphi(x + K) = f(x), \text{ for } x \in R.$$

We must show that R is well defined, suppose $x + K = y + K \Rightarrow x - y \in K = \ker f$.

Therefore $f(x - y) = e'$. But f is homomorphism, then

$$f(x) - f(y) = e' \Rightarrow f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow \varphi(x + K) = \varphi(y + K).$$

Hence φ is well defined.

Now to show that φ is a homomorphism, suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi((x + K) + (y + K)) &= \varphi((x + y) + K) \\ &= f(x + y) \\ &= f(x) + ' f(y) \\ &= \varphi(x + K) + ' \varphi(y + K). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi((x + K) \cdot (y + K)) &= \varphi((x \cdot y) + K) \\ &= f(x \cdot y) \\ &= f(x) \cdot ' f(y) \\ &= \varphi(x + K) \cdot ' \varphi(y + K). \end{aligned}$$

Hence φ is a homomorphism.

$$\text{Let } \varphi(x + K) = \varphi(y + K) \Rightarrow f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow f(x) - f(y) = e'.$$

Since f is a homomorphism, therefore

$$f(x) - f(y) = e' \Rightarrow f(x - y) = e' \Rightarrow x - y \in K \Rightarrow x + K = y + K.$$

Hence φ is one-to-one.

Finally, for all $z \in R'$ there exists $y \in R$ such that $z = f(y) = \varphi(y + K)$.

Hence φ is onto. Therefore φ is an isomorphism and $(R/K, +, \cdot) \cong (R', +', \cdot')$.

Remark. If f is not onto, then $(R/\ker f, +, \cdot) \cong (f(R), +', \cdot')$.

Theorem 2.4.12. (second isomorphism theorem)

If $(S, +, \cdot)$ is a subring of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $(I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of $(R, +, \cdot)$, then $S + I/I \cong S/S \cap I$.

Proof. Similarly to prove Theorem 9.3

Theorem 2.4.13. (Third isomorphism theorem)

If $(I, +, \cdot)$ and $(J, +, \cdot)$ are two ideals of the ring $(R, +, \cdot)$ and $I \subset J$, then $(J/I, +, \cdot)$ is an ideal of the ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ and $\frac{R/I}{J/I} \cong R/J$.

Proof. Similarly to prove Theorem 9.4.

Chapter Three Polynomial rings

The polynomial ring $R[x]$ in indeterminate x with coefficients from R is the set of all formal sums $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ with $n \geq 0$ and $a_i \in R$. That is $R[x] = \{ a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 : n \geq 0 \text{ and } a_i \in R \}$.

If $a_n \neq 0$, then the polynomial is of degree n , $a_n x^n$ is the leading term, and a_n the leading coefficient. Addition of polynomial is component wise

$\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i + \sum_{i=0}^n b_i x^i = \sum_{i=0}^n (a_i + b_i) x^i$ (where a_n and b_n may be zero in order for addition of polynomials of different degree to be defined).

Multiplication performed by first defined $a x^i \cdot b x^j = ab x^{i+j}$ and then extended to all polynomials by distributive law, in general

$$\left(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \right) \times \left(\sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i \right) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+m} \left(\sum_{i=0}^k (a_i b_{k-i}) \right) x^k.$$

Two polynomials $p(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n$ and $q(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots + b_n x^n$, are equal if $a_i = b_i$ for each i . The ring R appears in $R[x]$ as the constant polynomials.

If $g(x)$ is a polynomial over a ring R , then degree $g(x)$ denoted $\deg g(x)$.

If $R[x]$ has unity 1 and you must have $x = (0, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$

$2 + x^2$ in $Z[x]$ (i.e $(2, 0, 1, 0, 0, \dots)$).

If R is a ring with two determinates, then we can form $(R[x])[y] = R[x, y]$

The ring $R[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ of polynomials in the n indeterminate x with coefficients in R .

Theorem 3.1. The triple $(R[x], +, \cdot)$ forms a ring, known as the ring of polynomials over R .

Examples. (1) Let $f(x) = 1 + 3x + 2x^5$ a polynomial, then the leading coefficient of $f(x) = 2$, $\deg f(x) = 5$.

(2) In $Z_2[x]$. If $f(x) = x + 1$, then we have

$$(x + 1) + (x + 1) = 2x + 2 = 0, \text{ and}$$

$$(x+1)^2 = x^2 + 2x + 1 = x^2 + 1$$

Remark . Let R be a ring.

(1) If R is a commutative, then so is $R[x]$.

(2) If R is a ring with identity 1_R , then $R[x]$ is a ring with identity and the identity element is $1_{R[x]} = 1_R + 0_R x + \dots$

(3) don't write 1_R when appear as coefficient for a polynomial, as follows:

$$x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 2 \quad (1 \cdot x^3 + 1 \cdot x^2 + 2x + 2).$$

(4) In general if $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are two polynomials over a ring R , then

$$(1) \deg(f(x) + g(x)) \leq \max\{\deg f(x), \deg g(x)\}.$$

$$(2) \deg(f(x) \cdot g(x)) \leq \deg f(x) + \deg g(x).$$

Example. Let $f(x) = 1 + 5x + 2x^4$ and $g(x) = 1 + 4x^2$ be two polynomials in $Z_8[x]$.

The leading coefficient of $f(x) = 2$, $\deg f(x) = 4$ and $\deg g(x) = 2$.

$$f(x) \cdot g(x) = 1 + 4x^2 + 5x + 4x^3 + 2x^4$$

$\rightarrow \deg(f(x) + g(x)) = 7 \neq \deg(f(x) \cdot g(x)) = 4$, and

$$f(x) + g(x) = 2 + 5x + 4x^2 + 2x^4, \quad \deg(f(x) + g(x)) = 4.$$

Theorem 2.3. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be an integral domain and $f(x), g(x)$ be two nonzero elements of $(R[x], +, \cdot)$ then : $\deg(f(x) \cdot g(x)) = \deg f(x) + \deg g(x)$.

Proof : suppose $f(x), g(x) \in R[x]$ with $\deg f(x) = n$ and $\deg g(x) = m$, so that

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n, \quad a_n \neq 0$$

$$g(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_mx^m, \quad b_m \neq 0$$

from the definition of multiplication

$$f(x) \cdot g(x) = a_0 \cdot b_0 + (a_0 \cdot b_1 + a_1 \cdot b_0)x + \dots + (a_n \cdot b_m)x^{n+m}$$

since $a_n \neq 0$ and $b_m \neq 0$ and R is an integral domain, then $a_n \cdot b_m \neq 0$

accordingly, $f(x) \cdot g(x) \neq 0$ and $\deg(f(x) \cdot g(x)) = n+m = \deg f(x) + \deg g(x)$

Corollary 2.4. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be an integral domain. Then $(R[x], +, \cdot)$ is an integral domain.

proof . We have if $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a commutative ring with identity, then so is

$(R[x], +, \cdot)$. To see that $(R, +, \cdot)$ has no divisors, let $f(x) \neq 0, g(x) \neq 0$ in $R[x]$. Then $\deg(f(x) \cdot g(x)) = \deg f(x) + \deg g(x) > 0$, hence the product cannot be the zero polynomial

Theorem 2.5. (Division algorithm)

Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a commutative ring with identify and let $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ and $g(x) = b_m x^m + b_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots + b_0$, be two elements in $R[x]$, with both a_n, b_m non zero elements of R and $m > 0$ and the leading coefficient of $g(x)$ is invertible. Then there are unique polynomials $q(x)$ and $r(x)$ in $R[x]$ such that $f(x) = q(x) g(x) + r(x)$, with $r(x) = 0$ or $\text{degree } r(x) < \text{degree } g(x)$.

Examples.

(1) Consider $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^3 + x^2 - 3x + 1$ in $Z_5[x]$ and let $g(x) = x^2 + 2x - 6$. To find $q(x)$ and $r(x)$, divide $f(x)$ by $g(x)$,

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 - x - 3 \\
 \underline{x^2 - 2x + 3} \\
 x^4 - 3x^3 + 2x^2 \\
 + x^4 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 \\
 \hline
 -x^3 - x^2 + 4x \\
 -x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x \\
 \hline
 -3x^2 + 2x - 1 \\
 -3x^2 + x - 4 \\
 \hline
 x + 3
 \end{array}$$

So $x^4 - 3x^3 + x^2 - 3x + 1 = (x^2 - 2x + 3)(x^2 - 3x + 3) + (3x + 5)$, remembering that the coefficients are in Z_5 . Then $q(x) = x^2 - 3x + 3$, and $r(x) = 3x + 5$.

(2) Consider $f(x) = x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x + 4$ in $Z_5[x]$ and let $g(x) = x - 1$. To find $q(x)$ and $r(x)$, divide $f(x)$ by $g(x)$,

Definition 2.6. Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ be a ring with identity and $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 \in R[x]$. Then if $r \in R$ we define $f(r)$ by $f(r) = a_n r^n + a_{n-1} r^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 \in R$.

Example. Let $f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 + 3 \in Q(x)$. Then $f(2) = 8 + 4(4) + 3 = 27$

Definition 2.7. Let R be a commutative ring and $f(x)$ a polynomial over R . Any element $r \in R$ such that $f(r) = 0$ is a zero of $f(x)$ in R (or r is a root of $f(x)$).

Definition 2.8. Let R be a commutative ring with identity and $f(x), g(x)$ be non zero polynomials in $R[x]$. Then $g(x)$ is said to be a factor of $f(x)$, if there exists a non zero polynomial $h(x) \in R[x]$ such that $f(x) = h(x)g(x)$.

Example. Let $f(x) = (x-1)(x+5)$ be a polynomial of $Z[x]$. Then $(x-1)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Proposition 2.9. Let $f(x)$ be a polynomial over a commutative ring with identity and a be an element in R . Then a is a root of $f(x)$ if and only if $(x-a)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Proof. Suppose $(x-a)$ is a factor of $f(x)$. Then there exists a polynomial $q(x)$ such that $f(x) = q(x)(x-a)$. Then $f(a) = q(a) \cdot 0$ which implies $f(a) = 0$, and a is a root of $f(x)$.

Conversely, suppose $f(a) = 0$. By division algorithm, there exist $q(x)$ and $r(x)$ in $R[x]$ such that $f(x) = q(x)(x-a) + r(x)$, $\deg r(x) < \deg (x-a)$ or $r(x) = 0$.

Since $\deg (x-a) = 1$, then $r(x)$ is a constant polynomial.

But $0 = f(a) = q(a)(a - a) + r(a) = r(a)$. Hence $r(x) = 0$, consequently $f(x) = q(x)(x-a)$.

Definition 2.10. The element r is a root of multiplicity m of $f(x)$ if $(x-a)^m \mid f(x)$ but $(x-a)^{m+1} \nmid f(x)$. A zero of multiplicity 1 is called simple zero.

Theorem 2.11. (Fundamental theorem of algebra):

If $f(x)$ is a non constant polynomial over the field of complex numbers, then $f(x)$ has at least one root in C .

Theorem 2.12. Let R be an integral domain, $f(x)$ be a non zero polynomial over R . If $\deg f(x) = n$, then $f(x)$ has at most n distinct roots in R .

Proof. We proved by induction on the degree of $f(x)$. When $\deg f(x) = 0$, then there exists $0 \neq a_0 \in R$ such that $f(x) = a_0$. This means $f(x)$ has no root in R .

If $\deg f(x) = 1$, then there exists $0 \neq a_1 \in R$ such that $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x$. This means $f(x)$ has at most one root in R ; indeed, if a_1 is invertible, $-a_1^{-1} \cdot a_0$ is the only root of $f(x)$. Now, suppose the theorem is true for all polynomials of degree $n-1 \geq 1$, and let $\deg f(x) = n$.

If r is a root of $f(x)$, then there exists $q(x) \in R[x]$ such that $f(x) = (x-r)q(x)$, where $q(x)$ of degree $n-1$.

Any root t of $f(x)$ distinct from r must be a root of $q(x)$, by substitution, we have

$f(t) = (t - r)q(t) = 0$. Since R has no zero divisors, then $q(t) = 0$. From hypotheses, $q(x)$ has at most $n-1$ distinct roots. As the only roots of $f(x)$ are r and those of $q(x)$.

That is $f(x)$ cannot have more than n distinct roots in R .

The following example shows that the condition that R is an integral domain is the last theorem is necessary.

Example. Consider the ring $R = Z_2 \times Z_2$. Clearly R is not an integral domain.

Now consider the polynomial $f(x) = x^2 + x$.

It is not difficult to show that every element of $Z_2 \times Z_2$ is a root of $f(x)$. where

$Z_2 \times Z_2 = \{(0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)\}$. So $f(x)$ has four roots.