

Lecture 8 Friday Feb 5

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8.3 Unique factorization Domains.

In this section R denotes an integral domain

DEF 1 For $r \in R$, r is irreducible

whenever

(i) $r \neq 0$

(ii) r not a unit

(iii) there does not exist nonunits $a, b \in R$ such that

$$r = ab$$

DEF 2 For $p \in R$, p is prime whenever

(i) $p \neq 0$

(ii) the ideal R_p is prime

LEM 3 For $p \in R$, p is prime if and only if

(i) $p \neq 0$,

(ii) p not a unit,

(iii) For $a, b \in R$,

$p \mid ab$ implies $p \mid a$ or $p \mid b$

p f By the def of a prime ideal.

LEM 4 Given a prime $p \in R$,

then p is irreducible.

pf Suppose \exists nonunits $x, y \in R$ st

$$p = xy$$

So

$$p \mid xy$$

So

$$p \mid x \quad \text{or} \quad p \mid y$$

wlog

$$p \mid x$$

$\exists r \in R$ st

$$px = x$$

So

$$p = xy = pry$$

$$p(1-ry) = 0$$

0

$$1-ry = 0$$

y is unit cmt.

□

LEM 5 Assume R is a PID.

Given an irreducible $p \in R$.

Then p is prime.

Pf By assumption $p \neq 0$, p not a unit.

Given $x, y \in R$ st

$$p \mid xy$$

Show

$$p \mid x \quad \text{or} \quad p \mid y$$

Write

$$pz = xy \quad z \in R$$

Ideal

$R_p + Rx$ is principal

Write

$$R_p + Rx = Rd \quad d \in R$$

So

$$ap + bx = d \quad a, b \in R$$

$$p = cd \quad c \in R$$

Since p is irred and $p = cd$,

c is unit or d is unit

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Case: c is unit

$$R_d = R_p$$

↙
x

So

$$p \mid x$$

✓

Case: d is unitwlog $d=1$

$$ap + bx = 1$$

$$(ap + bx)y = y$$

||

$$apy + \underbrace{bx}_p z = y$$

$$p(ay + bz) = y$$

So

$$p \mid y$$

✓



DEF 6 For nonzero $x, y \in R$ TFAE

(i) $R_x = R_y$

(ii) $x|y$ and $y|x$

(iii) \exists unit $u \in R$ such that
 $x = yu$

Call x, y associates whenever (i) - (iii) hold.

DEF 7 R is a Unique Factorization Domain (UFD)

whenever:

For each non-zero $x \in R$ that is not a unit,

- (i) x is a product of irreducible elements of R ;
- (ii) above product is unique up to perm and associates.

Meaning of (ii):

Write

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 x = u_1 u_2 \dots u_r & r \geq 1 & u_i \text{ irred} \quad (1 \leq i \leq r) \\
 x = v_1 v_2 \dots v_a & a \geq 1 & v_i \text{ irred} \quad (1 \leq i \leq a)
 \end{array}$$

then $r = a$ and the sequence of ideals

$R_{u_1}, R_{u_2}, \dots, R_{u_r}$
 is a permutation of
 $R_{v_1}, R_{v_2}, \dots, R_{v_a}$

LEM 8 Assume R is a UFD

Given an irreducible $p \in R$,

then p is prime.

pf By construction $p \neq 0$, p not a unit.

Given $a, b \in R$ st

$$p \mid ab$$

Show

$$p \mid a \quad \text{or} \quad p \mid b$$

Write

$$pc = ab \quad c \in R$$

*

Write

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 a = a_1 a_2 \dots a_r & r \geq 1 & a_i \text{ irred} & (1 \leq i \leq r) \\
 b = b_1 b_2 \dots b_s & s \geq 1 & b_i \text{ irred} & (1 \leq i \leq s) \\
 c = c_1 c_2 \dots c_t C & t \geq 0 & c_i \text{ irred} & (1 \leq i \leq t) \\
 & & & C \text{ a unit}
 \end{array}$$

By * and since C is unit, the sequence

$$R_p, R_{c_1}, R_{c_2}, \dots, R_{c_t}$$

is a permutation of

$$R_{a_1}, R_{a_2}, \dots, R_{a_r}, R_{b_1}, R_{b_2}, \dots, R_{b_s}$$

So p is assoc some a_i or a_j

WLOG

p assoc a_1

So

$p | a_1$

But

$a_1 | a$

So

$p | a$

✓

□

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Assume R is a UFD

Given $0 \neq c \in R$

Write c as a product of primes and a unit:

$$c = p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \cdots p_t^{x_t} u$$

$$t \geq 0$$

p_1, p_2, \dots, p_t mutually nonassoc primes in R

$$x_i \geq 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq t)$$

u a unit

LEM 9 With the above assumptions and notation

(i) For $a, b \in R$,

$$ab = c$$

if and only if

$$a = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_t^{\alpha_t} A$$

$$b = p_1^{\beta_1} p_2^{\beta_2} \dots p_t^{\beta_t} B$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_i$$

$$0 \leq \beta_i$$

$$\alpha_i + \beta_i = \gamma_i$$

$$1 \leq i \leq t$$

A, B units

$$AB = C$$

(ii) For $a \in R$,

$$a \mid c$$

if and only if

$$a = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_t^{\alpha_t} A$$

$$0 \leq \alpha_i \leq \gamma_i$$

$$1 \leq i \leq t$$

A a unit

Pf (i) By the definition of a UFD

(ii) By (i) above

□

Assume R is a UFD

Given $a, b \in R$

Write

$$a = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_t^{\alpha_t} A$$

$$b = p_1^{\beta_1} p_2^{\beta_2} \dots p_t^{\beta_t} B$$

$$t \geq 0$$

p_1, p_2, \dots, p_t mutually nonassoc primes in R

$$0 \leq \alpha_i$$

$$0 \leq \beta_i$$

($1 \leq i \leq t$)

A, B units in R

LEM 10 With above assumptions and notation,

$$d = \prod_{i=1}^t p_i^{\min(\alpha_i, \beta_i)}$$

is a GCD for a, b

pf By construction

$$d \mid a,$$

$$d \mid b$$

Given $e \in R$ st

$$e \mid a$$

and

$$e \mid b$$

Show $e | d$

By LEM 9 and since $e | a$,

$$e = p_1^{\epsilon_1} p_2^{\epsilon_2} \cdots p_t^{\epsilon_t} E$$

$$0 \leq \epsilon_i \leq \alpha_i \quad (i=1, \dots, t)$$

E a unit

Since $e | b$,

$$\epsilon_i \leq \beta_i \quad (i=1, \dots, t)$$

So

$$0 \leq \epsilon_i \leq \min(\alpha_i, \beta_i)$$

Now

$$e | d$$

□