

Last time: • Defined PIDs, irreducibles and primes

- Defined Euclidean domains
- Proved that  $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a+ib \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a Euclidean domain
- Proved that Euclidean domains are PIDs.
- Proved that in an integral domain primes are irreducible.

Lemma 28.1 In  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] = \{a + 5b\sqrt{-5} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , 2 is irreducible but not prime (note  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ , hence an integral domain).

Proof Consider  $N: \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $N(a + \sqrt{-5}b) = |a + \sqrt{-5}b|^2 = a^2 + 5b^2$ .

$$\text{Then } \forall u, v \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}], N(uv) = |uv|^2 = |u|^2|v|^2 = N(u)N(v).$$

Observe also:

$$1) N(a + \sqrt{-5}b) = 0 \Leftrightarrow a^2 + 5b^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = 0, b = 0, \text{ i.e. } a + \sqrt{-5}b = 0.$$

$$2) N(a + \sqrt{-5}b) = 1 \Leftrightarrow a^2 + 5b^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow a = \pm 1 \text{ and } b = 0$$

Hence:  $u, v$  are units in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] \Leftrightarrow uv = 1$

$$\Leftrightarrow N(u) \cdot N(v) = N(1) = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow N(u) = N(v) = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow u = \pm 1, v = \pm 1$$

In other words  $(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}])^\times = \{\pm 1\}$ .

Observation: The smallest values of  $N$  are  $0 - N(0)$ ,  $1 - N(\pm 1)$   
 $4 = N(2)$  and  $5 = N(\pm \sqrt{-5})$ .

Now suppose  $2 = \alpha\beta$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ . Then

$$4 = N(2) = N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$$

$$\therefore a^2 + 5b^2 = 2 \text{ has no integer solutions.}$$

Hence either  $N(\alpha) = 4$  and  $N(\beta) = 1$  or  $N(\alpha) = 1$  &  $N(\beta) = 4$ .

If  $N(\beta) = 1$ ,  $\beta$  is a unit. If  $N(\alpha) = 1$ ,  $\alpha$  is a unit.

$\therefore 2$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$

We now argue that 2 is not prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ :

$$2 \cdot 3 = 6 = 1 + 5 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$$

If 2 is prime, 2 has to divide either  $1 + \sqrt{-5}$  or  $1 - \sqrt{-5}$ .

If  $2 \mid 1 + \sqrt{-5}$ ,  $\exists q \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  s.t.  $2q = 1 + \sqrt{-5}$

$$\text{But then } 6 = N(1 + \sqrt{-5}) = N(2q) = N(2)N(q) = 4N(q)$$

This is impossible since in  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $4 \nmid 6$ .

Similarly  $2 \nmid 1 - \sqrt{-5}$ .

$\therefore 2$  is not prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ .

Lemma 28.2 Let  $R$  be a PID,  $x \in R$  irreducible. Then  $\langle x \rangle$

is maximal (hence  $\langle x \rangle$  is prime, hence  $x$  is prime)

Proof Suppose  $I$  is an ideal in  $R$  with

$$(1) \quad \langle x \rangle \subseteq I \subset R.$$

Since  $R$  is a PID,  $I = \langle c \rangle$  for some  $c \in R$ .

Recall:  $\langle x \rangle \subseteq \langle c \rangle \Rightarrow x = qc$  for some  $q \in R$  ( $q \in \langle c \rangle \Rightarrow x \in \langle c \rangle$ )

Since  $x$  is irreducible,  $q$  is a unit or  $c$  is a unit.

If  $q$  is a unit,  $c = q^{-1}x \Rightarrow c \in \langle x \rangle \Rightarrow \langle c \rangle \subseteq \langle x \rangle$ , hence  $\langle x \rangle = \langle c \rangle$

If  $c$  is a unit  $\langle c \rangle = R$ .

$\therefore \langle x \rangle$  is maximal and we are done.  $\square$

### Remarks

1) In a PID, the set of all irreducibles = the set of all primes.

2) If  $R$  is a PID and  $x$  is irreducible then  $R/\langle x \rangle$  is a field.

2a) For example in  $\mathbb{Z}$  any prime  $p \neq 0$  is irreducible  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is a field

2b) Consider  $x^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ . If  $x^2 + 1$  is not irreducible,

$$x^2 + 1 = p(x)q(x) \text{ with } \deg p = \deg q = 1$$

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1 x \text{ for some } a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\alpha = -a_0/a_1 \text{ is a root of } p(x)$$

$\Rightarrow x^2 + 1$  has a root in  $\mathbb{R}$ , which is impossible

since  $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha^2 \geq 0$ , hence  $\alpha^2 + 1 > 0$ .

$\Rightarrow x^2 + 1$  is irreducible and  $\mathbb{R}[x]/\langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$  is a field.

3) In  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  2 is irreducible and not prime.  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is not a PID.

Definition Let  $R$  be a commutative ring.  $x, y \in R$  are associates

if  $\exists$  a unit  $u \in R$  s.t.  $x = uy$  (and  $y = u^{-1}x$ )

Ex  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  are associates  $\Leftrightarrow x = \pm 1$

$p(x), q(x) \in R[x]$  are associate  $\Leftrightarrow \exists \lambda \in R, \lambda \neq 0$  s.t.  $p(x) = \lambda q(x)$ .

Lemma 28.3 Let  $R$  be an integral domain,  $x, y \in R$ ,  $x, y \neq 0$ . Then

$x|y$  and  $y|x \Leftrightarrow x \& y$  are associates ( $\Leftrightarrow \langle x \rangle = \langle y \rangle$ )

Proof ( $\Leftarrow$ ) easy

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $x|y$  and  $y|x$ . Then  $\exists u, v \in R$  s.t.  $y = ux$ ,  $x = vy$   
 $\Rightarrow x = v(ux)$ . Since  $R$  is an integral domain,  $1 = uv$   
 $\Rightarrow u, v$  are units  $\square$

Definition An integral domain is a Unique Factorization Domain (UFD)

if 1) Every  $r \in R$ ,  $r \neq 0$ ,  $r$  not unit, is a product of irreducibles  
 2) If  $u p_1 \dots p_m = v q_1 \dots q_n$ ,  $u, v$  units,  $p_1 \dots p_m, q_1 \dots q_n$   
 irreducible Then  $n = m$  and  $\exists \tau \in S_n$  s.t.  $p_i$  and  $q_{\tau(i)}$   
 are associates

Ex  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a UFD.  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is not a UFD since

$$2 \cdot 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$$

and  $2, 3, 1 \pm \sqrt{5}$  are all irreducibles

We prove! Euclidean domains  $\subseteq$  PIDs.

We'll prove: PIDs  $\subseteq$  UFDs

It turns out

Euclidean domains  $\nsubseteq$  PIDs  $\nsubseteq$  UFDs.

To prove that PID's are UFD's we need

Definition A collection of ideals  $\{I_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  in a ring  $R$  is an ascending chain if  $I_j \subseteq I_{j+1}$  for all  $j$ .

E.g.  $R = F(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ , the set of all functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Recall  $\forall y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $I_y = \{f \in F(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) \mid f|_y = 0\}$  is an ideal.

Note: if  $y_1 \subseteq y_2$  and  $f|_{y_2} = 0$  then  $f|_{y_1} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow I_{y_1} \supseteq I_{y_2}.$$

So let  $y_n = \{0/n\}$ ,  $I_n := I_{\{0/n\}}$

Then  $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq I_3 \subseteq \dots \subseteq I_n \subseteq \dots$  is an ascending chain of ideals. <stopped here>

Lemma 28.4 Let  $\{I_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  be an ascending chain of ideals in a ring  $R$ . Then  $J = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} I_j$  is an ideal in  $R$ .

Proof, Since each  $I_j \neq \emptyset$ ,  $J \neq \emptyset$ .

1) If  $a, b \in J$  then  $\exists i_1, i_2$  st  $a \in I_{i_1}$ ,  $b \in I_{i_2}$ . May assume  $i_1 \leq i_2$ .

Then  $a \in I_{i_1} \subseteq I_{i_2} \Rightarrow a - b \in I_{i_2} \subseteq \bigcup I_j = J$ .

2)  $\forall r \in R \quad \forall x \in J \quad \exists j$  st  $x \in I_j$ . Since  $I_j$  is an ideal  
 $rx, xr \in I_j \Rightarrow rx, xr \in \bigcup I_j = J$ .

Theorem 28.5 Let  $R$  be a PID and  $\{I_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  an ascending chain.

Then  $\exists m \in \mathbb{N}$  st  $I_m = I_{m+1} = \dots = I_{m+j} = \dots$

and  $\bigcup_{k=1}^m I_k = I_m$ .

<Proof next time.>