

# Review of core topics from Algebra:

## Pt 1: Groups

- Definition subgroups, subgroup test
  - Examples:
    - cyclic groups  
key facts: • Isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}_n$ .
    - $\forall d|n, \exists!$  subgp. of order  $d$ .  
(subgroup lattice is "E-Z", useful in Galois).
    - (Also for general groups):  $|g| = n$   
 $\Rightarrow |g^m| = \frac{n}{(n,m)}$   $\leadsto$  determine # of generators of a cyclic gp.
    - $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  group under mult.,  
has size  $\varphi(n)$ , determined by prime power values.  
 $\varphi(p^n) = p^n - p^{n-1}$ .
    - $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is cyclic if  $n$  is prime.  
more general: finite subgp. of mult. gp. of a field is cyclic.
    - Dihedral groups:  $D_{2n} = \langle r, s \mid r^n = s^2 = 1, rs = sr^{-1} \rangle$ .  
many examples boil down to these relns,  
tracking what happens to vertices  $\{1, 2\}$ .
    - Symmetric group  $S_n$  & special sets of generators prove  
Cycle decomposition (unique up to reordering)  
make it easy to determine orders (lcm of sizes),  
inverses (write cycles in backwards order).
- Cycle types  
corr. to conj. classes!
- key ideas: homomorphisms, isomorphism theorems, kernel/image,  $A_n$  (A<sub>25</sub> simple)
- Cosets/quotient groups, by normal subgps: often use projection  $G \rightarrow G/N$ .  
Bijections b/w cosets  $\leadsto$  Lagrange's Theorem.
- Terminology: conjugation, normalizer, centralizer, center.

Fact:  $H, K \leq G$ , then  $|HK| = \frac{|H| \cdot |K|}{|H \cap K|}$ ,  $HK \leq G \iff HK = KH$ .

Reformulating many things: Group actions:

keys: stabilizers, orbits, kernel

Orbit-stabilizer theorem:  $|Stab(x)| \cdot |Orb(x)| = |G|$   
 $G \curvearrowright X$   $[G : Stab(x)] = |Orb(x)| \cdot \left[ \forall x \in X \right]$

Important group actions

• Conjugation (different sorts):  $G \curvearrowright G$ .

orbits are conj. classes, stabilizers are centralizers, orbits partition  $X$ .

$$\leadsto |G| = \sum [G : C_G(g_i)] + |Z(G)|$$

reps of non-trivial conj. classes

conj. class of elt. in center is a singleton

App:  $p$ -groups (order power of prime  $p$ )  
 have non-trivial center,  $|Z(G)| = \sum (\text{powers of } p) + |Z(G)|$ .

Ex: Groups of size  $p^2$  are  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , size  $p^2 \Rightarrow$  center =  $p$  or  $p^2$

if  $p^2$ , it's abelian  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{p^2}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$  by Fund. Thm,

else center has size  $p \Rightarrow |G/Z(G)| = p \Rightarrow |G/Z(G)| = \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 (index is  $p$  smallest prime divisor of  $|G|$ )  
 $\Rightarrow$  normal

is cyclic.  $\Rightarrow G$  is abelian.

•  $G \curvearrowright G$  by left mult. (left regular action)

$\leadsto$  Cayley's Theorem:  $G \hookrightarrow S_n$ . Can also do  $G \curvearrowright H$ ,  $H \leq G$ .

key facts: Actions of  $G$  on  $A$  corr. to hom.  $G \rightarrow \text{Sym}(A)$   
 App: Prove this. Another: groups of order 30 have normal  $(3, 2, 5)$  perm. repr.

terminology: Transitive, faithful, kernel, orbit-stab  $\leadsto$  Burnside's (counting)

And of course, the Sylow Theorems! Be good at solving.  
Applying various group actions! numerical examples of these

key results! classifying direct, semidirect products.

Ex: Groups of order  $p \cdot q$ ,  $p \neq q$  primes,  $p < q$  (WLOG).

There's the cyclic one,  $\mathbb{Z}_{pq}$ , if  $q \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , that's it.

whr: Cauchy  $\rightarrow \exists$  elts of order  $p, q$ , giving subgps  $P, Q$

$[G:Q] = p$ , smallest prime  $|G| \Rightarrow Q \trianglelefteq G$ ,  $|PQ| = |P| \cdot |Q| = pq$

$\Rightarrow P, Q$  complements  $\Rightarrow G \cong Q \rtimes P$ , some  $\varphi: P \rightarrow \text{Aut}(Q)$  order  $p, q$   
 $\mathbb{Z}_p \cong \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}_q) \cong \mathbb{Z}/(q-1)\mathbb{Z}$  Lagrange

only exists if  $p \mid (q-1)$  as orders of elts. divides in here.

And we can recognize different  $\varphi$  giving iso. semidirect prod.

Fund. Thm of finite ab. gp: Know how to

write inv. factors, elem. divisors, convert b/w the two.  
(e.g.: CRT).

Pt 2:

Rings Ex: Matrix rings,  $f^x$  rings, poly, power series rings,  
 $\mathbb{Z}[i] \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(i)$

terminology: zero divisors, units (set =  $R^\times$ ).

e.g.:  $\mathbb{Z}_n^\times = \{0 \leq m \leq n-1 \mid (m, n) = 1\}$ .

int domain: comm. ring,  $1 \neq 0$ , no zero-divisor

Facts: homomorphisms, isomorphism theorems similar to gps,

ideals: subring  $I \leq R$ , closed under left/right mult. fctg.  
can quotient by ideal.

$I+J =$  set of sums,  $I \cdot J =$  finite set of prod.

Ex: ideal gen. by  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  is  $(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ .

Fact:  $R$  comm,  $R \neq \text{field} \Leftrightarrow (0), (1)$  only ideals.  
 (Thus, field hom. are either trivial or embeddings)

Max<sup>mal</sup> ideals (no proper ideal "above" it), prime ideals  
 ( $ab \in \mathfrak{p} \Rightarrow a \in \mathfrak{p}$  or  $b \in \mathfrak{p}$ )

Facts: In a ring  $\neq 1$ , every proper ideal is in a maximal ideal.

R-comm:  $\begin{cases} M \text{ max}^{\text{mal}} \text{ ideal} \Leftrightarrow R/M \text{ a field.} \\ \mathfrak{p} \text{ prime ideal} \Leftrightarrow R/\mathfrak{p} \text{ is an int. domain.} \end{cases}$

Ex: If  $R$  is comm, max<sup>mal</sup>  $\Rightarrow$  prime.

key construction: Rings of fractions:

$R$  comm,  $0 \neq D \subseteq R$ ,

$0 \notin D$ , no 0-divisors in  $D$ , closed under mult.  
 form fractions, identify, do arithmetic as "expected."

$\Rightarrow$  ring where elts of  $D$  are units.

Ex: Field of fractions of an int. domain:  $FF(\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Q}$ ,  
 $FF(\mathbb{Z}[i]) = \mathbb{C}(i)$ ,  
 $FF(\mathbb{Z}[x]) = \mathbb{Q}(x)$

Chinese Remainder Th<sup>m</sup>:  $A_1, \dots, A_k$  ideals in  $R$   
 If  $A_i, A_j$  comax<sup>mal</sup>  $\forall i \neq j$ , then

$$R/(A_1 \dots A_k) = R/(A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_k) \cong R/A_1 \times \dots \times R/A_k$$

(slightly more general)

Ex:  $(m, n) = 1 \Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{mn} \cong \mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_n$ .  
 taking units  $\Rightarrow$  Euler  $\phi$  mult

key examples of int. domains:

Euclidean domains:  $\exists$  norm ~~on~~ on  $R$  s.t.:

$\forall a, b \in R, b \neq 0, \exists q, r \in R: a = qb + r, r = 0 \text{ or } N(r) < N(b)$

$\leadsto$  Euclidean algorithm...

Ex:  $\mathbb{Z}$  ( $N(a) = |a|$ ), fields, ( $r=0$ )

$F[x]$  for a field  $F$ .

$\mathbb{Z}[i]$  (geometric argument)

Have gcds and can compute  $\odot$  Eucl. Alg.

PID: All "I" are "p." (principal).

Still have gcds!  $(a, b) = (d)$ .

not always easy to compute!

Fact: PID means non-zero primes are max el.

UFD: primes:  $(p)$  is a prime ideal.

irred:  $r$  not 0 or a unit,  $r = ab \Rightarrow a$  or  $b$  is

primes are always irred. converse true (for non-zero units in a PID)

UFD means every non-zero, non-unit has a factorization into irreducibles, unique up to associating reordering

Big Th<sup>m</sup>:  $ED \Rightarrow PID \Rightarrow UFD$ .

Ex:  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  not a PID; as  $\mathbb{Z}$  not a UFD!

Factorize  $6 = 2 \cdot 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$ . Check irreducibles here using norm map:  $N(a + b\sqrt{-5}) = a^2 + 5b^2$   
Galois  
mod 5

Fact 1 - In a UFD, prime  $\Leftrightarrow$  irred.

Gauß Lemma:  $R = \text{UFD}$ ,  $F = \text{FF}(R)$ ,  $p(x) \in R[x]$

then  $p$  red. in  $F[x] \Rightarrow p$  red. in  $R[x]$

If gcd of coeffs of  $p(x) = 1$ , then (e.g. monic poly)  $p$  irred. in  $R[x] \Leftrightarrow p$  irred. in  $F[x]$ .

Th  $R \text{ UFD} \Leftrightarrow R[x] \text{ UFD}$ .

Cor!  $R \text{ UFD} \Rightarrow R[x_1, \dots, x_n] \text{ UFD}$ .

Irreducibility criteria: deg. 2 or 3 over field  
poly. of

is irred.  $\Leftrightarrow$  has a root in  $F$ .

∴ Rational roots Th<sup>3</sup>: Good for UFDs (e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}$ ).  
Field of fracs.

• Find  $p$  irred. mod some prime (in  $\mathbb{Z}[p[x]]$ ).  
(not always sufficient).

Eisenstein's Criterion:  $R$  domain,  $P$  prime,

$f = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  monic,  $n \geq 1$ ,

$a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in P$ ,  $a_0 \notin P^2 \Rightarrow f$  is irred. in  $R$

Can also shift first: ex: cyclotomic poly:  $\phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1}$  (s. IF by Gauß).

Prop:  $\mathbb{F}[x]/(f(x))$  is a field  $\Leftrightarrow f(x)$  is irred. in  $\mathbb{F}$ .

## Suggested problems : (Groups/Rings).

1). Let  $H$  be the subgroup of  $S_6$  generated by  $(16425)$  and  $(16)(25)(34)$ . Let  $H$  act on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by conjugation. Show that the set 
$$\mathbb{Z} := \{(12)(35)(46), (13)(24)(56), (14)(25)(36), (15)(26)(34), (16)(23)(45)\}$$

is invariant under this action, and thus we have a homomorphism  $\psi: H \rightarrow S_5$ . Show that  $\psi$  is an isomorphism.

2). Show that every group is a subgroup of a simple group.

3). Show that a group of order 300 cannot be simple.

4). For a commutative ring  $R$ , we say  $x$  is nilpotent if  $\exists k \geq 1$  s.t.  $x^k = 0$ . Let  $P$  be the set of nilpotent elements. Show that  $P$  is an ideal, and that  $R/P$  has no nilpotent elements.

5). Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}] = \{a + b\sqrt{5} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}) =: F$ . Note that  $F$  is the field of fractions of  $R$ . Show:

1).  $x^2 + x - 1$  is irreducible in  $R[x]$ , but not in  $F[x]$ .

2).  $R$  is not a UFD.

- 6). a). Show that  $F := \mathbb{Z}_3[x] / (x^3 + x^2 + 2)$  is a field.
- b). Find the multiplicative inverse of  $x^2 + 1$  in  $F$ .