

# Math 128A, Wed Dec 02

Math/Stats Colloquium: Stephanie Salamone "What I Believe"  
Especially interesting for teachers! 3pm tonight -- see email link

- ▶ Use a laptop or desktop with a large screen so you can read these words clearly.
- ▶ In general, please turn off your camera and mute yourself.
- ▶ Exception: When we do groupwork, please turn both your camera and mic on. (Groupwork will not be recorded.)
- ▶ Please always have the chat window open to ask questions.
- ▶ Last reading in the course: Ch. 14.
- ▶ Outline for PS11 due tonight; full version due Mon Dec 07.
- ▶ Problem session, Fri Dec 04, 10:00am–noon on Zoom.
- ▶ **FINAL EXAM, TUE DEC 15, 7:15–9:30am.**

6h PS10  
& PS11

$$p(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$$

$$\text{Ex. } p(x) = \pi x^5 - 15x^4 + \frac{7}{3e} x^3 + \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{1-\sqrt{2}} x^2$$

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$$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}]$$

$$= \{a + b\sqrt{5} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

$$= \{p(\sqrt{5}) \mid p(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]\}$$

$$3\sqrt{5}^3 + 2\sqrt{5}^2 + \sqrt{5} - 5$$

$$3(-5)\sqrt{5} + 2(-5) + \sqrt{5} - 5 = -15 - 14\sqrt{5}$$

# Rings

A **ring** is a set  $R$  with binary operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  (multiplication) such that:

(Abelian group, 4 axioms) The operation  $+$  gives  $R$  the structure of an abelian group, with (additive) identity  $0$  and the inverse of  $a$  written  $-a$ .

(Associativity of multiplication) For all  $a, b, c \in R$ ,  $(ab)c = a(bc)$ .

(Distributive) For all  $a, b, c \in R$ ,  $a(b + c) = ab + ac$  and  $(a + b)c = ac + bc$ .

(Rings with unity) If there exists  $1 \in R$  such that  $1a = a1 = a$  for all  $a \in R$  and  $1 \neq 0$ , we say that  $1$  is a **unity** (or **multiplicative identity**) in  $R$ .

(Commutative rings) If  $ab = ba$  for all  $a, b \in R$ , we say that  $R$  is **commutative**.

# Ideals, ideal test

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a sub**ring** of a ring  $R$ . To say that  $A$  is an **ideal** of  $R$  means that for every  $r \in R$  and every  $a \in A$ , both  $ra$  and  $ar$  are in  $A$ .

## Theorem

Let  $A \neq \emptyset$  be a subset of a ring  $R$ . Then  $A$  is an ideal of  $R$  if and only if the following conditions all hold:

- ▶ (Closed under subtraction) For all  $a, b \in A$ , we have  $a - b \in A$ .
- ▶ (Closed under  $R$ -multiplication) For all  $a \in A$  and  $r \in R$ , we have that  $ra \in A$  and  $ar \in A$ . ●

## Examples and non-examples

**bold R = real numbers**

- ▶ Let  $R = \mathbf{R}$  and let  $A = \mathbf{Z}$ . Then  $A$  is a subring of  $R$ , but  $A$  is not an ideal of  $R$  because:

$$a=2, r=\pi; ra=2\pi \notin A$$

- ▶ Let  $R = \mathbf{R}[x]$  and

$$A = \{f(x) \mid f(0) = 0\}.$$

*(cf.  $2\mathbb{Z}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ )*  
*const term 0*

Then  $A = \langle x \rangle$ , which means that  $A$  is a principal ideal (i.e., generated by a single element). It is true but very much not obvious that **every** ideal of  $R = \mathbf{R}[x]$  is principal.

- ▶ Let  $R = \mathbf{R}[x, y]$  (real polynomials in two variables) and let

$$A = \{f(x, y) \mid f(0, 0) = 0\},$$

which is again the set of all (two-variable) polynomials with constant term 0. Then  $A = \langle x, y \rangle$ , but  $A$  is not principal (again, true but very much not obvious).

Recall: in the commutative ring  $R$ ,  $\langle a \rangle$  is the ideal of all  $R$ -multiples of  $a$ , called the principal ideal generated by  $a$ :

$$\langle a \rangle = \{ra \mid r \in R\}$$

A compound example

$$0. \exists a \in A, b \in B \text{ b.i.c.} \\ \Rightarrow \exists ab \in AB \neq \emptyset \text{ ideals}$$

Theorem

Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are ideals of a commutative ring  $R$ . Then

$$AB = \{a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n \mid \text{for some positive integer } n, a_i \in A, b_i \in B\} \\ = \text{the set of all finite sums of terms of the form } ab$$

is also an ideal of  $R$ .

Proof:

d.  $\textcircled{A} c, d \in AB$

$$a_i \in A, b_i \in B$$

$$c = a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n, d = a_{n+1} b_{n+1} + \dots$$

$$c - d = a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n - a_{n+1} b_{n+1} - \dots + a_{n+k} b_{n+k}$$

$$= a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n + (-a_{n+1}) b_{n+1} + \dots - a_{n+k} b_{n+k}$$

$a_i \in A \text{ b.i.c. } A \text{ is an ideal}$

$\textcircled{B} c - d \in AB$

$$(A) \quad c \in A \quad \boxed{r \in R}$$

So:  $c = a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n \quad a_i \in A, b_i \in B$

$$rc = r(a_1 b_1 + \dots + a_n b_n)$$

$$= r a_1 b_1 + \dots + r a_n b_n$$

$$\begin{aligned} R\text{-mult} &= \underbrace{(r a_1)}_{\in A} \underbrace{b_1}_{\in B} + \dots + \underbrace{(r a_n)}_{\in A} \underbrace{b_n}_{\in B} \end{aligned}$$

$r a_i \in A$   
 $b_i \in A$   
ideal, cl  
R-mult

So  $rc$  is a finite sum of terms, each of which is a product of an element of  $A$  and an element of  $B$ .

$$(C) \quad rc \in A \quad B$$





# Factor rings

Given an ideal  $A$  of a ring  $R$ , we can define the factor ring  $R/A$  as follows.

- ▶ **Set:** We define  $R/A$  to be the set of (additive) cosets of  $A$  in  $R$ , i.e.,

$$R/A = \{r + A \mid r \in R\}.$$

- ▶ **Operations:** For  $r, s \in R$ , we define

$$(r + A) + (s + A) = (r + s) + A$$

$$(r + A)(s + A) = (rs) + A.$$

Defn of +  
group  
R/A  
new

As with groups, we might worry that these operations are not well-defined. However:

## Theorem

*The above operations are well-defined, and give  $R/A$  the structure of a ring.*

## Proof that factor rings are well-defined

As with groups, the hard part is to prove that the operations are well-defined.

$$(r + A) + (s + A) = (r + s) + A$$

$$(r + A)(s + A) = (rs) + A \quad \leftarrow$$

Suppose  $r' + A = r + A$  and  $s' + A = s + A$ . The interesting part is to show that  $r's' + A = rs + A$ . But:

(We showed that the sum  $(r+A)+(s+A)=(r+s)+A$  was well-defined back when we did factor groups, Ch. 9.)

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Mult:} \\ \downarrow a' = ah \\ \downarrow h \in H \end{array}$$

Recall  $r' + A = r + A \Leftrightarrow r' = r + a \quad (a \in A)$   
(Ch. 7)  $s' + A = s + A \Leftrightarrow s' = s + b \quad (b \in A)$

So  $r' = r + a, s' = s + b$  for  $a, b \in A$ .

Then  $r's' = (r+a)(s+b)$

$$= r(s+b) + a(s+b)$$

$$= rs + rb + as + ab$$

DL  
DL

$\in A?$

$r \in R, b \in A \Rightarrow rb \in A$  (A d. R-mult)

$a \in A, s \in R \Rightarrow as \in A$  " " "

$a \in A, b \in A \Rightarrow ab \in A$  A subring

B/c A d.t.,  $rb + as + ab \in A$ .

Ⓒ  $r's' + A = rs + A$



## An example that turns out to be familiar

**Example:**  $R = \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $A = 3\mathbf{Z}$ . Then  $R/A = \mathbf{Z}/3\mathbf{Z}$  has:

► **Elements:**

$$0+A = \{\dots, -6, -3, 0, 3, 6, \dots\} \quad 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$1+A = \{\dots, -5, -2, 1, 4, 7, \dots\} \quad 1 \pmod{3}$$

$$2+A = \{\dots, -4, -1, 2, 5, 8, \dots\} \quad 2 \pmod{3}$$

► **Addition:** (ex.)

$$(1+A) + (2+A) = 3+A = 0+A$$

► **Multiplication:**

$$(2+A)(2+A) = 4+A = 1+A$$

Ops  
are  
+ , ·  
(mod 3)

## Another example that turns out to be familiar

**Example:**  $R = \mathbf{R}[x]$ ,  $A = \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$ .  $R/A = \mathbf{R}[x]/\langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$  has:

▶ **Elements:**

▶ **Addition:**

▶ **Multiplication:**

Gen'l: For  $a \in R$ ,  $R/\langle a \rangle$  is "what happens to  $R$  if you set  $a = 0$ ".

# What would be next

- ▶ Fields (rings where every  $a \neq 0$  is a unit)
- ▶ Integral domains (rings in which  $ab = 0$  implies that either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ )
- ▶ When is  $R/A$  a field or an integral domain?
- ▶ Polynomials in general
- ▶ Factorization
- ▶ And so on. . . .