

Exercises of chapter 13 :

q4: list all zero divisor in $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$. can you see a relation between the zero divisors of $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$ and the units of $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$.

the zero divisors in $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$: $\{2, 10, 4, 5, 6, 10, 8, 12, 16, 14, 18\}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{units of } \mathbb{Z}_{20} &= U(20) = \{a \in \mathbb{Z} : a \text{ is invertible} \Leftrightarrow a \text{ is a unit} \Leftrightarrow \gcd(a, 20) = 1\} \\ &= \{1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19\}.\end{aligned}$$

the relation : $\mathbb{Z}_{20} = \text{zero divisors} \cup \text{units}$.

claim : If $\gcd(a, n) > 1$, then a is a zero divisor.

q5: show that every nonzero elements of $\mathbb{Z}_n$ is a unit or a zero divisor.

let $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $k \neq 0$

case 1 : If $\gcd(k, n) = 1$

case 2 : If $\gcd(k, n) = d$, $d > 1$

$$\Rightarrow \exists s, t \text{ s.t. } ks + nt = 1 \Rightarrow ks = 1 \Rightarrow k \text{ is a unit.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists m \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \text{ s.t. } k = md$$

$$k\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) = md\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) = mn = 0 \Rightarrow k \text{ is zero divisor.}$$

□

q6: Find a nonzero element in a Ring that is neither a zero divisor nor a unit.

In $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$, $2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\rightarrow 2 \text{ not a unit} \leadsto 2k = 1 \leadsto k = \frac{1}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$\rightarrow 2 \text{ not a zero divisor} \leadsto 2k = 0 \Leftrightarrow k = 0. \text{ since } \mathbb{Z} \text{ is integral domain.}$$

Q7: let R be a finite commutative ring with unity. prove that every nonzero element of R is either a zero divisor or a unit. what happens if we drop the "finite" condition on R ?

let $0 \neq a \in R$. since R is finite the list $1 = a^0, a, a^2, \dots$ must contain a repetition.

Thus, $a^L = a^n$ for some $0 \leq L < n$

We may assume that n is the smallest such integer.

Note that $n-1 \geq 0$.

suppose $L=0$ then $1 = a^0 = a^n = a \cdot a^{n-1} = a^{n-1} a$

which means a^{n-1} is an inverse of a .

suppose $L > 0$ then $0 \leq L-1 < n-1$ and we deduce

$$0 = a(a^{n-1} - a^{L-1}) \quad \text{from } a^L = a^n$$

But $a^{n-1} \neq a^{L-1}$ by the minimality of n .

thus, $a^{n-1} - a^{L-1} \neq 0$

We have shown that a is a zero divisor. $\square$

Q8: let $a \neq 0$ belong to a commutative ring. prove that a is a zero divisor iff

$$a^2 b = 0 \quad \text{for some } b \neq 0.$$

Q15: let a belong to a Ring R with unity and suppose that $a^n = 0$ for some positive integer n (such an element is called nilpotent). Prove that $1-a$ has a multiplicative inverse in R .

$$(1-a)(1+a+a^2+\dots+a^{n-1}) = 1 + \cancel{a} + \cancel{a^2} + \dots + \cancel{a^{n-1}} - \cancel{a} - \cancel{a^2} - \dots - \cancel{a^n}$$

$$= 1 - a^n$$

$$\text{But } a^n = 0 \Rightarrow = 1 - 0$$

$$= 1$$

Q16: Show that the nilpotent elements of a commutative ring form a subring.

let N be the set of all nilpotent elements of R , ^{show} N subring

assume $a, b \in N$, and we know $a^n = 0$ and $b^m = 0$

$$\rightarrow a^n + b^m = 0 + 0 = 0 \in N$$

$$\rightarrow a^n \times b^m = 0 \cdot 0 = 0 \in N$$

$$\rightarrow 0_R \in N$$

$$\rightarrow a + x = 0 \Rightarrow x = -a \in N$$

So N is a subring of R $\square$

Q17: show that 0 is the only nilpotent element in an integral domain.

suppose that a is nilpotent element in integral domain

$$0 = a^n = a \cdot a^{n-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^{n-1} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0$$

So 0 is the only $\square$

Q18: a ring element a is called an idempotent if $a^2 = a$. prove that the only idempotent in an integral domain are 0 and 1.

assume R is an integral domain $\Rightarrow R$ has unity 1.

let a be an idempotent in R , then

$$a^2 = a \Rightarrow a^2 - a = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a(a-1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } a-1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } a = 1 \quad \square$$

Q20: show that $\mathbb{Z}_n$ has a nonzero nilpotent element iff n is divisibly by the square of some prime.

exercises of chapter 13:

Q1 + Q2 Done on Notes.

Q3: Show that a commutative ring with the cancellation property (under multiplication) has no zero divisor.

Let $ab = 0$ and $a \neq 0$ then $ab = a \cdot 0$ so $b = 0$.

Q9: Find elements a, b and c in the ring $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. ab, ac and bc are zero divisors but abc is not a zero divisor.

$$a = (1, 1, 0), \quad b = (1, 0, 1), \quad c = (0, 1, 1).$$

Q6: Describe all zero divisor and units of $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$.

The zero divisor are elements with one or two entries that are zero.

Formally, $\{(a, b, c) : \text{exactly one or two of the units are elements composed of units so they have } \pm 1 \text{ in the first and last coordinate, and the middle coordinate is not zero.}$

$$\text{or } \{(\pm 1, b, \pm 1) : b \neq 0\}$$

Q11: Let d be an integer. Prove that $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] = \{a + b\sqrt{d} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is an integral domain.

→

$$\rightarrow a, b \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \Rightarrow (a_1 + b_1\sqrt{d}) - (a_2 + b_2\sqrt{d}) = (a_1 - a_2) + (b_1 - b_2)\sqrt{d}$$

$$\rightarrow a \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}], r \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow (a_1 + b_1\sqrt{d})(a_2 + b_2\sqrt{d}) = (a_1a_2 + b_1b_2d) + (a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)\sqrt{d}$$

→ Thus, it's a ring.

→ since $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ is a subring of the ring of complex numbers,

it has no zero divisor.

Q12: In $\mathbb{Z}_7$, give a reasonable interpretation for the expressions $\frac{1}{2}$, $-\frac{2}{3}$, $\sqrt{-3}$ and $-\frac{1}{6}$.

$$\text{Since } 2 \times 4 = 8 = 1, \quad 4 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{since } 3 \times 5 = 15 = 1, \quad 5 \text{ acts like } \frac{1}{3}. \text{ So}$$

$$-\frac{2}{3} = -1 + \frac{1}{3} = 6 + 5 = 11 = 4$$

$$[\text{Alternately, } \frac{2}{3} = 2 \times 5 = 10 = 3, \text{ so } -\frac{2}{3} = -3 = 4]$$

$$\text{Now, } -3 = 4 \text{ so } \sqrt{-3} = 2$$

$$\text{Finally, } 6 \times 6 = 36 = 1 \text{ so } \frac{1}{6} = 6 \text{ and } -\frac{1}{6} = -6 = 1.$$

Q13: give an example of a comm. Ring without zero divisors that is Not an integral domain.

The even integers.

Q14: Find two elements a and b in a Ring such that both a and b are zero divisors, $a+b \neq 0$ and $a+b$ is Not a zero divisor.