

# MA3218 Applied Algebra

## Basic Number Theory

- **Division algorithm:**  
 $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}, b \in \mathbb{N} : \exists! q, r \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } a = bq + r \text{ and } 0 \leq r < b$
- **GCD is divisible by other divisors:**  $d = \gcd(a, b) \iff d \mid a \text{ and } d \mid b \text{ and } (\forall c : c \mid a \text{ and } c \mid b \implies c \mid d)$
- **GCD is linear combination:**  
 $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^* : d = \gcd(a, b) \implies \exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } ax + by = d$   
 In particular:  $1 = \gcd(a, b) \iff \exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } ax + by = 1$
- **Coprime properties:**  $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} :$   
 $\gcd(a, c) = 1 \text{ and } \gcd(b, c) = 1 \implies \gcd(ab, c) = 1$   
 $a \mid bc \text{ and } \gcd(a, b) = 1 \implies a \mid c$   
 $\gcd(a, b) = 1 \text{ and } a \mid c \text{ and } b \mid c \implies ab \mid c$
- **Multiplicative invertibility:**  
 $k \in \mathbb{Z}_n \text{ and } \gcd(k, n) = 1 \implies \exists x \in \mathbb{Z}_n \text{ s.t. } kx \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$   
 Finding  $x$  s.t.  $19x \equiv 1 \pmod{391}$ :  

$$\begin{array}{l} 391 = 19 \times 20 + 11 \quad (7) 391 + (-144) 19 = 1 \\ 19 = 11 \times 1 + 8 \quad (-4) 19 + (7) 11 = 1 \\ 11 = 8 \times 1 + 3 \quad (3) 11 + (-4) 8 = 1 \\ 8 = 3 \times 2 + 2 \quad (-1) 8 + (3) 3 = 1 \\ 3 = 2 \times 1 + 1 \quad (1) 3 + (-1) 2 = 1 \end{array}$$
 $\therefore 19 \times (-144) \equiv 1 \pmod{391}$   
 $\therefore x \equiv -144 \equiv 247 \pmod{391}$

## Groups

- **Definition:** Set  $G$  with binary op. satisfying:
  0. Closure: Binary operation is well-defined over  $G$
  1. Associativity:  $\forall a, b, c \in G : (ab)c = a(bc)$
  2. Identity:  $\exists e \in G \text{ s.t. } \forall a \in G, ea = ae = a$
  3. Invertibility:  $\forall a \in G : \exists b \in G \text{ s.t. } ab = ba = e$
- **Abelian group:** Binary op. satisfies commutativity:  
 $\forall a, b \in G : ab = ba$
- **Some groups:**  
 $\mathbb{Q}^* :=$  multiplicative group of nonzero rationals  
 $U(n) := \{m \in \mathbb{Z}_n \mid \gcd(m, n) = 1\} =$  group of units in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$   
 $Q_8 := \{\pm 1, \pm \mathbf{I}, \pm \mathbf{J}, \pm \mathbf{K}\} =$  quaternion group (non-abelian)  
 where  $\mathbf{1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}$   
 $GL_n(F) := \{A \in M_{n \times n}(F) \mid \det(A) \neq 0\}$  (non-abelian)  
 $SL_n(F) := \{A \in M_{n \times n}(F) \mid \det(A) = 1\}$   
 $SL_n(F)$  is a subgroup of  $GL_n(F)$   
 $T := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| = 1\} =$  circle group
- **Product of finite order matrices can have inf. order:**  
 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \implies A^4 = \mathbf{I} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} : (AB)^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \neq \mathbf{I}$   
 $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \implies B^3 = \mathbf{I}$

## Subgroups

- **Basic subgroup test:** Is subset  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ ?  

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} e_G \in H \\ \text{Binary op. closed in } H \\ \forall h \in H : h^{-1} \in H \end{array} \right\} \iff H \text{ is a subgroup of } G$$
- **Better subgroup test:** Is subset  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ ?  

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} H \neq \emptyset \\ \forall g, h \in H : gh^{-1} \in H \end{array} \right\} \iff H \text{ is a subgroup of } G$$

## Cyclic Groups

- **Definition:**  $G$  is cyclic  $\iff \exists g \in G \text{ s.t. } \langle g \rangle = G$
- **Cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$ :**  $\forall a \in G :$   
 $\langle a \rangle := \{a^k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\} =$  cyclic subgroup generated by  $a$
- Every cyclic group is abelian
- Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic
- **Order of elements:** If  $G = \langle a \rangle$  and  $n = |G| \neq \infty$  then:  
 $\forall 0 \leq k \in \mathbb{Z} : o(a^k) = \frac{n}{\gcd(k, n)}$

- **$n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity**  $= \{z \mid z^n = 1\}$   
 $= \left\{ \cos\left(\frac{2k\pi}{n}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2k\pi}{n}\right) \mid k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\} \right\}$   
primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity = generators of  $\{z \mid z^n = 1\}$   
 $= \left\{ \omega^k \mid \gcd(k, n) = 1 \right\}$  where  $\omega = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right)$

## Permutation Groups

- $S_X :=$  symmetric group (group of all permutations) of the set  $X$ ; any subgroup of  $S_X$  is called a permutation group
- $A_n := \{\sigma \in S_n \mid \sigma \text{ is an even permutation}\}$   
 $=$  alternating group on  $n$  letters
- **Size of alternating group:**  $2 \mid A_n \mid = \mid S_n \mid$
- **Transforming a cycle:**  
 $\sigma = (x_1 \ \dots \ x_n) \implies \tau \sigma \tau^{-1} = (\tau(x_1) \ \dots \ \tau(x_n))$
- $D_n :=$  dihedral group of size  $n =$  group of symmetries of a regular  $n$ -gon  $= \{r^x s^y \mid x \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\} \text{ and } y \in \{0, 1\}\}$   
 where  $r^n = id$  and  $s^2 = id$  and  $srs = r^{-1}$   
 $D_n$  is a subgroup of  $S_n$   
 $D_n = \langle r, s \mid r^n = id \text{ and } s^2 = id \text{ and } srs = r^{-1} \rangle$   
 $(D_n \text{ is generated by } r \text{ and } s \text{ with those relations})$
- **Rigid motions** preserve *orientation*; symmetries need not (a right hand must remain right in a rigid motion)

## Cosets

- **Definition:**  $H$  is any subgroup of  $G. \forall g \in G :$   
Left coset containing  $g = \{gh \mid h \in H\} = gH$   
Right coset containing  $g = \{hg \mid h \in H\} = Hg$
- **Equivalence:**  
 $g_1 H = g_2 H \iff g_1 H \subseteq g_2 H \iff g_1 \in g_2 H \iff g_2^{-1} g_1 \in H$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $H g_1^{-1} = H g_2^{-1} \iff H g_1^{-1} \subseteq H g_2^{-1} \iff g_1^{-1} \in H g_2^{-1} \iff g_1^{-1} g_2 \in H$
- **Index of a subgroup:**  $H$  is any subgroup of  $G :$   
 $[G : H] =$  Index of  $H$  in  $G :=$  number of cosets of  $H$  in  $G$
- **Lagrange theorem:**  $[G : H] = \frac{|G|}{|H|}$     Corollary:  $|H| \mid |G|$   
 Corollary: All groups with prime order are cyclic  
 Corollary: For finite groups  $K \subseteq H \subseteq G :$   
 $[G : K] = [G : H][H : K]$
- **Euler's totient function:**  $\varphi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   
 $n \mapsto \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ \text{num. of } m \text{ s.t. } 1 \leq m \leq n \text{ and } \gcd(m, n) = 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$   
 Note:  $|U(n)| = \varphi(n)$
- **Euler's theorem:**  $\forall a \in \mathbb{Z}, n \in \mathbb{N}$  where  $\gcd(a, n) = 1 :$   
 $a^{\varphi(n)} \equiv 1 \pmod{n}$
- **Fermat's little theorem:**  $\forall p \in$  primes,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $p \nmid a :$   
 $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$

## Cryptography

- **Cryptosystem**  $= (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{D})$   
 (plaintexts, ciphertexts, keyspace, encryption rules, decryption rules)
- **Shift cipher:**  
 $e_k(x) \equiv x + k \pmod{n}$   
 $d_k(y) \equiv y - k \pmod{n}$
- **Affine cipher:**  $key = (a, b)$  where  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$   
 $e_k(x) \equiv ax + b \pmod{n}$   
 $d_k(y) \equiv a^{-1}(y - b) \pmod{n}$
- **Generalized affine cipher:**  $key = (A, \mathbf{b})$  where  
 $A$  is an invertible matrix and  $\mathbf{b}$  is a vector  
 $e_k(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathbf{x}A + \mathbf{b} \pmod{n}$   
 $d_k(\mathbf{y}) \equiv (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b})A^{-1} \pmod{n}$

- **RSA:**  
 Relies on difficulty of determining  $\varphi(n)$  from  $n$ .  
 $n = pq$  (where  $p, q$  are primes)  $\implies \varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1)$   
 public key  $= (n, E)$   
 private key  $= (D)$  } s.t.  $DE \equiv 1 \pmod{\varphi(n)}$   
 $e_k(x) = x^E, d_k(y) = y^D$

## Algebraic Coding Theory

- **Definition:**  
 $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q\} =$  set of symbols = code alphabet  
 A word of length  $n$  over  $A$  is a sequence  $\mathbf{x} = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$   
 where all  $x_i \in A$   
 A block code of length  $n$  over  $A$  is a nonempty subset  $C$  of  $A^n$   
 An element of  $C$  is a codeword of  $C$   
 If  $A = \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{0, 1\}$  then  $C$  is a binary (block) code
- **Triangle inequality:**  $d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \leq d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) + d(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{y})$
- If  $d(C) = m$  then:  $m - 1$  or fewer errors can be detected,  
 and  $\lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor$  or fewer errors can be corrected
- $d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = w(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$
- **Linear code:** The code alphabet is a finite field  $F$ ,  
 and code  $C$  (of length  $n$ ) is a subspace of  $F^n$ ,  
 i.e.  $C$  is nonempty and  $\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in C, \forall a, b \in F : a\mathbf{x} + b\mathbf{y} \in C$   
 - If  $\dim(C) = m$  then  $C$  is called a  $[n, m]$ -code over  $F$   
 - Furthermore if  $d(C) = d$  then  $C$  is a  $[n, m, d]$ -code over  $F$
- **Minimum weight of a code:**  $w(C) := \min_{\mathbf{x} \in C \setminus \{0\}} \{w(\mathbf{x})\}$
- **Generator matrix:**  $G = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{g}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{g}_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & \dots & g_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_{m1} & \dots & g_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \in M_{m \times n}$   
 where  $\{\mathbf{g}_1, \dots, \mathbf{g}_m\}$  is a basis for  $C$   
 Then  $C = \{aG \mid a \in F^m\}$  (i.e. a lin. combin. of rows in  $G$ )
- **Parity-check matrix:**  $H = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{h}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{h}_{n-m} \end{pmatrix} \in M_{(n-m) \times n}$   
 where  $\{\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_{n-m}\}$  is a basis for the nullspace of  $G$   
 Then  $C = \{\mathbf{x} \in F^n \mid H\mathbf{x}^T = \mathbf{0}^T\}$   
 $\exists \mathbf{c} \in C$  where  $w(\mathbf{c}) \leq e \iff$   
 some  $e$  columns of  $H$  are linearly dependent
- **Single-error-correcting code:** In particular,  $C$  can correct any single error  $\iff H$  has no zero column and no two columns of  $H$  are scalar multiple of each other
- **Syndrome:**  $s_H(\mathbf{x}) := (H\mathbf{x}^T)^T \in F^{n-m}$   
 If  $s_H(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  then no error occurred; if  $s_H(\mathbf{x}) = i^{\text{th}}$  column of  $H$ , then a single error occurred at  $i^{\text{th}}$  entry of word
- **Syndrome decoding:**  
 1. Partition  $F^n$  into cosets of  $C$   
 2. Pick the coset leader (the word  $\mathbf{x} \in F^n$  with minimum weight) for each coset  
 3. Compute the syndrome of each coset leader (i.e. syndrome look-up table)  
 4. For each word  $\mathbf{y} \in F^n$  received, use  $s_H(\mathbf{y})$  to search the syndrome look-up table for the associated coset leader  $\mathbf{e}$ , then decode  $\mathbf{y}$  to  $\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{e}$

## Group Isomorphisms

- **Definition:**  
 Bijective mapping where group operation is preserved
- All cyclic groups of infinite order are isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}$
- All cyclic groups of order  $n$  are isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_n$
- **Cayley's theorem:** Every group is isomorphic to a permutation group

## Direct Products

- **External direct product:**  
 $G \times H :=$  external direct product of groups  $G$  and  $H$

- **Order of element in external direct product:**  
 $\forall (g_1, \dots, g_n) \in \prod_{s=1}^n G_s :$   
 $o((g_1, \dots, g_n)) = \text{lcm}\{o(g_1), \dots, o(g_n)\}$
- **Cyclic group and GCD:**  
 $\mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_n \cong \mathbb{Z}_{mn} \iff \gcd(m, n) = 1$
- **Internal direct product:**  
 If  $H, K$  are subgroups of  $G$  s.t.:  
 1.  $G = HK := \{hk \mid h \in H \text{ and } k \in K\}$   
 2.  $H \cap K = \{e\}$   
 3.  $\forall h \in H, \forall k \in K : hk = kh$   
 Then  $G$  is the internal direct product of  $H$  and  $K$
- **Isomorphism:** Given groups  $G$  and  $H :$   
 Internal direct product  $\cong$  External direct product
- **Internal direct product of  $n$  groups:**  
 Given group  $G$  with subgroups  $H_1, \dots, H_n$  s.t.:  
 1.  $G = H_1 \dots H_n := \{h_1 \dots h_n \mid h_s \in H_s \text{ where } s \in \{1, \dots, n\}\}$   
 2.  $H_s \cap (H_1 \dots H_{s-1} H_{s+1} \dots H_n) = \{e\}$  where  $s \in \{1, \dots, n\}$   
 3.  $\forall h_s \in H_s, \forall h_t \in H_t : h_s h_t = h_t h_s$   
 Then  $G$  is the internal direct product of  $H_1, \dots, H_n$

## Normal Subgroups

- **Definition:** Subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is called normal if  
 $\forall g \in G : gH = Hg$   
 In particular: If  $G$  is abelian then all subgroups are normal
- **Equivalence:**  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$   
 $\iff \forall g \in G : gNg^{-1} \subseteq N$   
 $\iff \forall g \in G : gNg^{-1} = N$

## Quotient Groups

- **Definition:** Given a normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G :$   
 $G/N := \{gN \mid g \in G\} = \{Ng \mid g \in G\}$   
 $G/N$  is a group (of order  $[G : N]$ ) with binary operation  
 $(aN)(bN) := abN$   
 $G/N$  is called the quotient group of  $G$  modulo  $N$

## Homomorphisms

- **Definition:** Group operation is preserved
- **Properties of group homomorphisms:**  
 $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  is a group homomorphism :  
 -  $\phi(e_G)$  is the identity in  $H$   
 -  $\forall g \in G : \phi(g^{-1}) = \phi(g)^{-1}$   
 -  $K$  is a subgroup of  $G \implies \phi[K]$  is a subgroup of  $H$   
 -  $L$  is a subgroup of  $H \implies \phi^{-1}[L]$  is a subgroup of  $G$   
 -  $L$  is a normal subgroup  $\implies \phi^{-1}[L]$  is a normal subgroup
- **Kernel:**  $\ker(\phi) := \{g \in G \mid \phi(g) = e_H\} = \phi^{-1}[\{e_H\}] \subseteq G$   
 -  $\ker(\phi)$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$   
 -  $\phi$  is injective  $\iff \ker(\phi) = \{e_G\}$
- **Canonical/Natural homomorphism:**  
 Given a normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G :$   

$$\phi : G \rightarrow G/N$$

$$g \mapsto gN$$
  
 is the canonical/natural homomorphism

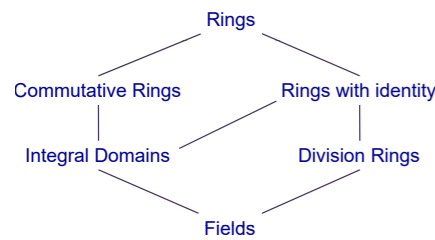
## Isomorphism Theorems

- **First isomorphism theorem:**  
 $\phi : G \rightarrow H$  is a group homomorphism :  $\phi[G] \cong G / \ker(\phi)$
- **Second isomorphism theorem:** Arrow=subgroup:  $\mathbf{G}$   
 $H$  is a (not necessarily normal) subgroup of  $G$ ,  
 and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G :$   
 -  $HN := \{hn \mid h \in H \text{ and } n \in N\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$   
 -  $H \cap N$  is a normal subgroup of  $H$   
 -  $H / (H \cap N) \cong (HN) / N$
- **Third isomorphism theorem:**  
 $H, N$  are normal subgroups of  $G$  s.t.  $N \subseteq H :$   
 -  $H/N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G/N$   
 -  $G/H \cong (G/N) / (H/N)$



## Rings

- Definition:** Abelian group  $R$  with additional properties:
  - Multiplication is associative:  $\forall a, b, c \in R : (ab)c = a(bc)$
  - Addition and multiplication satisfy distributive laws:  $\forall a, b, c \in R : a(b+c) = ab+ac$  and  $(b+c)a = ba+ca$
- Special rings:**
  - Ring with identity:  $\exists 1 \in R$  s.t.  $\forall a \in R : a1 = a = 1a$
  - Commutative ring: multiplication is commutative
  - Integral domain: commutative ring with identity s.t.  $\forall a, b \in R : (ab = 0 \implies a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0)$
  - Division ring: ring with identity s.t.  $\forall a \in R \setminus \{0\} : a$  is a unit (i.e.  $\exists a^{-1} \in R$  s.t.  $aa^{-1} = 1 = a^{-1}a$ )
  - Field: commutative division ring



- Some rings:**  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} : \mathbb{Z}_n$  is commutative ring with identity  
 $n$  is composite  $\implies \mathbb{Z}_n$  is not an integral domain  
 $M_{n \times n}(F)$  is a (non-commutative) ring with identity  
 $Q_8$  is a (non-commutative) division ring  
 $\mathbb{Z} \times 2\mathbb{Z}$  is a ring without identity that has a subring  $\mathbb{Z} \times \{0\}$  with identity  $(1, 0)$
- Zero divisors:** If  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \neq 0$  but  $ab = 0$  then:  $a$  is a left zero divisor and  $b$  is a right zero divisor  
 An element that is both a left and right zero divisor is called a zero divisor

### Subrings

- Definition:** A subring  $S$  or a ring  $R$  is a subset of  $R$  s.t. it is a ring using the same addition and multiplication of  $R$
- Subring test:** Is subset  $S$  a subring of  $R$ ?
 
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S \neq \emptyset \\ \forall r, s \in S : r - s \in S \\ \forall r, s \in S : rs \in S \end{array} \right\} \iff S \text{ is a subring of } R$$

### Cancellation Law

- Let  $D$  is a commutative ring with identity :  
 $D$  is an integral domain  $\iff \forall a, b, c \in D$  with  $a \neq 0 : ab = ac \implies b = c$
- Finite integral domain:** Every finite integral domain is a field

### Characteristic of a Ring

- Definition:**  $\text{char}(R) :=$  smallest  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $\forall a \in R : na = 0$   
 where  $na := \underbrace{a + a + \dots + a}_{n \text{ times}}$   
 If no such  $n$  exists, then  $\text{char}(R) := 0$
- Rings with identity:** In any ring with identity  $R$  :  
 $o(1) = n \neq \infty \implies \text{char}(R) = n$   
 (additive order)
- Integral domain:** In any integral domain  $R$  :  
 $\text{char}(R)$  is prime or zero

## Ring Homomorphisms and Ideals

### Ring Homomorphisms

- Definition:** Addition and multiplication are preserved

- Properties:** Given a ring homomorphism  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  :
  - $\phi[R]$  is a subring of  $S$
  - $R$  is commutative  $\implies \phi[R]$  is commutative
  - $\phi(0_R) = 0_S$
  - Suppose  $R$  and  $S$  have identities  $1_R$  and  $1_S$  resp. :  
 $\phi$  is surjective  $\implies \phi(1_R) = 1_S$
  - Suppose  $R$  is a field :  $\phi[R] \neq \{0\} \implies \phi[R]$  is a field

### Ideals

- Definition:** An ideal  $I$  of a ring  $R$  is a subring of  $R$  s.t.  $\forall r \in R : rI \subseteq I$  and  $Ir \subseteq I$
- Trivial ideals of  $R$ :**  $\{0\}$  and  $R$
- Proper ideals of  $R$ :** All ideals that are not  $R$  itself
- Ideal test:** Is subset  $I$  of  $R$  an ideal?  

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} I \neq \emptyset \\ \forall a, b \in I : a - b \in I \\ \forall a \in I \text{ and } r \in R : ra, ar \in I \end{array} \right\} \iff I \text{ is an ideal}$$
- Principal ideal:** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity : Principal ideal of  $a \in R := aR$  (it is an ideal)
- Ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$ :** Every ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal
- Kernels of ring homomorphisms:** Given any ring homomorphism  $\phi : \ker(\phi)$  is an ideal

### Quotient Rings

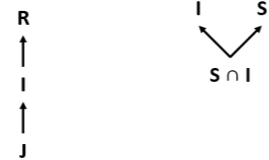
- Definition:** Given any ideal  $I$  of ring  $R$  :  
 $R/I := \{r + I \mid r \in R\}$  is the quotient ring of  $R$  modulo  $I$   
 $R/I$  is a ring with these operations:  
 $(r + I) + (s + I) := (r + s) + I$   
 $(r + I)(s + I) := rs + I$
- Canonical/Natural homomorphism:** Given an ideal  $I$  of  $R$  :  

$$\phi : R \rightarrow R/I$$

$$r \mapsto r + I$$
 is the canonical/natural homomorphism

### Isomorphism Theorems

- First isomorphism theorem:**  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  is a ring homomorphism :  $\phi[R] \cong R/\ker(\phi)$
- Second isomorphism theorem:** Arrow=subring:  $R$   
 $S$  is a subring of  $R$ , and  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$  :  
 $- S + I := \{s + a \mid s \in S \text{ and } a \in I\}$  is a subring of  $R$   
 $- S \cap I$  is an ideal of  $S$   
 $- S/(S \cap I) \cong (S + I)/I$
- Third isomorphism theorem:**  $I, J$  are ideals of  $R$  s.t.  $J \subseteq I$  :  
 $- I/J$  is an ideal of  $R/J$   
 $- R/I \cong (R/J)/(I/J)$



### Maximal and Prime Ideals

- Maximal ideal:** A proper ideal  $M$  of a ring  $R$  is a maximal ideal if  $M$  is not a proper subset of any ideal of  $R$  except  $R$  itself  
 i.e.  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$  s.t.  $M \subseteq I \implies I = M$  or  $I = R$   
 All rings with identity have at least one maximal ideal
- Field from maximal ideal:** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $M$  an ideal of  $R$  :  
 $M$  is a maximal ideal  $\iff R/M$  is a field
- Prime ideal:** A proper ideal  $P$  of a ring  $R$  is a prime ideal if  $\forall a, b \in R : ab \in P \implies a \in P$  or  $b \in P$
- Integral domain from prime ideal:** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $P$  an ideal of  $R$  :  
 $P$  is a prime ideal  $\iff R/P$  is an integral domain
- Maximal  $\rightarrow$  Prime:** Every maximal ideal in a commutative ring with identity is also a prime ideal

- Prime ideal that is not maximal:** Given an integral domain  $R$  that is not a field,  $R[x]/xR[x] \cong R$  is an integral domain that is not a field, so  $xR[x]$  is a prime ideal but not a maximal ideal

### Chinese Remainder Theorem

- Definition:**  $\forall n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}$  with no common factors (i.e.  $\forall s \neq t : \gcd(n_s, n_t) = 1$ ) :  
 Let  $n = n_1 n_2 \dots n_k$ . Then:  

$$\phi : \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_2} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_k}$$

$$x \mapsto (x \pmod{n_1}, x \pmod{n_2}, \dots, x \pmod{n_k})$$
 is an isomorphism  
 $\therefore \mathbb{Z}_n \cong \mathbb{Z}_{n_1} \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_2} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}_{n_k}$

## Polynomials

$R$  is a commutative ring with identity,  $F$  is a field

- Monic:** leading coefficient is 1
- Degree of zero polynomial is  $-\infty$
- $R$  is a commutative ring with identity  $\implies R[x]$  is a commutative ring with identity
- $R$  is an integral domain  $\implies R[x]$  is an integral domain
- Evaluation mapping:**  $\phi_\alpha : R[x] \rightarrow R$   
 $p(x) \mapsto p(\alpha)$

The evaluation mapping is a ring homomorphism

- Division algorithm:**  $\forall f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$  :  
 $\exists! q(x), r(x) \in F[x]$  s.t.  
 $f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x)$  and  $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x))$
- Number of roots:**  $\forall 0 \neq p(x) \in F[x]$   
 $\deg(p(x)) = n \implies p(x)$  has at most  $n$  roots in  $F$
- GCD:** Monic polynomial of highest degree that is a divisor of both polynomials; use the Euclidean algorithm to find
- GCD is linear combination:**  $\forall f(x), g(x) \in F$  :  
 $d(x) = \gcd(f(x), g(x)) \implies \exists a(x), b(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.  $a(x)f(x) + b(x)g(x) = d(x)$
- Reducibility:**  $f(x) \in F[x]$  is reducible over  $F$  if  $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$  for some  $g(x), h(x) \in F[x]$  where  $0 < \deg(g(x)) < \deg(f(x))$  and  $0 < \deg(h(x)) < \deg(f(x))$
- Principal ideals:** Every ideal of  $F[x]$  is principal
- Maximal ideals:**  $\forall p(x) \in F[x]$  (not necessarily monic) :  
 $p(x)F[x]$  is maximal ideal  $\iff p(x)$  is irreducible over  $F$
- Modulo arithmetic:**  $F[x;p(x)] := \{f(x) \in F[x] \mid \deg(f(x)) < \deg(p(x))\}$  (with usual addition, and multiplication modulo  $p(x)$ ) is a commutative ring with identity  
 Furthermore,  $F[x;p(x)] \cong F[x]/p(x)F[x]$
- Algebraic extension of fields:** The polynomial  $x^2 - 2$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . As  $\sqrt{2}$  is a root of  $x^2 - 2$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) := \{a\sqrt{2} + b \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  is an extension field of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

## Finite Fields

- $\mathbb{Z}_p$  is a finite field  $\iff p$  is prime  $\implies \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  is cyclic
- Characteristic** of a finite field is prime
- Order** (num. of elements) of a finite field is a prime power
- Polynomial  $x^q - x$ :** Let  $F$  be a finite field of order  $q$  :  
 $(\forall \beta \in F : \beta^q = \beta)$  and  $\prod_{\beta \in F} (x - \beta) \equiv x^q - x$
- Existence and uniqueness:**  $\forall p \in$  primes and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  : there exists a unique (i.e. isomorphic) finite field of order  $p^k$ , denoted as  $GF(q)$  or  $\mathbb{F}_q$

- Constructing a finite field of order  $p^k$ :**  
 If  $k = 1$ , just take  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}_p$   
 Else:  
 1. Find a monic irreducible polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  of degree  $k$ , i.e.  $f(x) = x^k + r_{k-1}x^{k-1} + \dots + r_1x + r_0$  where  $r_0, r_1, \dots, r_{k-1} \in \mathbb{F}_p$   
 2. Let  $\beta$  be a new element such that  $f(\beta) = 0$ , i.e.  $\beta^k = -(r_{k-1}\beta^{k-1} + \dots + r_1\beta + r_0)$   
 3. Then  $\mathbb{F}_{p^k} = \mathbb{F}_p(\beta) := \{s_{k-1}\beta^{k-1} + \dots + s_1\beta + r_0 \mid s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{k-1} \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$  is a field of order  $p^k$
- Primitive element:** Given a finite field  $F$  :  
 the (multiplicative) group  $F^* := F \setminus \{0\}$  is cyclic  
 A generator of  $F^*$  is called a primitive element of  $F$
- $F$  has order  $q$  and  $\alpha$  is a primitive element of  $F$  :  
 $\prod_{s=0}^{q-2} (x - \alpha^s) \equiv x^{q-1} - 1$
- Primitive polynomial:** Given a finite field  $F_0$  :  
 $f(x) \in F_0[x]$  is a primitive polynomial over  $F$  if:  
 1.  $f(x)$  is irreducible over  $F_0$ , and  
 2.  $\alpha$  is a zero of  $f(x) \implies \alpha$  is a primitive element of  $F_0(\alpha)$

## Cyclic codes

- Definition:**  $C \subseteq F^n$  is a cyclic code if:  
 1.  $C$  is a linear code, and  
 2.  $\mathbf{c} = c_0c_1c_2 \dots c_{n-1}$  is a codeword  $\implies$  cyclic shift  $s(\mathbf{c}) := c_{n-1}c_0c_1 \dots c_{n-2}$  is also a codeword
- Polynomial representation:** A word  $\mathbf{a} = a_0a_1 \dots a_{n-1} \in F^n$  is represented by  $a(x) := a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} \in F[x; x^n - 1]$   
 This mapping is a vector space isomorphism
- Cyclic code  $\leftrightarrow$  ideal:**  $C \subseteq F^n$  is a cyclic code  $\iff C' := \{c(x) \mid \mathbf{c} \in C\}$  is an ideal of  $F[x; x^n - 1]$
- Generator polynomial:** Let  $C \subseteq F^n$  and  $C' := \{c(x) \mid \mathbf{c} \in C\} \subseteq F[x; x^n - 1]$  :  
 $C$  is a cyclic  $[n, k]$ -code  $\iff \exists$  monic  $g(x) \in F[x]$  s.t.  

$$\begin{cases} g(x) \mid x^n - 1 \\ \deg(g(x)) = n - k \\ C' = \{f(x)g(x) \mid f(x) \in F[x] \text{ and } \deg(f(x)) \leq k - 1\} \end{cases}$$
- Given a cyclic code  $C$ , the monic polynomial in  $C'$  with least degree is the generator polynomial
- Constructing cyclic code from generator polynomial:** To construct a cyclic  $[n, k]$ -code  $C$ :  
 1. find a polynomial of degree  $n - k$  that divides  $x^n - 1$   
 2. Use it as the generator polynomial
- Constructing generator and parity check matrices:** Given a generator poly.  $g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-k}x^{n-k}$  with  $\deg(g(x)) = n - k$  :  

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} g(x) \\ xg(x) \\ \vdots \\ x^{k-1}g(x) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-k} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-k} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{n-k} \\ 0 & h_k & h_{k-1} & \dots & h_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & h_k & h_{k-1} & \dots & h_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} h_R(x) \\ xh_R(x) \\ \vdots \\ x^{n-k-1}h_R(x) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} h_k & h_{k-1} & \dots & h_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h_k & h_{k-1} & \dots & h_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & 0 & h_k & h_{k-1} & \dots & h_0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 where  $h(x) := \frac{(x^n - 1)}{g(x)} = h_0 + h_1x + \dots + h_kx^k$  is the parity check polynomial, and  $h_R(x)$  is coef.-reversed monic of  $h(x)$

### Reed-Solomon Codes

- Definition:** Given a finite field  $F$  of order  $q$ , and  $\alpha$  a primitive element of  $F$  :  
 $g(x) := (x - \alpha^{a+1})(x - \alpha^{a+2}) \dots (x - \alpha^{a+\delta-1})$  (where  $2 \leq \delta \leq q - 1$ ) is a generator polynomial (of degree  $\delta - 1$ ) for a cyclic  $[q - 1, q - \delta]$ -code over  $F$   
 It is a Reed-Solomon code, denoted by  $RS(q - 1, q - \delta)$
- Minimum distance:**  $C$  is a Reed-Solomon code  $RS(q - 1, q - \delta)$  :  $d(C) = \delta$