

# Algebraic Number Theory

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# 1 Introduction and Motivations

Most of the ideas in this section will be made more formal and clearer in later sections.

## 1.1 Motivations

**Definition 1.1.** An element  $\alpha$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  is an *algebraic number* if it is a root of a non-zero polynomial with rational coefficients

A *number field* is a subfield  $K$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  that has finite degree (as a vector space) over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We denote the degree by  $[K : \mathbb{Q}]$ .

**Example.** •  $\mathbb{Q}$

- $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$
- $\mathbb{Q}(i) = \{a + bi : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$
- $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^3 - 2)$

Note that every element of a number field is an algebraic number and every algebraic number is an element of some number field. The following is a brief explanation of this.

Let  $K$  be a number field,  $\alpha \in K$ . Then  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \subseteq K$  and we will later see that  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] | [K : \mathbb{Q}] < \infty$ . So there exists a relation between  $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^n$  for some  $n$ . If  $\alpha$  is algebraic then there exists a minimal polynomial  $f$  for which  $\alpha$  is a root.  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \cong \mathbb{Q}[x]/(f)$  has degree  $\deg(f)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Consider  $\mathbb{Z}[i] \subset \mathbb{Q}[i]$ , also called the *Gaussian integers*. A question we may ask, is what prime number  $p$  can be written as the sum of 2 squares? That is  $p = x^2 + y^2 = (x + iy)(x - iy)$ , we “guess” that an odd prime  $p$  is  $x^2 + y^2$  if and only if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . A square is always  $0$  or  $1 \pmod{4}$ , so the sum of two squares is either  $0, 1$  or  $2 \pmod{4}$ . Hence no number that is  $3 \pmod{4}$  is the sum of two squares. Therefore not all numbers that are  $1 \pmod{4}$  can be written as the sum of two squares.

Notice that there exist complex conjugation in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ , that is the map  $a + bi \mapsto a - bi = \overline{a + bi}$  is a ring automorphism. We can define the norm map  $N : \mathbb{Z}[i] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha\bar{\alpha}$ , more explicitly,  $(a + bi) \mapsto (a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 + b^2$ . We will later see that  $N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $K$  be a number field, a element  $\alpha \in K$  is called a *unit* if it is invertible. That is there exists  $\beta \in K$  such that  $\alpha\beta = 1$ .

**Proposition 1.3.** *The units of  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  are  $1, -1, i, -i$*

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  be a unit. Then  $N(\alpha)$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , (since there exists  $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  such that  $\alpha\beta = 1$ , hence  $1 = N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$ ) Now let  $\alpha = a + bi$ , then  $N(\alpha) = a^2 + b^2 = \pm 1$ . Now  $-1$  is not the sum of two squares hence  $\alpha \in \{\pm 1, \pm i\}$   $\square$

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $K$  be a number field, an element  $\alpha \in K$  is *irreducible* if  $\alpha$  is not a unit, and for all  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  with  $\alpha = \beta\gamma$ , we have either  $\beta$  or  $\gamma$  is a unit.

**Fact.**  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a *unique factorization domain*, that is every non-zero elements  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  can be written as a product of irreducible elements in a way that is unique up to ordering and multiplication of irreducible elements by units.

**Theorem 1.5.** *If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  is a prime then there exists  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $p = x^2 + y^2 = (x + iy)(x - iy) = N(x + iy)$*

*Proof.* First we show that there exists  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $p | a^2 + 1$ . Since  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  we have  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = 1$  (see Topics in Number Theory). Let  $a = \frac{p-1}{2}!$ , then  $a^2 = \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)! = 1 \cdot \dots \cdot \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right) \cdot \dots \cdot 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . Hence  $p | a^2 + 1 = (a + i)(a - i)$ .

Is  $p$  irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ? If  $p$  were indeed irreducible, then  $p | (a + i)$  or  $p | (a - i)$ . Not possible since  $a + i = p(c + di) = pc + pdi$  means  $pd = 1$ . So  $p$  must be reducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Let  $p = \alpha\beta$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \notin (\mathbb{Z}[i])^*$  and  $N(p) = p^2 = N(\alpha)N(\beta) \Rightarrow N(\alpha) \neq \pm 1 \neq N(\beta)$ . So  $N(\alpha) = p = N(\beta)$ . Write  $\alpha = x + iy$ , then  $N(\alpha) = p = x^2 + y^2$   $\square$

## 1.2 Finding Integer Solutions

**Problem 1.6.** Determine all integer solution of  $x^2 + 1 = y^3$

*Answer.* First note  $x^2 + 1 = (x+i)(x-i) = y^3$ , we'll use this to show that if  $x+i$  and  $x-i$  are coprime then  $x+i$  and  $x-i$  are cubes in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

Suppose that they have a common factor, say  $\delta$ . Then  $\delta|(x+i) - (x-i) = 2i = (1+i)^2$ . So if  $x+i$  and  $x-i$  are not coprime, then  $(1+i)|(x+i)$ , i.e.,  $(x+i) = (1+i)(a+bi) = (a-b) + (a+b)i$ . Now  $a+b$  and  $a-b$  are either both even or both odd. We also know that  $a+b = 1$ , so they must be both odd, hence  $x$  is odd. Now an odd square is always  $1 \pmod{8}$ . Hence  $x^2 + 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ , so  $x^2 + 1$  is even but not divisible by 8, contradicting the fact that it is a cube.

Hence  $x+i$  and  $x-i$  are coprime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ . So let  $x+i = \epsilon\pi_1^{e_1} \dots \pi_n^{e_n}$  where  $\pi_i$  are distinct up to units. Now  $x-i = \overline{x+i} = \overline{\epsilon}\overline{\pi_1}^{e_1} \dots \overline{\pi_n}^{e_n}$ . So  $(x+i)(x-i) = \epsilon\overline{\epsilon}\pi_1^{e_1} \dots \pi_n^{e_n}\overline{\pi_1}^{e_1} \dots \overline{\pi_n}^{e_n} = y^3$ . Let  $y = \epsilon'q_1^{f_1} \dots q_n^{f_n} \Rightarrow y^3 = \epsilon'^3 q_1^{3f_1} \dots q_n^{3f_n}$ . The  $q_i$  are some rearrangement of  $\pi_i, \overline{\pi_i}$  up to units. Hence we have  $e_i = 3f_j$ , so  $x+i = \text{unit times a cube}$ , (Note in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ,  $\pm 1 = (\pm 1)^3$  and  $\pm i = (\mp i)^3$ ). Hence  $x+i$  is a cube in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

So let  $x+i = (a+ib)^3$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $x+i = a^3 + 3a^2bi - 3ab^2 - b^3i = a^3 - 3ab^2 + (3a^2b - b^3)i$ . Solving the imaginary part we have  $1 = 3a^2b - b^3 = b(3a^2 - b^2)$ . So  $b = \pm 1$  and  $3a^2 - b^2 = 3a^2 - 1 = \pm 1$ . Now  $3a^2 = 2$  is impossible, so we must have  $3a^2 = 0$ , i.e.,  $a = 0$  and  $b = -1$ . This gives  $x = a^3 - 3ab^2 = 0$ .

Hence  $y = 1, x = 0$  is the only integer solution to  $x^2 + 1 = y^3$  □

**Theorem 1.7** (This is False). *The equation  $x^2 + 19 = y^3$  has no solutions in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (Not true as  $x = 18, y = 17$  is a solution since  $18^2 + 19 = 324 + 19 = 343 = 17^3$ )*

*Proof of False Theorem.* This proof is flawed as we will explain later on. (Try to find out where it is flawed)

Consider  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}] = \{a + b\sqrt{-19} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Then we define the conjugation this time to be  $a + b\sqrt{-19} \mapsto a - b\sqrt{-19}$ , and similarly we define a norm function  $N : \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  by  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha\overline{\alpha}$ . Hence  $N(a + b\sqrt{-19}) = a^2 + 19b^2$ . So we have  $x^2 + 19 = (x + \sqrt{-19})(x - \sqrt{-19})$ .

Suppose that these two factors have a common divisor, say  $\delta$ . Then  $\delta|2\sqrt{-19}$ . Now  $\sqrt{-19}$  is irreducible since  $N(\sqrt{-19}) = 19$  which is a prime. If  $2 = \alpha\beta$  with  $\alpha, \beta \notin (\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}])^*$ , then  $N(\alpha)N(\beta) = N(2) = 2^2$ , so  $N(\alpha) = 2$  which is impossible. So 2 is also irreducible. Hence we just need to check where  $2|x + \sqrt{-19}$  or  $\sqrt{-19}|x + \sqrt{-19}$  is possible.

Suppose  $\sqrt{-19}|x + \sqrt{-19}$ , then  $x + \sqrt{-19} = \sqrt{-19}(a + b\sqrt{-19}) = -19b + a\sqrt{-19}$ , so  $a = 1$  and  $19|x$ . Hence  $x^2 + 19 \equiv 19 \pmod{19^2}$ , i.e.,  $x^2 + 19$  is divisible by 19 but not by  $19^2$  so it can't be a cube. Suppose  $2|x + \sqrt{-19}$ , then  $x + \sqrt{-19} = 2a + 2b\sqrt{-19}$ , which is impossible.

Hence we have  $x + \sqrt{-19}$  and  $x - \sqrt{-19}$  are coprime, and let  $x + \sqrt{-19} = \epsilon\pi_1^{e_1} \dots \pi_n^{e_n}$ . Then  $x - 19 = \overline{x + \sqrt{-19}} = \overline{\epsilon}\overline{\pi_1}^{e_1} \dots \overline{\pi_n}^{e_n}$ , so  $(x + \sqrt{-19})(x - \sqrt{-19}) = \epsilon\overline{\epsilon}\pi_1^{e_1} \dots \pi_n^{e_n}\overline{\pi_1}^{e_1} \dots \overline{\pi_n}^{e_n} = y^3$ . If we let  $y = \epsilon'q_1^{f_1} \dots q_n^{f_n}$ , then  $y^3 = \epsilon'^3 q_1^{3f_1} \dots q_n^{3f_n}$ , so the  $q_i$  are some rearrangements of  $\pi_i, \overline{\pi_i}$  up to units. Hence corresponding  $e_i = 3f_i$  and so  $x + \sqrt{-19} = \text{unit times a cube}$ . Now units of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}] = \{\pm 1\}$ .

So  $x + \sqrt{-19} = (a + b\sqrt{-19})^3 = (a^3 - 19ab^2) + (3a^2b - 19b^3)\sqrt{-19}$ . Again comparing  $\sqrt{-19}$  coefficients we have  $b(3a^2 - 19b^2) = 1$ , so  $b = \pm 1$  and  $3a^2 - 19 = \pm 1$ . But  $3a^2 = 20$  is impossible since  $3 \nmid 20$ , and  $3a^2 = 18 = 3 \cdot 6$  is impossible since 6 is not a square. So no solution exists. □

This proof relied on the fact that  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}]$  is a UFD, which it is not. We can see this by considering  $343 = 7^3 = (18 + \sqrt{-19})(18 - \sqrt{-19})$ . Now  $N(7) = 7^2$ . Suppose  $7 = \alpha\beta$  with  $\alpha, \beta \notin (\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}])^*$ . Then  $N(\alpha)N(\beta) = 7^2$ , so  $N(\alpha) = 7$ , but  $N(a + b\sqrt{-19}) = a^2 + 19b^2 \neq 7$ . So 7 is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}]$ . On the other hand  $N(18 + \sqrt{-19}) = 7^3$ , and suppose that  $N(\alpha)N(\beta) = 7^3$ , then without loss of generality  $N(\alpha) = 7$  and  $N(\beta) = 7^2$ . But we have just seen no elements have  $N(\alpha) = 7$ , so  $18 + \sqrt{-19}$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}]$ . The same argument shows that  $18 - \sqrt{-19}$  is also irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-19}]$ .

## 1.3 Pell's Equations

Fix  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  with  $d \neq a^2$  for any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then Pell's equation is  $x^2 - dy^2 = 1$ , with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] = \{a + b\sqrt{d} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . This has an automorphism  $a + b\sqrt{d} \mapsto a - b\sqrt{d} = \overline{a + b\sqrt{d}}$ . (Note that  $\overline{\phantom{x}}$  is just notation, and it does not mean complex conjugation). Again we can define a function called the norm,  $N : \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  defined by  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha\overline{\alpha}$ , and explicitly  $(a + b\sqrt{d}) \mapsto a^2 - db^2$ . Hence Pell's equation comes down to solving  $N(x + y\sqrt{d}) = 1$ .

Now recall that  $\alpha \in \left(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]\right)^*$ , then there exists  $\beta$  such that  $\alpha\beta = 1$ . So  $N(\alpha)N(\beta) = 1$ , so  $N(\alpha) = \pm 1$ . On the other hand if  $N(\alpha) = \pm 1$ , then  $\alpha\bar{\alpha} = \pm 1$ , so  $\pm\bar{\alpha} = \alpha^{-1}$ , hence  $\alpha$  is a unit.

**Example.**  $d = 3$ . Then  $x^2 - 3y^2 = 1 \Rightarrow 3y^2 + 1 = x^2$

$y = 0$        $3y^2 + 1 = 1$ . This is ok, it leads to  $(1, 0)$  which correspond to  $1 \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$

$y = 1$        $3y^2 + 1 = 4$ . This is ok, it leads to  $(2, 1)$  which gives  $2 + \sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$

$y = 2$        $3y^2 + 1 = 13$

$y = 3$        $3y^2 + 1 = 28$

$y = 4$        $3y^2 + 1 = 49$ . This is ok, it leads to  $(7, 4)$  which gives  $7 + 4\sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$

Note that if  $\epsilon$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ , then  $\pm\epsilon^n$  is a unit for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . (For example  $(2 + \sqrt{3})^2 = 2^2 + 2 \cdot 2\sqrt{3} + 3 = 7 + 4\sqrt{3}$ . If  $x, y$  is a solution, then of course  $(-x, -y)$  is a solution as well. Hence there are infinitely many solutions

**Theorem 1.8.** *Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  with  $d \neq a^2$ . Then there exists  $\epsilon_d \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ ,  $\epsilon_d \neq \pm 1$  such that every unit can be written as  $\pm\epsilon_d^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Such an  $\epsilon_d$  is called a Fundamental Unit of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ . If  $\epsilon_d$  is a fundamental unit, then so is  $\pm\epsilon_d^{-1}$ .*

*Proof.* This is a consequence of Dirichlet's Unit Theorem, which we will prove at the end of the course. □

**Example.** We will show that  $\epsilon_3 = 2 + \sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$

Let  $x_1 + y_1\sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$  be a fundamental unit. Without any loss of generality we can assume that  $x_1 \geq 0$ . Now  $(x_1 + y_1\sqrt{3})^{-1} = \frac{x_1 - y_1\sqrt{3}}{(x_1 + y_1\sqrt{3})(x_1 - y_1\sqrt{3})} = \pm(x_1 - y_1\sqrt{3})$ . So without loss of generality we can also assume  $y_1 \geq 0$ .

Put  $x_n + y_n\sqrt{3} = (x_1 + y_1\sqrt{3})^2 = x_1^n + nx_1^{n-1}y_1\sqrt{3} + \dots$ . So  $x_n = x_1^n + \dots \geq x_1^n$  and  $y_n = nx_1^{n-1}y_1$ . If  $x_1 = 0$  then  $3y_1^2 = \pm 1$  which is not possible. Similarly if  $y_1 = 0$  then  $x_1^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x_1 = \pm 1$  and  $\epsilon_3 = \pm 1$  which is impossible by definition. So  $x_1 \geq 1, y_1 \geq 1$ . For  $n \geq 2$ :  $x_n \geq x_1^n \geq x_1$  and  $y_n = nx_1^{n-1}y_1 > ny_1 > y_1$

Conclusion: A solution  $(x, y)$  of  $x^2 - 3y^2 = \pm 1$  with  $y \geq 1$  minimal is a Fundamental unit for  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$ . Hence  $2 + \sqrt{3}$  is a fundamental unit for  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$ , so all solution for  $x^2 + 3y^2 = \pm 1$  are obtained by  $(x, y) = (\pm x_n, \pm y_n)$  where  $x_n + y_n\sqrt{3} = (2 + \sqrt{3})^n$ .

## 2 Fields, Rings and Modules

### 2.1 Fields

**Definition 2.1.** If  $K$  is a field then by a *field extension* of  $K$ , we mean a field  $L$  that contains  $K$ . We will denote this by  $L/K$ .

If  $L/K$  is a field extension, then multiplication of  $K$  on  $L$  defines a  $K$ -vector space structure on  $L$ . The *degree*  $[L : K]$  of  $L/K$  is the dimension  $\dim_K(L)$

**Example.** •  $[K : K] = 1$

- $[\mathbb{C} : \mathbb{R}] = 2$
- $[\mathbb{R} : \mathbb{Q}] = \infty$  (uncountably infinite)

**The Tower Law.** If  $L/K$  and  $M/K$  are fields extensions with  $L \subseteq M$ , then  $[M : K] = [M : L][L : K]$

*Proof.* Let  $\{x_\alpha : \alpha \in I\}$  be a basis for  $L/K$  and let  $\{y_\beta : \beta \in J\}$  be a basis for  $M/L$ . Define  $z_{\alpha\beta} = x_\alpha y_\beta \in M$ . We claim that  $\{z_{\alpha\beta}\}$  is a basis for  $M/K$ .

We show that they are linearly independent. If  $\sum_{\alpha,\beta} a_{\alpha\beta} z_{\alpha\beta} = 0$  with finitely many  $a_{\alpha\beta} \in K$  non-zero. Then  $\sum_\beta (\sum_\alpha a_{\alpha\beta} x_\alpha) y_\beta = 0$ , since the  $y_\beta$  are linearly independent over  $L$  we have  $\sum_\alpha a_{\alpha\beta} x_\alpha = 0$  for all  $\beta$ . Since the  $x_\alpha$  are linearly independent over  $K$  we have  $a_{\alpha\beta} = 0$  for all  $\alpha, \beta$ .

We show spanning. If  $z \in M$ , then  $z = \sum \lambda_\beta y_\beta$  for  $\lambda_\beta \in L$ . For each  $\lambda_\beta = \sum a_{\alpha\beta} x_\alpha$ . So  $z = \sum_\beta (\sum_\alpha a_{\alpha\beta} x_\alpha) y_\beta = \sum_{\alpha,\beta} a_{\alpha\beta} x_\alpha y_\beta = \sum a_{\alpha\beta} z_{\alpha\beta}$ .

So  $\{z_{\alpha\beta}\}$  is a basis for  $M$  over  $K$ , so  $[M : K] = [M : L][L : K]$  □

**Corollary 2.2.** If  $K \subset L \subset M$  are fields with  $[M : K] < \infty$  then  $[L : K] \mid [M : K]$ .

**Definition.**  $L/K$  is called *finite* if  $[L : K] < \infty$

If  $K$  is a field and  $x$  is an indeterminate variable, then  $K(x)$  denotes the field of rational functions in  $x$  with coefficients in  $K$ . That is

$$K(x) = \left\{ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} : f, g \in K[x], g \neq 0 \right\}$$

If  $L/K$  is a field extension,  $\alpha \in L$ . Then  $K(\alpha)$  is the subfield of  $L$  generated by  $K$  and  $\alpha$ .

$$K(\alpha) = \left\{ \frac{f(\alpha)}{g(\alpha)} : f, g \in K[x], g(\alpha) \neq 0 \right\} = \bigcap_{K \subset M \subset L, \alpha \in M} M$$

Let  $L/K$  be a field extension,  $\alpha \in L$ . We say that  $\alpha$  is *algebraic* over  $K$  if there exists a non-zero polynomial  $f \in K[x]$  with  $f(\alpha) = 0$

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $L/K$  be a field extension and  $\alpha \in L$ . Then  $\alpha$  is algebraic over  $K$  if and only if  $K(\alpha)/K$  is a finite extension.

*Proof.*  $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $n = [K(\alpha) : K]$  and consider  $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^n \in K(\alpha)$ . Notice that there are  $n + 1$  of them, so they must be linearly dependent since the dimension of the vector space is  $n$ . So there exists  $a_i \in K$  such that  $a_0 + a_1\alpha + \dots + a_n\alpha^n = 0$  with  $a_i$  not all zero. Hence by definition  $\alpha$  is algebraic.

$\Rightarrow$ ) Assume that there exists  $f \neq 0 \in K[x]$  such that  $f(\alpha) = 0$ , and assume that  $f$  has minimal degree  $n$ . We claim that  $f \in K[x]$  is irreducible.

Suppose that  $f = gh$ , with  $g, h$  non-constant. Then  $0 = f(\alpha) = g(\alpha)h(\alpha)$ , so without loss of generality  $g(\alpha) = 0$ , but  $\deg(g) < \deg(f)$ . This is a contradiction. Let  $f = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$  with  $a_n \neq 0$ . Then  $f(\alpha) = 0 \Rightarrow a_n \alpha^n + \dots + a_0 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha^n = -\frac{1}{a_n}(a_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1} + \dots + a_0)$ . So we can reduce any polynomial expression in  $\alpha$  of degree  $\geq n$  to one of degree  $\leq n - 1$ .

Hence  $K(\alpha) = \left\{ \frac{b_0 + \dots + b_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1}}{c_0 + \dots + c_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1}} : b_i, c_i \in K \right\}$ . Pick  $\frac{b(\alpha)}{c(\alpha)} \in K(\alpha)$ , now  $\deg(c) \leq n - 1 < \deg f$  and  $c(\alpha) \neq 0$ . Hence  $\gcd(c, f) = 1$ , so there exists  $\lambda, \mu \in K[x]$  with  $\lambda(x)c(x) + \mu(x)f(x) = 1$ . In particular  $1 = \lambda(\alpha)c(\alpha) + \mu(\alpha)f(\alpha) = \lambda(\alpha)c(\alpha)$ , hence  $\lambda(\alpha) = \frac{1}{c(\alpha)} \in K[\alpha]$

Any elements of  $K(\alpha)$  is a polynomial in  $\alpha$  of degree  $\leq n - 1$ . So if  $\alpha$  is algebraic over  $K$ , we have just shown that  $K(\alpha) = K[\alpha]$  and  $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}$  is a basis for  $K[\alpha]/K$ , hence  $[K(\alpha) : K] = n$  □

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $L/K$  be a field extension, then the set  $M$  of all  $\alpha \in L$  that are algebraic over  $K$  is a subfield of  $L$  containing  $K$ .

*Proof.* First  $K \subseteq M$ , as  $\alpha \in K$  is a root of  $x - \alpha \in K[x]$

So take  $\alpha, \beta \in M$ , we need to show that  $\alpha - \beta \in M$  and  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \in M$  if  $\beta \neq 0$ . Consider the subfield  $K(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq L$ . Now  $[K(\alpha)(\beta) : K] = [K(\alpha, \beta) : K(\alpha)][K(\alpha) : K]$ . We have  $[K(\alpha)(\beta) : K(\alpha)] \leq [K(\beta) : K]$  since the first one is the degree of the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$  over  $K(\alpha)$ , and  $\beta$  is algebraic, so there is  $f \in K[x] \subset K[\alpha]$  such that  $f(\beta) = 0$ . Now  $\alpha - \beta \in K(\alpha)(\beta)$  and if  $\beta \neq 0$ ,  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \in K(\alpha)(\beta)$ . This implies that  $K(\alpha - \beta) \subseteq K(\alpha, \beta) \Rightarrow [K(\alpha - \beta) : K] \mid [K(\alpha, \beta) : K] < \infty$  and  $K\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right) \subseteq K(\alpha, \beta) \Rightarrow [K\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right) : K] \mid [K(\alpha, \beta) : K] < \infty$ . Hence  $\alpha - \beta$  and  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$  are algebraic over  $K$   $\square$

**Corollary 2.5.** The set of algebraic number is a field. We denote this with  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$

For any subfield  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ , we let  $\overline{K}$  denote the algebraic closure of  $K$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , i.e., the set of  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  that are algebraic over  $K$ .

For example  $\overline{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}(i)$ .

We also conclude that  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \cup_{K \text{ number field}} K$ . Also  $[\overline{\mathbb{Q}} : \mathbb{Q}] = \infty$  so  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  itself is not a number field.

## 2.2 Rings and Modules

In this course we use the following convention for rings. Every ring  $R$  is assumed to be commutative and has 1. We also allow 1 to be 0, in which case  $R = 0 = \{0\}$ . A ring homomorphism  $\phi : R \rightarrow S$  is assumed to send  $1_R$  to  $1_S$ . A subring  $R$  of a ring  $S$  is assumed to satisfy  $1_R = 1_S$

**Example.** Let  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  be two non-zero rings. Then we have a ring  $R = R_1 \times R_2$  with  $1_R = (1_{R_1}, 1_{R_2})$ . Note that  $R'_1 = R_1 \times \{0\} \subset R$  is a ring, but  $1'_{R_1} = (1, 0) \neq 1_R$  so  $R'_1$  is not a subring of  $R$ . Finally  $\phi : R_1 \rightarrow R$  defined by  $r \mapsto (r, 0)$  is not a ring homomorphism.

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $R$  be a ring then a *module* over  $R$  is an abelian group  $M$  with scalar multiplication by  $R$ , satisfying

- $1 \cdot m = m$
- $(r + s)m = rm + sm$
- $r(m + n) = rm + rn$
- $(rs)m = r(sm)$

For all  $r, s \in R, m, n \in M$

An *homomorphism* of  $R$ -modules is a homomorphism of abelian group that satisfies  $\phi(rm) = r\phi(m)$  for all  $r \in R, m \in M$

**Example.** If  $R$  is a field, then modules are the same as vector spaces.

Any ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is an  $R$ -module

Any quotient  $R/I$  is an  $R$ -module

If  $R \subseteq S$  are both rings, then  $S$  is an  $R$ -module

Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ . Then any abelian group is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module

**Definition 2.7.** A module is *free of rank  $n$*  if it is isomorphism to  $R^n$ .

**Theorem 2.8.** If  $R \neq 0$ , the rank of a free module over  $R$  is uniquely determined, i.e.,  $R^m \cong R^n \Rightarrow m = n$

*Proof.* This is not proven in this module  $\square$

**Definition 2.9.** If  $R$  is a ring then an  $R$ -module  $M$  is *finite* if it can be generated by finitely many elements.

**Example.**  $R = \mathbb{Z}, M = \mathbb{Z}[i]$  is finite with generators 1 and  $i$

$R = \mathbb{Z}[2i], M = \mathbb{Z}[i]$ . This is also finite with generators 1 and  $i$ , but it is not free.

$R = \mathbb{Z}, M = \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1}{2}\right] = \left\{\frac{n}{2^m} : x \in \mathbb{Z}, m \geq 0\right\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ . This is not finite as any finite set has a maximum power of 2 occurring in the denominator.

## 2.3 Ring Extensions

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $R$  be a ring, then a *ring extension* of  $R$  is a ring  $S$  that has  $R$  as a subring.

A ring extension  $R \subset S$  is *finite* if  $S$  is finite as an  $R$ -module

Let  $R \subset S$  be a ring extension,  $s \in S$ . Then  $s$  is said to be *integral* over  $R$  if there exists a monic polynomial  $f = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 \in R[x]$  with  $f(s) = 0$

**Theorem 2.11.** Let  $R \subset S$  be a ring extension,  $s \in S$ . Then the following are equivalent:

1.  $s$  is integral over  $R$
2.  $R[s]$  is a finite extension of  $R$
3. There exists a ring  $S'$  such that  $R \subset S' \subset S$ ,  $S'$  is finite over  $R$  and  $s \in S'$

*Proof.* Not proven in this modules. Some of these are obvious. (See Commutative Algebra Theorem 4.2)  $\square$

**Theorem 2.12.** If  $R \subset S$  is a ring extension, then the set  $S'$  of  $s \in S$  that are integral over  $R$  is a ring extension of  $R$  inside  $S$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $R \subseteq S'$  since  $r \in R$  is a root of  $x - r \in R[x]$ .

Given  $s_1, s_2 \in S'$  we want to prove that  $s_1 - s_2, s_1 s_2 \in S'$ . We have  $R \subset R[s_1] \subset R[s_1, s_2] \subset S$ , now the first ring extension is finite since  $s_1$  is integral over  $R$ . We also have  $s_2$  is integral over  $R$  so in particular it is integral over  $R[s_1]$ . Take the generators for  $R[s_1]$  as an  $R$ -module:  $1, \dots, s_1^m$  and take the generators for  $R[s_1, s_2]$  as an  $R[s_1]$ -module:  $1, \dots, s_2^n$ . Then  $\{s_1^i s_2^j : 1 \leq j \leq n, 1 \leq i \leq m\}$  is a set of generators for  $R[s_1, s_2]$  as an  $R$ -module. Hence we conclude that  $R[s_1, s_2]$  is a finite extension of  $R$ . Now  $s_1 - s_2, s_1 s_2 \in R[s_1, s_2]$ . So if we apply the previous theorem, we have  $s_1 - s_2, s_1 s_2$  are integral over  $R$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.13.** Let  $R \subset S$  be an extension of rings, then the ring of  $R$  integral elements of  $S$  is called the *integral closure* of  $R$  in  $S$

Given an extension of rings  $R \subset S$  then we say that  $R$  is *integrally closed* in  $S$  if the integral closure of  $R$  in  $S$  is  $R$  itself

**Theorem 2.14.** Let  $R \subset S$  be a ring extension and let  $R' \subset S$  be the integral closure of  $R$  in  $S$ . Then  $R'$  is integrally closed in  $S$ .

*Proof.* Take  $s \in S$  integral over  $R'$ . We want to show that  $s$  is integral over  $R$ . Take  $f = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 \in R'[x]$  with  $f(s) = 0$ . Consider a subring of  $R \subset R[a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}] \subset R'$ . Now  $R \subset R[a_0] \subset R[a_0, a_1] \subset \dots \subset R[a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}]$ . Now  $f \in R[a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}][x]$ . So  $s$  is integral over  $R[a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}]$ , hence  $R[a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}][s]$  is finite over  $R[a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}]$  and hence finite over  $R$ . So by Theorem 2.12, we have that  $s$  is integral over  $R$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.15.** An element  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  is an *algebraic integer* if it is integral over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

The ring of algebraic integers is denoted by  $\overline{\mathbb{Z}}$

If  $K$  is a number field, then the *ring of integers* in  $K$  is denoted  $\mathcal{O}_K = \overline{\mathbb{Z}} \cap K =$  integral closure of  $\mathbb{Z}$  in  $K$ .

**Example.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}$ . Take  $p/q \in \mathbb{Q}$  integral over  $\mathbb{Z}$  (assume that  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$ ), then there exists  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  such that  $f(p/q) = 0$ . So  $x - p/q$  is a factor of  $f$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ , but Gauss' Lemma states "if  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is monic and  $f = g \cdot h$  with  $g, h \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  then  $g, h \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ". So  $x - p/q \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , that is  $p/q \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{Z}$ .

Consider  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ , with  $d \neq 1$  and  $d$  is square free. Consider  $\alpha \in K$ ,  $\alpha = a + b\sqrt{d}$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$  and suppose that  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer. Assume that  $\deg(\alpha) = 2$ , that is the minimum monic polynomial  $f$  of  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  has degree 2. Then by Gauss, we know  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[z]$ , furthermore  $f = (x - (a + b\sqrt{d}))(x - (a - b\sqrt{d})) = x^2 - 2ax + a^2 - db$ . So we want  $2a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a^2 - db \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

So  $2a \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow a = \frac{a'}{2}$  with  $a' \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $a^2 - b^2 d = \left(\frac{a'}{2}\right)^2 - b^2 d = (a')^2 - d(2b)^2 \in 4\mathbb{Z}$ . So (using the fact that  $d$  is square-free)  $d(2b)^2 \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow 2b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(a')^2 \equiv d(b')^2 \pmod{4}$ . So we conclude:

- If  $a'$  is even, then  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so  $b'$  is even and thus  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$
- If  $a'$  is odd, then  $(a')^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , so  $b'$  is odd as well and  $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

We have just proven the following:

**Theorem 2.16.** Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ , with  $d \neq 1$  and square free. Then  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})} = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] & d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right] & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$

**Theorem 2.17.** Let  $R$  be a UFD. Then  $R$  is integrally closed in its fraction field (the converse does not hold)

*Proof.* Take  $s = \frac{r_1}{r_2}$  integral over  $R$ , and assume that  $r_1, r_2$  are coprime (well defined since  $R$  is a UFD), we have to show that  $r_2 \in R^*$ .

If  $r_2 \notin R^*$ , then let  $\pi \in R$  be any factor of  $r_2$ . Now  $s$  is integral, so there exists  $a_i$  and  $n$  such that  $s^n + a_{n-1}s^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0$ . Multiplying through by  $r_2^n$  we have  $r_1^n + a_{n-1}r_1^{n-1}r_2 + \dots + a_0r_2^n = 0$ . Now since  $r_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{\pi}$ , if we take mod both side we have  $r_1^n \equiv 0 \pmod{\pi}$ . Hence  $\pi|r_1^n \Rightarrow \pi|r_1$ . This is a contradiction.  $\square$

The converse of this theorem is not true, as an example  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})} = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is integrally closed but not a UFD since  $6 = 2 \cdot 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$



### 3 Norms, Discriminants and Lattices

#### 3.1 Conjugates, Norms and Traces

**The Theorem of Primitive Elements.** Any number field  $K$  can be generated by a single elements  $\theta \in K$ . That is  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$

*Proof.* See any courses in Galois Theory □

Consider a number field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ . This  $\theta$  has a monic minimal polynomial, say  $f_\theta \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ . We can factor  $f_\theta$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ , say  $f_\theta = (x - \theta_1)(x - \theta_2) \dots (x - \theta_n)$ , where  $\theta_1 = \theta$  and all the  $\theta_i$  are distinct. For each  $i$  we have a field embedding, which we denote  $\sigma_i : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by  $\theta \mapsto \theta_i$ . These are all possible embedding of  $K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$

**Example.**  $K = \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]$ , then  $f_\theta = x^2 - d = (x - \sqrt{d})(x + \sqrt{d})$ . So we have  $\sigma_1 = \text{id}$  and  $\sigma_2 = a + b\sqrt{d} \mapsto a - b\sqrt{d}$   
 $K = \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$ , then  $f_\theta = x^3 - 2 = (x - \sqrt[3]{2})(x - \zeta_3 \sqrt[3]{2})(x - \zeta_3^2 \sqrt[3]{2})$  where  $\zeta_3 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}$  a third root of unity. So we have:

- $\sigma_1 : \sqrt[3]{2} \mapsto \sqrt[3]{2}$  (i.e., the identity map),
- $\sigma_2 : \sqrt[3]{2} \mapsto \zeta_3 \sqrt[3]{2}$
- $\sigma_3 : \sqrt[3]{2} \mapsto \zeta_3^2 \sqrt[3]{2}$

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $K$  be a number field and  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  all the embeddings  $K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\alpha \in K$ . Then the elements  $\sigma_i(\alpha)$  are called the *conjugates* of  $\alpha$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $K$  be a number field,  $n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ . Take  $\alpha \in K$ , consider the multiplication by  $\alpha$  as a linear map from the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space  $K$  to itself. That is  $\alpha : K \rightarrow K$  is defined by  $\beta \mapsto \alpha\beta$ . Then the characteristic polynomial of this map is equal to  $P_\alpha(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \sigma_i(\alpha))$

*Proof.* Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$  and consider the basis:  $1, \theta, \theta^2, \dots, \theta^{n-1}$ . Let  $M_\alpha$  be the matrix that describes the linear map  $\alpha$  relative to this basis.

First consider  $\alpha = \theta$ . Let  $f_\theta = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ . Then we have

$$M_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & -a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

We now calculated the characteristic polynomial of  $M_\theta$ :

$$\det(X \cdot I_n - M_\theta) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_0 \\ -1 & x & \dots & 0 & a_1 \\ 0 & -1 & \dots & 0 & a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & x + a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \sum a_k x^k$$

Hence the characteristic polynomial of  $M_\theta = f_\theta = \prod_{i=1}^n (x - \sigma_i(\theta))$  as required. Hence we know from Linear Algebra that there exists an invertible matrix  $A$  such that:

$$M_\theta = A \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\theta) & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2(\theta) & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \sigma_n(\theta) \end{pmatrix} A^{-1}$$

Now note that  $M_{\alpha\pm\beta} = M_\alpha \pm M_\beta$  and  $M_{\alpha\beta} = M_\alpha M_\beta$  (basic linear algebra). So if we have a polynomial  $g \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , then  $M_{g\alpha} = g(M_\alpha)$ . Now we can write any  $\alpha \in K$  as  $g(\theta)$  for some  $g \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_\alpha = g(M_\theta) &= A \begin{pmatrix} g(\sigma_1(\theta)) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & g(\sigma_2(\theta)) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & g(\sigma_n(\theta)) \end{pmatrix} A^{-1} \\ &= A \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(g(\theta)) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2(g(\theta)) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_n(g(\theta)) \end{pmatrix} A^{-1} \\ &= A \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\alpha) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2(\alpha) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_n(\alpha) \end{pmatrix} A^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the characteristic polynomial of  $M_\alpha$  is  $\prod_{i=1}^n (x - \sigma_i(\alpha))$  as required.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** For  $\alpha \in K$ , the coefficients of  $\prod_{i=1}^n (x - \sigma_i(\alpha))$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $K$  be a number field,  $\alpha \in K$ . We define the *norm* of  $\alpha$  as  $N(\alpha) = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Corollary 3.5.**  $N(\alpha) = \det(\cdot\alpha) = \det(M_\alpha)$

We can see that the norm is a multiplicative function, i.e.,  $N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$ .

**Definition 3.6.** Let  $K$  be a number field and  $\alpha \in K$ . We define the *trace* of  $\alpha$  as  $\text{Tr}(\alpha) = \text{Tr}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Corollary 3.7.**  $\text{Tr}(\alpha) = \text{Tr}(\cdot\alpha) = \text{Tr}(M_\alpha)$

We can see that the trace is an additive function, i.e.,  $\text{Tr}(\alpha + \beta) = \text{Tr}(\alpha) + \text{Tr}(\beta)$ .

**Example.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ . Then we have:

- $\text{Tr}(a + b\sqrt{d}) = (a + b\sqrt{d}) + (a - b\sqrt{d}) = 2a$
- $N(a + b\sqrt{d}) = (a + b\sqrt{d})(a - b\sqrt{d}) = a^2 - db^2$

Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$  and recall that  $x^3 - 2 = (x - \sqrt[3]{2})(x - \zeta_3 \sqrt[3]{2})(x - \zeta_3^2 \sqrt[3]{2})$  where  $\zeta_3 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}$  a third root of unity. Then we have:

- $\text{Tr}(a + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c\sqrt[3]{4}) = 3a + b\sqrt[3]{2}(1 + \zeta_3 + \zeta_3^2) + c\sqrt[3]{4}(1 + \zeta_3 + \zeta_3^2) = 3a$
- $N(a + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c\sqrt[3]{4}) = (a + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c\sqrt[3]{4})(a + b\zeta_3 \sqrt[3]{2} + c\zeta_3^2 \sqrt[3]{4})(a + b\zeta_3^2 \sqrt[3]{2} + c\zeta_3 \sqrt[3]{4}) = a^3 + 2b^2 + 4c^3 + 6abc$

## 3.2 Discriminant

**Definition 3.8.** Let  $K$  be a number field and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  be a basis for  $K$ . Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be all the embeddings. The *discriminant* of  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is defined as

$$\left( \det \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1(\alpha_1) & \sigma_1(\alpha_2) & \cdots & \sigma_1(\alpha_n) \\ \sigma_2(\alpha_1) & \sigma_2(\alpha_2) & \cdots & \sigma_2(\alpha_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_n(\alpha_1) & \sigma_n(\alpha_2) & \cdots & \sigma_n(\alpha_n) \end{pmatrix} \right)^2$$

We denote this by  $\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  or by  $\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$

**Theorem 3.9.** *We have*

$$\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \det \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(\alpha_1\alpha_1) & \text{Tr}(\alpha_1\alpha_2) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\alpha_1\alpha_n) \\ \text{Tr}(\alpha_2\alpha_1) & \text{Tr}(\alpha_2\alpha_2) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\alpha_2\alpha_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(\alpha_n\alpha_1) & \text{Tr}(\alpha_n\alpha_2) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\alpha_n\alpha_n) \end{pmatrix}$$

*Proof.* Let  $M = (\sigma_i(\alpha_j))_{ij}$ . Then we have  $\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \det(M)^2 = \det(M^2) = \det(M^T M)$ . But note that the entries of  $M^T M$  at  $(i, j)$  is  $\sum_{k=1}^n \sigma_k(\alpha_i) \cdot \sigma_k(\alpha_j) = \sum_{k=1}^n \sigma_k(\alpha_i \alpha_j) = \text{Tr}(\alpha_i \alpha_j)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.10.** *We have  $\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{Q}$*

**Theorem 3.11.** *We have  $\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \neq 0$*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = 0$ . Then there exists not all zero  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(\alpha_1\alpha_1) \\ \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(\alpha_n\alpha_1) \end{pmatrix} + \cdots +$

$$c_n \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(\alpha_n\alpha_1) \\ \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(\alpha_n\alpha_n) \end{pmatrix} = 0. \text{ Hence } \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(\alpha_1 \sum c_j \alpha_j) \\ \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(\alpha_n \sum c_j \alpha_j) \end{pmatrix} = 0. \text{ Put } \alpha = \sum c_j \alpha_j, \text{ we have just shown that } \text{Tr}(\alpha_i \alpha) = 0 \forall i.$$

But we have that  $\alpha_i$  forms a basis for  $K$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , hence  $\text{Tr}(\beta\alpha) = 0 \forall \beta \in K$ . We have  $\alpha \neq 0$ , so let  $\beta = \alpha^{-1}$ , then  $\text{Tr}(\beta\alpha) = \text{Tr}(1) = n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$  which is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Definition 3.12.** The map  $K \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  defined by  $(\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \text{Tr}(\alpha\beta)$  is known as the *trace pairing* on  $K$ . It is bilinear.

Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ , this has basis  $1, \dots, \theta^{n-1}$ . In general  $\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & \cdots & x_1^{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & x_n^2 & \cdots & x_n^{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$  is called a *Vandemonde*

*determinant* and it is equal to  $\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_j - x_i)$ . (See Linear Algebra or Algebra I for a proof by induction). So in our case,  $\Delta(1, \theta, \dots, \theta^{n-1}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\sigma_i(\theta) - \sigma_j(\theta))^2$ . Also note that  $\Delta(f_\theta) := \Delta(1, \theta, \dots, \theta^{n-1})$ . (Generally, if  $f = (x - \alpha_1) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$  then  $\Delta(f) := \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)^2$ , check with the definition of a discriminant of a quadratic)

**Example.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ . Consider the basis  $1, \sqrt{d}$ . We calculate the discriminant in two ways:

- $\Delta(1, \sqrt{d}) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{d} \\ 1 & -\sqrt{d} \end{pmatrix}^2 = (-2\sqrt{d})^2 = 4d$
- $\Delta(1, \sqrt{d}) = \det \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(1) & \text{Tr}(\sqrt{d}) \\ \text{Tr}(\sqrt{d}) & \text{Tr}(d) \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2d \end{pmatrix} = 4d$

Now consider the basis  $1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}$ . Then  $\Delta(1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}) = (-\sqrt{d})^2 = d$

Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{d})$ , with basis  $1, \sqrt[3]{d}, \sqrt[3]{d^2}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(1, \sqrt[3]{d}, \sqrt[3]{d^2}) &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(1) & \text{Tr}(\sqrt[3]{d}) & \text{Tr}(\sqrt[3]{d^2}) \\ \text{Tr}(\sqrt[3]{d}) & \text{Tr}(\sqrt[3]{d^2}) & \text{Tr}(d) \\ \text{Tr}(\sqrt[3]{d^2}) & \text{Tr}(d) & \text{Tr}(\sqrt[3]{d}) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3d \\ 0 & 3d & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -27d^2 \end{aligned}$$

### 3.3 Lattices

**Definition 3.13.** Let  $K$  be a number field. A *lattice*  $\Lambda$  in  $K$  is a subgroup generated by  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linearly independent elements of  $K$ . That is  $\Lambda = \{n_1\alpha_1 + \dots + n_r\alpha_r \mid n_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  where  $\alpha_i$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We always have  $r \leq [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ . The number  $r$  is called the *rank* of the lattice, this is sometimes denoted  $\text{rk}(\Lambda)$ .

**Example.**  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a lattice in  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$

**Theorem 3.14.** Any finitely generated subgroup of a number field  $K$  is a lattice.

*Proof.* Let  $\Lambda$  be a finitely generated subgroup of  $K$ . By the Fundamental Theorem of Finitely Generated Abelian Group, we have  $\Lambda \cong T \oplus \mathbb{Z}^r$ , where  $T$  is the torsion. As  $K$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space, we have  $T = 0$ , so  $\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}^r$ . Let  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}^r \rightarrow \Lambda$  be an isomorphism.

Claim:  $\alpha_i = \phi(e_i)$  is a basis (i.e., linearly independent generating set) for  $\Lambda$ , where  $e_i$  is the standard basis for  $\mathbb{Z}^r$ . Now  $\phi(c_1, \dots, c_r) = \sum_{i=1}^r c_i \alpha_i$ . Since  $\phi$  is surjective, all elements of  $\Lambda$  are reached. If  $\sum c_i \alpha_i = 0$  for  $c_i \in \mathbb{Q}$  multiply  $c_i$  by the common denominator, then without loss of generality, we can assume  $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . But we know that  $\phi$  is injective, so for all  $i$ ,  $c_i = 0$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.15.** A lattice of  $K$  is said to be *full rank* if its rank  $r = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$

**Theorem 3.16.** Let  $\Lambda \subseteq K$  be a full rank lattice. Then  $\Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$  is the same for every basis  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  of  $\Lambda$

*Proof.* Suppose  $(\alpha_i)_i$  and  $(\beta_i)_i$  are basis for  $\Lambda$ . Then each  $\beta_i$  can be written as a linear combination of  $\alpha_j$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , i.e.  $\begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_r \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_r \end{pmatrix}$  with  $A$  an  $r \times r$  matrix with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Similarly  $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_r \end{pmatrix} = B \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_r \end{pmatrix}$ .

Hence we have  $AB = I_r$ , so  $A \in \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{Z})$ , so  $\det(A) = \pm 1$ . Put  $S = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(\alpha_1\alpha_1) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\alpha_1\alpha_r) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(\alpha_r\alpha_1) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\alpha_r\alpha_r) \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Tr}(\beta_1\beta_1) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\beta_1\beta_r) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{Tr}(\beta_r\beta_1) & \cdots & \text{Tr}(\beta_r\beta_r) \end{pmatrix} = A^T S A$ . (Base change for matrices describing symmetric bilinear forms, see Algebra I)

So we have  $\Delta(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_r) = \det(A^T S A) = \det(A^2) \det(S) = \det(S) = \Delta(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$   $\square$

**Definition 3.17.** Let  $\Lambda \subset K$  be a full rank lattice, then we define  $\Delta(\Lambda)$  to be the discriminant of any basis of  $\Lambda$ .

**Theorem 3.18.** Let  $K$  be a number field and  $\Lambda \subset K$  be a full rank lattice with  $\Lambda \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ . Then  $\Delta(\Lambda) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* We have  $\Delta(\Lambda) = \det((\text{Tr}(\alpha_i\alpha_j))_{ij})$  with  $\alpha_i \in \mathcal{O}_K$ . If  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ , then  $\text{Tr}(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(\alpha) \in \bar{\mathbb{Z}} \cap \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence  $\Delta(\Lambda) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.19.** Let  $K$  be a number field and  $\Lambda \subset \Lambda'$  be two full rank lattices. Then the index  $(\Lambda' : \Lambda)$  is finite and  $\Delta(\Lambda) = (\Lambda' : \Lambda)^2 \Delta(\Lambda')$

*Proof.* All the elements of  $\Lambda$  can be written as an integral linear combination of some chosen basis of  $\Lambda'$ . So there exists  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $\Lambda = A\Lambda'$ . Consider  $\Lambda'/\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}^n/A\mathbb{Z}^n$ , this is a finitely generated abelian group so by FTFGAG  $\Lambda'/\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}/d_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}/d_m\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^r$  with  $d_1|d_2|\dots|d_m$ . So (by Smith Normal Form from Algebra I) there

exists  $B, B' \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  with  $BAB' = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & d_n \end{pmatrix}$ . As we have  $\text{rk}(\Lambda') = \text{rk}(\Lambda)$ , we have that  $r = 0$ , and

thus  $\det(A) = d_1 \dots d_m = |\mathbb{Z}^n/A\mathbb{Z}^n| = (\Lambda' : \Lambda)$ .

Furthermore  $\Delta(\Lambda) = \Delta(A\Lambda') = (\det A)^2 \Delta(\Lambda')$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.20.** Let  $K$  be a number field with  $n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ . Then there exists a basis  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  of  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}\omega_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}\omega_n = \{\sum a_i \omega_i \mid a_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . (That is  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a full rank lattice in  $K$ )

*Proof.* We consider all  $\Lambda \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  that are full rank lattices in  $K$ .

The first question is: do such  $\Lambda$  exist? Write  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ ,  $\theta \in K$  and  $f_\theta = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0$  with  $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Now let  $d$  be a common denominator of the  $a_i$ , then  $d\theta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ . Also note that  $\mathbb{Q}(\theta) = \mathbb{Q}(d\theta)$ , so without loss of generality we can assume  $\theta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ . Then  $\mathbb{Z}[\theta] \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ , furthermore  $1, \theta, \dots, \theta^{n-1}$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , hence  $\mathbb{Z}[\theta]$  is a full rank lattice.

Of all such  $\Lambda$ , we have that  $\Delta(\Lambda) \in \mathbb{Z}$  (by Theorem 3.18). So consider  $\Lambda$  with  $|\Delta(\Lambda)|$  minimal. Claim:  $\Lambda = \mathcal{O}_K$ .

Suppose  $\Lambda \neq \mathcal{O}_K$ . We do have  $\Lambda \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ , so take  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \Lambda$ . Then  $\Lambda' := \Lambda + \mathbb{Z}\alpha$  is finitely generated as an abelian group of  $K$  and thus  $\Lambda'$  is a lattice of full rank. Also  $\Lambda' \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ . But we have  $|\Delta(\Lambda)| = (\Lambda' : \Lambda)^2 |\Delta(\Lambda)|$ , and since  $\Lambda \neq \Lambda'$ , we find  $|\Delta(\Lambda)| > |\Delta(\Lambda')|$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Definition 3.21.** The *discriminant of a number field*  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  is defined as  $\Delta(K/\mathbb{Q}) = \Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)$

**Example.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  with  $d \neq 1$  and square free. Then  $\Delta(K/\mathbb{Q}) = \Delta(\mathcal{O}_K) = \begin{cases} 4d & d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ d & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$

Note that if  $\Lambda \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  is a full rank sublattice, then  $\Delta(\Lambda) = (\mathcal{O}_K : \Lambda)^2 \Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)$  by Theorem 3.19

**Corollary 3.22.** If  $\Lambda \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  and  $\Delta(\Lambda)$  is square free then  $\Lambda = \mathcal{O}_K$ .

## 4 Cyclotomic Fields

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Then the  $n$ -cyclotomic field is  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$  where  $\zeta_n = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$

For simplicity we are going to assume that  $n = p^r$  with  $p$  being a prime.

**Theorem 4.2.** The minimal polynomial of  $\zeta_{p^r}$  is

$$\Phi_{p^r} = \prod_{k=1, p \nmid k}^{p^r} (x - \zeta_{p^r}^k)$$

*Proof.* First note that  $\Phi_{p^r}(\zeta_{p^r}) = 0$

In general,  $\prod_{k=1}^n (x - \zeta_n^k) = x^n - 1$ . We see this by noticing that every zero of the LHS is a zero of the RHS, the degree of both sides are the same and they both have the same leading coefficients. Consider

$$\Phi_{p^r} = \prod_{k=1, p \nmid k}^{p^r} (x - \zeta_{p^r}^k) = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^{p^r} (x - \zeta_{p^r}^k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{p^{r-1}} (x - \zeta_{p^r}^{pk})}$$

and notice that  $\zeta_{p^r}^p = \zeta_{p^{r-1}}$ . This means we can rewrite

$$\Phi_{p^r} = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^{p^r} (x - \zeta_{p^r}^k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{p^{r-1}} (x - \zeta_{p^{r-1}}^k)} = \frac{x^{p^r} - 1}{x^{p^{r-1}} - 1} = x^{(p-1)p^{r-1}} + x^{(p-2)p^{r-1}} + \dots + 1$$

Hence we have  $\Phi_{p^r} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

We finally show that  $\Phi_{p^r}$  is irreducible. Suppose that  $\Phi_{p^r} = fg$  with  $f, g \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $f, g$  are both monic and non constant. Consider this mod  $p$ , we have

$$\Phi_{p^r} \equiv \frac{x^{p^r} - 1}{x^{p^{r-1}} - 1} \equiv \frac{(x-1)^{p^r}}{(x-1)^{p^{r-1}}} \equiv (x-1)^{(p-1)(p^{r-1})} \pmod{p}$$

(using Fermat's Little Theorem). Let  $\bar{f}, \bar{g}$  denote the reduction of  $f, g \pmod{p}$ , hence we have  $\bar{f}\bar{g} = (x-1)^{(p-1)p^{r-1}} \pmod{p}$ . Now  $\mathbb{F}_p$  is a UFD, so we have  $\bar{f} = (x-1)^m$  and  $\bar{g} = (x-1)^k$  such that  $m+k = (p-1)p^{r-1}$ . Hence we have  $f = (x-1)^m + pF$  and  $g = (x-1)^k + pG$  for some  $F, G \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , that is,  $fg = (x-1)^{m+k} + p(x-1)^k F + p(x-1)^m G + p^2 FG$ .

Now consider  $x = 1$ , we get  $f(1)g(1) = p^2 F(1)G(1)$  on one hand and  $\Phi_{p^r}(1) = 1^{(p-1)p^{r-1}} + \dots + 1 = p$  on the other hand. But  $p^2 \nmid p$ , so we have a contradiction and  $\Phi_{p^r}$  is irreducible.  $\square$

Note that  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_{p^r}] \subset \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p^r})}$ .

**Problem.** What is  $\Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_{p^r}])$ ?

Let us denote  $\zeta_{p^r}$  by  $\zeta$ . By definition we have

$$|\Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\zeta])| = \left| \prod_{k=1, p \nmid k}^{p^r} \prod_{m=1, p \nmid m, m \neq k}^{p^r} (\zeta^k - \zeta^m) \right|$$

Let us fix  $k$ , we want to compute  $\prod_{m=1, p \nmid m, m \neq k}^{p^r} (\zeta^k - \zeta^m)$ . We do this by considering

$$F_k = \prod_{m=1, p \nmid m, m \neq k}^{p^r} (x - \zeta^m) = \frac{\Phi_{p^r}(x)}{x - \zeta^k} = \frac{x^{p^r} - 1}{(x^{p^{r-1}} - 1)(x - \zeta^k)}$$

Now  $F_k(\zeta^k) = \frac{0}{0}$ , so we need to use l'Hospital's rule. We calculate

$$\Phi'_{p^r}(x) = \frac{p^r x^{p^r-1} (x^{p^{r-1}} - 1) - p^{r-1} x^{p^{r-1}-1} (x^{p^r} - 1)}{(x^{p^{r-1}} - 1)^2}$$

Now the roots of  $x^{p^{r-1}} - 1$  are powers of  $\zeta_{p^{r-1}} = \zeta^p$ , so  $\zeta^k$  is not a root of  $(x^{p^{r-1}} - 1)$ . Hence

$$F_k(\zeta^k) = \Phi'_{p^r}(\zeta^k) = \frac{p^r \zeta^{k(p^r-1)}}{\zeta^{kp^{r-1}} - 1}$$

Hence  $|\Phi'_{p^r}(\zeta_k)| = \frac{p^r}{|\zeta^{kp^{r-1}} - 1|}$ , so we have

$$|\Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\zeta])| = \prod_{k=1, p \nmid k}^{p^r} \frac{p^r}{|\zeta^{kp^{r-1}} - 1|} = \frac{p^{r(p^r - p^{r-1})}}{\prod |\zeta^{kp^{r-1}} - 1|}$$

Hence we finally compute

$$\prod_{k=1, p \nmid k}^{p^r} (x - \zeta^{kp^{r-1}}) = \prod_{k=1, p \nmid k}^{p^r} (x - \zeta^k) = \left( \prod_{k=1}^{p-1} (x - \zeta^k) \right)^{p^{r-1}} = (\Phi_p(x))^{p^{r-1}}$$

Plucking in  $x = 1$ , we get  $\Phi_p(x)^{p^{r-1}} = p^{p^{r-1}}$ . Hence we conclude  $|\Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\zeta])| = p^{rp^r - rp^{r-1} - p^{r-1}} = p^{p^{r-1}(rp - r - 1)}$

Now it is not important to remember what exactly it is, the key idea is that it is a power of  $p$ , the exact exponent does not matter.

In particular if  $r = 1$  we get  $|\Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p])| = p^{p-2}$

**Theorem 4.3.** *For any  $n$  we have  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)} = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n]$ .*

*Proof.* We will only prove this for  $n = p$ , with  $p$  prime.

We already know that  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p] \subset \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$ . We also know that  $p^{p-2} = \Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]) = (\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)} : \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p])^2 \Delta(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)})$  (by Theorem 3.19).

Suppose that  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p] \neq \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$  then  $(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)} : \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]) = p^*$ , where  $*$  is an unknown exponent. Then  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}/\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$  is an abelian group of order divisible by  $p$ . Hence there exists  $\bar{\alpha} \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}/\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$  with order  $p$ , i.e., there exists  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$  with  $p\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ . We want to show that for any  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$  such that  $p\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$  then we already have  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ .

Note that  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p] = \mathbb{Z}[1 - \zeta_p]$ . Now  $N(1 - \zeta_p) = \prod_{i=1}^{p-1} \sigma_i(1 - \zeta_p) = \prod_{i=1}^{p-1} (1 - \zeta_p^i) = \Phi_p(1) = p$ . Hence we have that  $p$  factors as  $\prod_{i=1}^{p-1} (1 - \zeta_p^i)$ . Now for all  $i$ , we have  $N(1 - \zeta_p^i) = \prod_{j=1}^{p-1} (1 - \zeta_p^{ij}) = \prod_{j=1}^{p-1} (1 - \zeta_p^{ij}) = N(1 - \zeta_p) = p$ , hence in particular we have  $N\left(\frac{1 - \zeta_p^i}{1 - \zeta_p}\right) = 1$ , so  $\frac{1 - \zeta_p^i}{1 - \zeta_p}$  is a unit for all  $i$ . Putting all of this together we have  $p = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{p-1} (1 - \zeta_p^i)}{(1 - \zeta_p)^{p-1}} (1 - \zeta_p)^{p-1} = \text{unit} \cdot (1 - \zeta_p)^{p-1}$ .

We can write  $p\alpha$  as  $a_0 + a_1(1 - \zeta_p) + \dots + a_{p-2}(1 - \zeta_p)^{p-2}$  (\*) with  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We want to show that  $p|a_i$  for all  $i$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have  $p|a$  if and only if  $(1 - \zeta_p)|a$  in  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$ . One direction follows from the fact that  $1 - \zeta_p|p$ . For the other implication, suppose  $(1 - \zeta_p)|a$ , then  $N(1 - \zeta_p)|N(a) \Rightarrow p|a^{p-1}$ , hence  $p|a$ . (Note for any number field and  $a \in \mathbb{Q}$ , we have  $N(a) = a^{[K:\mathbb{Q}]}$ ). We have now the tools to do a prove by induction to show that  $a_n$  is divisible by  $p$ .

Let  $n = 0$  and consider (\*) module  $1 - \zeta_p$ . We have  $p\alpha \equiv 0 \pmod{1 - \zeta_p}$ , also for  $i \geq 1$  we have  $a_i(1 - \zeta_p) \equiv 0 \pmod{1 - \zeta_p}$ . Hence we find that  $a_0 \equiv 0 \pmod{1 - \zeta_p}$ , so  $(1 - \zeta_p)|a_0$  and hence  $p|a_0$ .

Now suppose that  $p|a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$  and that  $n \leq p - 2$ . We have that  $p\alpha$  is divisible by  $(1 - \zeta_p)^{n+1}$ , but so is  $a_0, (1 - \zeta_p)a_1, \dots, (1 - \zeta_p)^{n-1}a_{n-1}$  and  $a_i(1 - \zeta_p)^i$  for  $i > n$ . Hence we have  $(1 - \zeta_p)^n a_i \equiv 0 \pmod{(1 - \zeta_p)^{n+1}}$ . Hence there exists  $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$  with  $\beta(1 - \zeta_p)^{n+1} = (1 - \zeta_p)^n a_n \Rightarrow \beta(1 - \zeta_p) = a_n$ , so we have  $(1 - \zeta_p)|a_n$ .

Hence we have shown by induction that  $p|a_i \forall i$ . Hence  $p\alpha \in p\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p] \Rightarrow \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ . So to recap, we have shown if  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p] \neq \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$ , then we must have  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)} \setminus \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$  such that  $p\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ . But we also shown that if  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}$  with  $p\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$  then  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]$ , hence we have a contradiction.  $\square$

**Example** (Of the proof in action). . What is  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$ ? We know that  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}] \subset \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$ , we also know that  $\Delta(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]) = -27(2^2) = -2^2 \cdot 3^3 = (\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})} : \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}])^2 \cdot \Delta(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})})$ . Hence if  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}] \neq \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$ , then either 2 divides the index or 3 divides the index.

Suppose that 2 divides the index. Then there exists  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})} \setminus \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$  with  $2\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$ . Note that in  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$  we have  $2 = \sqrt[3]{2}^3$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  we have  $2|a$  if and only if  $\sqrt[3]{2}|a$  in  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$ . Let  $2\alpha = a_0 + a_1\sqrt[3]{2} + a_2\sqrt[3]{4}$ . Consider this modulo  $\sqrt[3]{2}$ , we have  $0 \equiv a_0 \pmod{\sqrt[3]{2}}$ . Hence  $2|a_0$ . Now considering this modulo  $\sqrt[3]{4}$ , we have  $0 \equiv a_1\sqrt[3]{2} \pmod{\sqrt[3]{4}}$ , again implying that  $\sqrt[3]{2}|a_1$ , hence  $2|a_1$ . So finally considering this modulo 2, we see that  $2|a_2$ . Hence  $2\alpha \in 2\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$ , i.e.,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$ . So 2 does not divide the index

Now suppose that 3 divides the index. We claim that  $3 = (1 + \sqrt[3]{2})^3 \cdot \text{unit}$ . Now  $(1 + \sqrt[3]{2})^3 = 1 + 2\sqrt[3]{2} + 3\sqrt[3]{4} + 2 = 3(1 + \sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{4})$ . Now  $N(1 + \sqrt[3]{2}) = 1^2 + 2 \cdot 1^2 = 3$ , so  $N((1 + \sqrt[3]{2})^3) = 3^3 = N(3)$  and hence  $(1 + \sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{4})$  is a unit, proving our claim. Hence we have that for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $3|\alpha$  if and only if  $(1 + \sqrt[3]{2})|\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$ . So consider  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})} \setminus \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$  such that  $3\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$  and write  $3\alpha = a_0 + a_1(1 + \sqrt[3]{2}) + a_2(1 + \sqrt[3]{2})^2$  (by changing the basis of

$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$  to  $\mathbb{Z}[1 + \sqrt[3]{2}]$ . Then if we consider the equation modulo successive powers of  $(1 + \sqrt[3]{2})$ , we find that each  $a_i$  is divisible by  $(1 + \sqrt[3]{2})$  and thus by 3. Again this leads to a contradiction.

Hence we have that  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}] = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})}$



## 5 Dedekind Domains

### 5.1 Euclidean domains

**Definition 5.1.** Let  $R$  be a domain (that is  $0 \neq 1$  and there are no non-trivial solutions to  $ab = 0$ ). An *Euclidean function* on  $R$  is a function  $\phi : R \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  such that for all  $a, b \in R$  with  $b \neq 0$ , there exists  $q, r \in R$  with  $a = qb + r$  and either  $r = 0$  or  $\phi(r) < \phi(b)$

**Example.**  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\phi(n) = |n|$ .

$R = k[x]$  where  $k$  is any field and  $\phi(f(x)) = \deg(f)$

$R = \mathbb{Z}[i]$  and  $\phi(\alpha) = N(\alpha)$

**Definition 5.2.** A domain on which there is an Euclidean function is called an *Euclidean domain*.

**Theorem 5.3.** *If  $R$  is an Euclidean domain then  $R$  is a principal ideal domain (PID), i.e., every ideal of  $R$  can be generated by one element*

*Proof.* Let  $I \neq 0$  be a non-zero ideal of  $R$ . Take  $0 \neq b \in I$  to be an element for which  $\phi(b)$  is minimal. We claim that  $I = (b)$

Let  $a \in I \setminus \{0\}$  be another element. Then there exists  $q \in R$  with  $a - qb$  either 0 or  $\phi(a - qb) < \phi(b)$ . As  $b$  is an element with  $\phi(b)$  minimal, we have that  $a - qb$  is 0, hence  $a = qb$ , i.e.,  $a \in (b)$   $\square$

**Lemma 5.4.** *If  $R$  is a PID and  $\pi \in R$  an irreducible element, then for  $a, b \in R$  we have  $\pi | ab \Rightarrow \pi | a$  or  $\pi | b$*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\pi \nmid a$ , we want to show that  $\pi | b$ . Consider the ideal  $I = (\pi, a)$ . Let  $\delta \in R$  be a generator for  $I$ , i.e.,  $(\pi, a) = (\delta)$ . There exists  $x, y \in R$  with  $x\pi + ya = \delta$ . Also  $\pi \in (\delta)$  so  $\delta | \pi$ . This means that either  $\delta \sim 1$  or  $\delta \sim \pi$ . But the case  $\delta \sim \pi$  can not occur since  $\pi \nmid a$  but  $\delta | a$ . So without loss of generality, assume that  $\delta = 1$ . Thus  $x\pi + ya = 1$ , hence  $x\pi b + yab = b$ , but since  $\pi | ab$ , we have  $\pi | b$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.5.** *A PID is a UFD*

*Proof.* Take  $a \in R \setminus \{0\}$ , such that  $a$  is not a unit. Assume that  $a = \epsilon\pi_1 \dots \pi_n = \epsilon'\pi'_1 \dots \pi'_m$  are two distinct factorisation of  $a$  into irreducible. Without loss of generality we may assume that  $n$  is minimal amongst all elements  $a$  with non-unique factorisation. We have  $\pi_1 | \pi'_1 \dots \pi'_m$  so by the lemma  $\pi_1 | \pi'_i$  for some  $i$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $i = 1$ , so  $\pi_1 | \pi'_1$  but both are irreducible, hence  $\pi_1 \sim \pi'_1$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $\pi_1 = \pi'_1$ . But then  $\pi_2 \dots \pi_n = \epsilon\pi'_2 \dots \pi'_m$  and  $\pi_2 \dots \pi_n$  has  $n - 1$  irreducible factors, so by minimality of  $n$ , this factorisation into irreducible is unique.  $\square$

We show that  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})} = \mathbb{Z} \left[ \frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2} \right]$  is Euclidean. We claim that the Euclidean function is the Norm.  $N(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}) = (a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2})(a + b\frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{2}) = a^2 + ab + b^2$  (Note that we had over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$   $N(c + d\sqrt{-3}) = c^2 + 3d^2$ ) and this fits with the previous line as  $N(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}) = N(a + \frac{b}{2} + \frac{b}{2}\sqrt{-3}) = (a + \frac{b}{2})^2 + 3\frac{b^2}{4} = a^2 + ab + b^2$ . Suppose we are given  $\alpha = a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  and  $\beta = c + d\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  with  $\beta \neq 0$ . Then

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}}{c + d\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}} = \frac{(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2})(c - d\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2})}{N(\beta)} = e + f\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2} \in \mathbb{Q} \left[ \frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2} \right]$$

(so note  $e, f \in \mathbb{Q}$ ). Then pick  $g, h \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $|g - e|, |h - f| \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and set

$$q = g + h\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$$

$$r = \alpha - \beta q$$

Then we have  $\alpha = \beta q + r$  and furthermore if  $r \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
N(r) &= N\left(\alpha - \beta\left(g + h\frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}\right)\right) \\
&= N\left(\beta\left(e + f\frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2} - g - h\frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}\right)\right) \\
&= N(\beta)N\left(\left(e - g\right) + (f - h)\frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}\right) \\
&= N(\beta)\left[(e - g)^2 + (e - g)(f - h) + (f - h)^2\right] \\
&\leq \frac{3}{4}N(\beta) \\
&< N(\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

Similar arguments works for  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$  with  $d \in \{-1, -2, -3, -7, -11\}$  (you might need to change the bound)

**Theorem 5.6.** *If  $d < -11$  then  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$  is not a Euclidean domain (but for  $d \in \{-19, -43, -67, -163\}$  it is a PID)*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\phi : R \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  is Euclidean, where  $R = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ . Now  $R^* = \{\pm 1\}$ . Take an element  $b \in R \setminus \{0, \pm 1\}$  with  $\phi(b)$  as small as possible. For all  $a \in R$  there exists  $q, r \in R$  with  $r = a - qb$  and  $\phi(r) < \phi(b)$  or  $r = 0$ . Now since  $\phi(b)$  is as small as possible, we have that  $r \in \{0, 1, -1\}$ , for all  $a \in R$ . We also have that  $a \equiv r \pmod{b}$ , hence  $R/(b)$  has at most 3 elements.

On the other hand the number of elements of  $(R/(b)) = (R : (b))\Delta((b)) = (R : (b))^2\Delta(R)$  (by Theorem 3.19 since  $(b) \subset R$ ). Let  $R = \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\theta$  where  $\theta = \begin{cases} \sqrt{d} & d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$ . Then we have  $(b) = \mathbb{Z}b + \mathbb{Z}b\theta$ . Now

$\Delta((b)) = \det \begin{pmatrix} b & \theta b \\ \bar{b} & \bar{\theta} \bar{b} \end{pmatrix}^2 = (b\bar{b}\bar{\theta} - \bar{b}b\theta)^2 = (b\bar{b})^2(\bar{\theta} - \theta)^2 = N(b)^2\Delta(R)$ . Hence we have  $(R : (b))^2 = N(b)^2$ , that is  $(R : (b)) = N(b)$  (since the norm is positive). So if we show that  $\forall b \in R \setminus \{0, \pm 1\}$  we have  $N(b) > 3$  then  $R/(b)$  has more than three elements, contradicting the first paragraph. Now we always have  $N(a + b\sqrt{d}) = a^2 + |d|b^2$

Suppose  $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then for  $a + b\sqrt{d}$  to be in  $R$  we need  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Suppose that  $a^2 + |d|b^2 \leq 3$  then  $|a| \leq 1$  and  $|d| > 11$ , so  $b = 0$ , but  $a + b\sqrt{d} \in \{0, \pm 1\}$

If  $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  we can also have  $a = \frac{a'}{2}, b = \frac{b'}{2}$  where  $a', b' \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $a' \equiv b' \pmod{2}$ . Then  $N(a + b\sqrt{d}) = N\left(\frac{a' + b'\sqrt{d}}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4}(a'^2 + |d|b'^2)$ . Suppose  $N(a + b\sqrt{d}) \leq 3$  then  $a'^2 + |d|b'^2 \leq 12$ . But  $|d| \geq 13$ , so again  $b' = 0$  and  $a'^2 \leq 12$  so  $|a'| \leq 3$ . Hence  $a' \in \{-2, 0, 2\}$ , implying  $a + b\sqrt{d} \in \{0, \pm 1\}$ .  $\square$

**Conjecture.** *Let  $K$  be a number field that is not  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  for some  $d < 0$  then if  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a UFD, then it is Euclidean.*

*Remark.* In general  $\phi = N$  does not work, then  $\phi$  is very difficult to find.

## 5.2 Dedekind Domain

**Definition 5.7.** A prime ideal is an ideal  $P \subset R$  satisfying  $P \neq R$  and  $\forall a, b \in R$  with  $ab \in P$  then either  $a \in P$  or  $b \in P$ .

**Fact.**  $P \subset R$  is prime if and only if  $R/P$  is a domain

**Definition 5.8.** A maximal ideal is an ideal  $M \subset R$  satisfying  $M \neq R$  and there are no ideals  $I \neq R$  with  $M \subset I \subset R$ .

**Fact.**  $M \subset R$  is a maximal ideal if and only if  $R/M$  is a field.

*Every proper ideal  $I \subset R$  is contained in a maximal ideal. (See commutative Algebra Theorem 1.4 and its Corollaries)*

**Example.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ . Then its prime ideals are  $(0)$  and  $(p)$  where  $p$  is prime. Its maximal ideals are  $(p)$  (as  $\mathbb{Z}/(p) = \mathbb{F}_p$  is a field)

**Definition 5.9.** A ring  $R$  is *Noetherian* if one and thus both of the following equivalent conditions holds.

1. Every ideal of  $R$  is finitely generated

- Every ascending chains of ideals  $I_0 \subset I_1 \subset \dots$  is stationary, i.e., there exists  $r > 0$  such that  $I_i = I_j$  for all  $i, j > r$ .

**Definition 5.10.** Let  $R$  be a domain. Then  $R$  is a *Dedekind Domain* if:

- $R$  is Noetherian
- $R$  is integrally closed in its field of fractions
- Every non-zero prime ideal is a maximal ideal

**Example.** Every field is a Dedekind domain (the only ideals are:  $(0)$ ,  $(1)$ )

**Lemma 5.11.** *Every finite domain is a field.*

*Proof.* Let  $R$  be a finite domain. Take  $0 \neq a \in R$ , we need to show there exists  $x \in R$  with  $ax = 1$ . Consider the map  $R \xrightarrow{\cdot a} R$  defined by  $x \mapsto ax$ . We note that  $\cdot a$  is injective, if  $ab = ac$  then  $a(b - c) = 0$ , hence  $b - c = 0$  since  $R$  is a domain. As  $R$  is finite,  $\cdot a$  is also surjective. Hence there exists  $x$  with  $ax = 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.12.** *If  $K$  is a number field, then  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a Dedekind domain.*

*Proof.* Let  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  be an ideal. If  $I = (0)$  then it is finitely generated, so assume  $I$  is non-zero. Hence there exists  $0 \neq a \in I$ , so  $a\mathcal{O}_K$  is a full rank lattice in  $\mathcal{O}_K$ . We have  $a\mathcal{O}_K \subset I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ , so  $I$  is a full rank lattice as well. It has  $[K : \mathbb{Q}] < \infty$  generators as a free abelian group and the same elements generates it as an ideal. So  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is Noetherian.

We know that  $\mathcal{O}_K = \overline{\mathbb{Z}} \cap K$ . Furthermore the integral closure of a ring  $R$  in an extension  $S$  is in fact integrally closed in  $S$ . So  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is integrally closed in  $K$ .

Let  $P \in \mathcal{O}_K$  be a non-zero prime ideal.  $P$  is a full rank lattice so  $(\mathcal{O}_K : P) < \infty$ . Hence  $\mathcal{O}_K/P$  is a finite domain. So by the above lemma,  $\mathcal{O}_K/P$  is a field and hence  $P$  is maximal.  $\square$

**Definition 5.13.** Let  $R$  be a domain. Then a *fractional ideal*  $I$  of  $R$  is a  $R$ -submodule of the fields of fractions of  $R$ , such that there exists  $0 \neq a \in R$  with  $aI \subset R$

**Example.** Let us work out the fractional ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . The ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are  $(n)$  with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So fractional ideals are  $I \subset \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\exists a \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $aI = (n)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . That is  $I = \frac{n}{a}\mathbb{Z} \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Note that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is not a fractional ideal, as elements of  $\mathbb{Q}$  have arbitrary large denominators.

If  $R$  is a ring,  $I, J \subset R$  are ideals, then  $IJ$  is the ideal generated by  $\{ij : i \in I, j \in J\}$ .

If  $R$  is a domain,  $I, J$  fractional ideals of  $R$  and  $K$  the field of fraction of  $R$ , then  $IJ$  is a  $K$ -submodule generated by  $\{ij : i \in I, j \in J\}$ . It is a fractional ideal as  $abIJ \subset R$  (where  $a, b$  are such that  $aI, bJ \subset R$ )

**Example.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  and consider  $I = (a), J = (b)$  with  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $IJ = (ab)$

**Definition 5.14.** Let  $R$  be a domain,  $K$  its field of fraction,  $I \subset K$  a fractional ideal. Then  $I$  is called *invertible* if there exists a fractional ideal  $J \subset K$  such that  $IJ = R = (1)$

**Example.** Every non-zero fractional ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is invertible.

Every principal non-zero fractional ideal  $(a)$  of  $R$  is invertible, consider  $(a)(a^{-1}) = (1)$

**Theorem 5.15.** *The invertible ideals of a domain  $R$  forms a group with respect to fractional ideal multiplication, with unit element  $R = (1)$  and inverse  $I^{-1} = \{a \in K | aI \subset R\}$ . ( $K$  is the field of fractions of  $R$ )*

*Proof.* Let  $I \subset K$  be invertible, then there exists  $J$  with  $IJ = R$ . We want to show: if  $a \in J$  then  $aI \subset R$  and if  $aI \subset R$  then  $a \in J$ . The first one follows directly. Consider  $aIJ = aR$  and  $aIJ \subset J$ , so  $aR \subset J$  means  $a \in J$ . Hence  $J = I^{-1}$ .

If  $I_1, I_2, I_3$  are fractional ideals then  $I_1(I_2I_3) = (I_1I_2)I_3$

Finally we show that if  $I, J$  are invertible then so is  $IJ^{-1}$ . We claim  $(IJ^{-1})^{-1} = JI^{-1}$ . To see this consider  $(IJ^{-1})(JI^{-1}) = IRI^{-1} = II^{-1} = R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.16.** *Let  $R$  be a domain. Then the following conditions on  $R$  are equivalent*

- $R$  is Dedekind
- Every non-zero fractional ideals of  $R$  is invertible

3. Every non-zero ideals of  $R$  is the product of prime ideals.

4. Every non-zero ideal of  $R$  is the product of prime ideals uniquely.

We will prove this after some examples.

**Example.**  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})} = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is not a UFD, we have  $6 = 2 \cdot 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$ . But since  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is Dedekind (by Theorem 5.12), we can write (6) as the product of prime ideal uniquely. In fact  $(6) = (2) \cdot (3) = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(2, 1 - \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 - \sqrt{-5})$ . We check that  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  is prime. Now  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]/(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5}) \cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^2 + 5, 2, 1 + x)$ . Now  $(2, x + 1, x^2 + 5) = (2, x + 1, x^2 + 5 - x(x + 1)) = (2, x + 1, -x + 5) = (2, x + 1)$ . Hence  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]/(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5}) \cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(2, x + 1) \cong \mathbb{F}_2[x]/(x + 1) \cong \mathbb{F}_2$ , which is a field. Thus  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  is maximal.

**Definition 5.17.** If  $R$  is a domain and  $K$  its field of fraction. Let  $I$  be a non-zero fractional ideal then  $R : I = \{a \in K : aI \subset R\}$

Note that from Theorem 5.15, we see that  $I$  is invertible if and only if  $(R : I) \cdot I = R$

**Example 5.18.**  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  is not Dedekind. (As it is not algebraically closed)

We show that the ideal  $I = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})$  is not invertible.  $R : I = \{a + b\sqrt{-3} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}) : 2(a + b\sqrt{-3}) \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}], (1 + \sqrt{-3})(a + b\sqrt{-3}) \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]\}$ . From the first condition, we can rewrite  $a = \frac{a'}{2}, b = \frac{b'}{2}$  with  $a', b' \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So consider the second condition

$$(1 + \sqrt{-3})\left(\frac{a'}{2} + \frac{b'}{2}\sqrt{-3}\right) = \frac{a'}{2} + \frac{a' + b'}{2}\sqrt{-3} - 3\frac{b'}{2}$$

So  $a' \equiv b' \pmod{2}$ , i.e.,

$$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}] : (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) = \left\{ \frac{a' + b'\sqrt{-3}}{2} : a', b' \in \mathbb{Z}, a' \equiv b' \pmod{2} \right\} = \mathbb{Z} \left[ \frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2} \right]$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z} \left[ \frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2} \right] \cdot (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) &= \left( 1, \frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2} \right) (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) \\ &= \left( 2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}, \frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}(1 + \sqrt{-3}) \right) \\ &= (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}, \sqrt{-3} - 1) \\ &= (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) \\ &= I \\ &\neq R \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $I$  is not invertible.

We now show that  $I = (2)$  can not be written as the product of prime ideals. Suppose  $I = P_1 P_2 \dots P_n$ , then  $I \subset P_i$  for all  $i$ . Now  $\{\text{ideals of } R \text{ containing } I\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{ideals of } R/I\}$ . The bijection is defined by  $J \mapsto J/I \subset R/I$  and  $\{x : \bar{x} \in J\} \longleftarrow \bar{J}$

In our case

$$\begin{aligned} R/I &= \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]/(2) \\ &\cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^2 + 3, 2) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_2[x]/(x^2 + 1) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_2/(x + 1)^2 \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_2[x]/(x)^2 \\ &= \{a + b\epsilon : a, b \in \mathbb{F}_2, \epsilon^2 = 0\} \end{aligned}$$

The ideals in  $R/I$  are  $(0)$ ,  $(1) = (1 + \epsilon)$  and  $(\epsilon)$ . Which of these ideal is prime?  $(1)$  is never prime, and  $(0)$  is not prime as it is not a domain. So  $(\epsilon)$  is the only maximal ideal and hence must be the only prime  $R/I$  has. Clearly  $(2) \subset (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})$ , which we saw maximal and so must be the only prime ideal which contains  $(2)$ .

So all  $P_i$  are equal to  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})$ . Thus  $(2) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})^m$  for some  $m$ . Now  $(2) \neq (1)$ , hence  $m \neq 0$  and  $(2) \neq (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})$  as the first is invertible but not the second so  $m \neq 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})^2 &= (4, 2 + 2\sqrt{-3}, 1 - 3 + 2\sqrt{-3}) \\ &= (4, 2 + 2\sqrt{-3}) \\ &= (2)(2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) \\ &\subset (2) \end{aligned}$$

So if  $(2)(2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) = (2)$ , then  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}) = (2^{-1})(2) = (1)$  which is a contradiction. And for all  $m \geq 2$  we have  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})^m \subset (2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})^2 \subset (2)$ . Hence there is no  $m$  with  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-3})^m = (2)$ .

The proof of Theorem 5.16 requires proofs by Noetherian induction. Here is a quick layout of how such a proof works. To prove a statement about ideals in a Noetherian ring  $R$ :

- First prove it for all maximal ideals.
- Then induction step: assume it holds for all  $I \supsetneq J$ . Prove it hold for  $J$

Why does this proves the statement for all ideal? Suppose the statement is false for a certain set  $S \neq \emptyset$  of ideals. Pick any  $I_0 \in S$ . By induction step, there exists  $I_1 \supsetneq I_0$ , for which the statement is false. Repeat and we get an infinite ascending chain, which is impossible in a Noetherian ring.

*Proof of Theorem 5.16.* [NB: This proof is rather long and was spread over several lectures. The lecturer got a big confuse at some point and so it also incomplete, it only proves some implications, including the most important for this course, Dedekind implies everything else. I have tried to reorganise this proof so that it makes more sense. I do know that he managed to prove it in one lecture successfully the following year (2011-2012) but I did not get a copy of it]

Note: If  $R$  is a field, the only ideals are  $(0)$  and  $(1)$  so there is nothing to prove. Hence assume that  $R$  is not a field.

2.  $\Rightarrow$  3. Assume 2. We want to show that every ideal is the product of prime ideals. We first show that every invertible ideal is finitely generated. Let  $I$  be a fractional ideal of  $R$ , then there exists  $J$  with  $IJ = (1)$ , hence  $1 \in IJ$ . Now elements of  $IJ$  are sums of the form  $r_1x_1y_1 + \dots + r_nx_ny_n$  with  $r_i \in R, x_i \in I$  and  $y_i \in J$ . Hence  $1 = \sum r_ix_iy_i$  for some  $r_i, x_i, y_i$ . We claim that  $I = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , to prove our claim we just need to show that  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)J = (1)$  (since inverses in groups are unique). It is obvious that  $(1) \subset (x_1, \dots, x_n)J$ . On the other hand  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \subset I$  so  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)J \subset IJ \subset (1)$ .

Hence  $R$  is Noetherian, since every invertible ideal is finitely generated.

**Lemma 5.19.** *Assuming 2., we have for non-zero ideals  $I, J$ :  $I \subset J$  if and only if  $J|I$  (that is there is a  $J'$  with  $JJ' = I$ )*

*Proof.*  $\Leftarrow$ ) Obvious

$\Rightarrow$ ) Put  $J' = IJ^{-1}$ , this is a fractional ideal. We need to show that  $IJ^{-1} \subset R$  (i.e., that it is an ideal and not just a fractional ideal). We have  $I \subset J$ , so  $IJ^{-1} \subset JJ^{-1} = R$   $\square$

We now proceed by a proof by Noetherian induction.

If  $I$  is a maximal ideal, then  $I$  is itself a factorisation into prime ideals. Now let an ideal  $I$  not prime be given and assume that for all  $J \supsetneq I$ ,  $J$  has a factorization into primes. There exists a prime  $P \supsetneq I$ , so  $P|I$  and hence  $I = PJ$  for some  $J \subset R$ . We want to show that  $J \supsetneq I$ . We know that  $I = PJ \subset J$ . Suppose that  $I = J$ , then  $PJ = J$ , so multiply by  $J^{-1}$ , then  $P = R$  which is a contradiction.

Hence we have just shown by Noetherian induction that every fractional ideal is a product of primes.

1., 2. & 3.  $\Rightarrow$  4. Assume there is an ideal  $I$  that has two distinct factorisation into primes. That is  $I = P_1 \dots P_m = Q_1 \dots Q_n$  and without loss of generality suppose that  $m$  is minimal. We have that no  $Q_i$  is equal to some  $P_j$  as otherwise if  $Q_i = P_j$  then  $P_1 \dots P_{j-1} P_{j+1} \dots P_m = IP_j^{-1} = Q_1 \dots Q_{i-1} Q_{i+1} \dots Q_n$  contradicting minimality of  $m$ .

We have  $Q_1 \dots Q_n = P_1 \dots P_m \subset P_1$ , so  $P_1 | Q_1 \dots Q_n$ . Let  $I' = IP_1^{-1} = P_2 \dots P_m = Q_1 \dots Q_n P_1^{-1}$ . Now  $I'$  is an ideal of  $R$  but it has a factorisation into  $n - 1$  factors, so this factorisation is unique. We want to show that there exists  $i$  with  $Q_i | I'$ , equivalently there exists  $i$  with  $I' \subset Q_i$ . Assume that there is no such  $i$ , then  $\forall i I' \not\subset Q_i$ . Consider  $P_1$  and  $Q_1$  which are distinct. We have  $P_1, Q_1 \subset P_1 + Q_1$ . We claim that  $P_1 + Q_1 = R$ . Since  $P_1$  and  $Q_1$  are maximal (assuming 1.) we have  $P_1 \subset P_1 + Q_1 \Rightarrow P_1 + Q_1 = P_1$  or  $R$ , similarly, we conclude  $P_1 + Q_1 = Q_1$  or  $R$ . Hence  $P_1 + Q_1 = R$ .

So there exists  $p \in P_1, q \in Q_1$  with  $p + q = 1$ . So  $I = (p + q)I = pI + qI \subset pQ_1 + qP_1 \subset P_1Q_1$ . So  $P_1Q_1 | I \Rightarrow Q_1 | IP_1^{-1} = I'$ . Hence we get a contradiction.

1.  $\Rightarrow$  2. We use Noetherian induction.

Let  $P$  be a maximal ideal, then we want to show that  $P$  is invertible. Pick  $0 \neq a \in P$ . Then the ideal  $(a)$  is invertible ( $((a)(a^{-1}) = (a))$  and  $(a) \subset P$ ).

**Lemma 5.20.** *Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain and let  $I \neq 0$  be an ideal. There exists  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  maximal ideals with  $P_1 \dots P_n \subset I$*

*Proof.* We'll use Noetherian induction. If  $I$  is maximal then  $I \subset I$ . Assume for all  $J \supsetneq I$ , we have prime ideals  $Q_i$  with  $Q_1 \dots Q_n \subseteq J$ . We have to show that there exists  $P_i$  prime ideals with  $P_1 \dots P_n \subset I$ .  $I$  itself is not prime because all non-zero primes are maximal.

This means there exists  $a, b \in R$  such that  $a, b \notin I$  but  $ab \in I$ . Consider the ideals  $I + (a)$  and  $I + (b)$ . By induction hypothesis there exists  $P_i$  such that  $P_1, \dots, P_n \subset I + (a)$  and  $P_{n+1} \dots P_m \subset I + (b)$ . Hence  $P_1 \dots P_m \subset (I + (a))(I + (b)) \subset I$ .  $\square$

Hence by the lemma, there exists  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  with  $P_1 \dots P_n \subset (a)$  and without loss of generality we have  $n$  is minimal.

We will use the following lemma later in the proof.

**Lemma 5.21.** *Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain and let  $I \subset R$  be a finitely generated ideal. Let  $\phi : I \rightarrow I$  be a map such that  $\phi(I) \subset I$ , then there exists  $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in J$  such that  $\phi^n + a_{n-1}\phi^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0$ . A special case: Let  $\alpha \in K$ , the field of fraction of  $R$ , be such that  $\alpha I \subset I$ . Then there exists a relation  $\alpha^n + a_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0$  with  $a_i \in R$*

*Proof.* Choose a matrix that  $A = (a_{ij})_{ij}$ , that describes  $\phi$  in terms of  $x_i$ , the generators of  $I$ , and that satisfies  $a_{ij} \in I$ . By Cayley-Hamilton, if  $P_A$  is the characteristic polynomial of  $A$ , then  $P_A(A) = 0$ . Now  $P_A = \det(XI_n - A) := X^n + a_{n-1}X^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  for some  $a_i$  which clearly are in  $R$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 5.22.** *If  $R$  is Dedekind and  $K$  its field of fraction. Let  $I \subset R$  be an ideal and  $\alpha \in K$  with  $\alpha I \subset I$ , then  $\alpha \in R$ .*

As a recap, we have  $P \neq 0$  is prime (and hence maximal). Take  $0 \neq a \in P$ , then there exists  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  with  $P_1 \dots P_n \subset (a) \subset P$ . We claim that one of the  $P_i$  is  $P$ . In general for prime ideals we have  $IJ \subset P \Rightarrow I \subset P$  or  $J \subset P$ . (Otherwise, assume  $I \not\subset P, J \not\subset P$ , then there exists  $a \in I, b \in J$  with  $a \notin P, b \notin P$ , but then  $ab \notin P$ ). So without loss of generality assume  $P_1 \subset P$ , but  $P_1$  is maximal so  $P_1 = P$

Let  $J = P_2 \dots P_n$ , i.e.,  $PJ \subset (a) \subset P$ . Since we assumed  $n$  was minimal, we have  $J \not\subset (a)$ . So  $PJ \subset (a)$ , hence  $PJ(a)^{-1} \subset R$ , but  $a^{-1}J \not\subset R$ .

Consider  $R : P = \{\alpha \in K | \alpha P \subset R\}$ , we need to show that  $(R : P)P = R$ . Now  $\forall \alpha \in R : P$ , we have  $\alpha P \subset P$ , so by the corollary  $R : P \subset R$ . We have  $P \subset (R : P)P \subset P$ , but  $P$  is maximal, so if  $(R : P)P \neq R$  then  $(R : P)P = P$ . Hence if  $P$  is not invertible then  $R : P = R$ . Take  $\alpha \in a^{-1}J \setminus R$ . Then  $\alpha P \subset R$ , so  $\alpha \in R : P$  but  $\alpha \notin R$ . Contradicting  $R : P = R$ , hence  $P$  is invertible.

So we have proven that every non-zero prime ideals (i.e., every maximal ideal) is invertible. We finish off the Noetherian induction.

Assume for all  $J \supsetneq I$  we have that  $J$  is invertible. We will show  $I$  is invertible. Choose a prime  $P \supset I$ . We know that  $P$  is invertible. Consider  $I \subset P^{-1}I \subset R$ . (Since  $P^{-1}I \subset PP^{-1} = R$ ) If  $P^{-1}I \neq I$  then  $P^{-1}I \supsetneq I$ , so  $P^{-1}I$  is invertible. Then  $I = RI = P(P^{-1}P)$  is invertible as well. So assume  $P^{-1}I = I$ . For all  $\alpha \in P^{-1}$  we have  $\alpha I \subset I$ , thus  $\alpha \in R$ . Hence  $P^{-1} \subset R \Rightarrow PP^{-1} = R \subset RP = P$  which is a contradiction.

□

**Definition 5.23.** Let  $K$  be a number field. Then the *ideal group* of  $K$  is the group  $I_K$  consisting of all fractional ideals of  $\mathcal{O}_K$

The *principal ideal group* of  $K$ ,  $P_K$ , is the group of all principal ideals.

We have  $P_K \triangleleft I_K$ . The quotient  $\text{Cl}_K = I_K/P_K$  is called the *class group* of  $K$ .

An *ideal class* is a set  $\{\alpha I : \alpha \in K^*\}$  of ideals.

**Theorem 5.24.** For all number field  $K$ , the class group is finite. The class number of  $K$  is  $h_K := |\text{Cl}_K|$

We will prove this later in the course.

*Remark.* If  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a PID, then  $h_K = 1$  (in fact this is a if and only if statement.)

$P_K$  is the trivial ideal class. Define a map  $K^* \rightarrow P_K$  by  $\alpha \mapsto (\alpha)$ . Then  $P_K \cong K^*/\mathcal{O}_K^*$ , so the kernel is  $\mathcal{O}_K$

**Lemma 5.25.** If  $R$  is a UFD then for an irreducible elements,  $\pi$ , the ideal  $(\pi)$  is prime.

*Proof.* Take  $a, b \in R$  with  $ab \in (\pi)$ . This means  $\pi | ab$  hence  $\pi | a$  or  $\pi | b$ . So  $a \in (\pi)$  or  $b \in (\pi)$  □

**Theorem 5.26.** Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain. Then  $R$  is a UFD if and only if  $R$  is a PID.

*Proof.*  $\Leftarrow$ ) Every PID is a UFD

$\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $I \neq 0$  be any ideal that is not principal. We can write  $I = P_1 P_2 \dots P_n$ , without loss of generality say  $P_1$  is not principal. Now take any  $0 \neq a \in P_1$  and write  $a = \epsilon \pi_1 \dots \pi_m$  with  $\pi_i$  irreducible. Then  $(a) = (\pi_1)(\pi_2) \dots (\pi_m)$ . But  $P_1 | (a)$ , so we get  $P_1$  is not principal while  $(a)$  is, hence contradiction. □

So  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a UFD if and only if  $h_K = 1$ . We can say “ $h_K$  measures the non-uniqueness of factorisation on  $\mathcal{O}_K$ ”

**Example.** Find all integer solutions to  $x^2 + 20 = y^3$

We can factorise this over  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}] = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})}$  into  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5})(x - 2\sqrt{-5}) = y^3$ . Fact:  $h_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})} = 2$ .

As ideals we have  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5}) \cdot (x - 2\sqrt{-5}) = (y)^3$ . As usual, let us find the common factors of  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5})$  and  $(x - 2\sqrt{-5})$

Suppose  $P$  is a prime ideal such that  $P | (x + 2\sqrt{-5})$  and  $P | (x - 2\sqrt{-5})$ , then  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5}, x - 2\sqrt{-5}) \subseteq P$ . Now we have  $(4\sqrt{-5}) \subset (x + 2\sqrt{-5}, x - 2\sqrt{-5})$ . Note that  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(2, 1 - \sqrt{-5}) = (4, 2 + 2\sqrt{-5}, 2 - 2\sqrt{-5}, 6) = (2)$ , hence  $(2) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^2$  (and we know from a previous exercise that  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  is prime). Furthermore  $(\sqrt{-5})$  is prime:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]/(\sqrt{-5}) &\cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^2+5, x) \\ &\cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(5, x) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_5 \end{aligned}$$

So  $(4\sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^4(\sqrt{-5}) \Rightarrow P = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  or  $P = (\sqrt{-5})$ .

Write  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^{e_1}(\sqrt{-5})^{e_2} \prod P_i^{e_i}$ . Apply the automorphism  $\alpha \mapsto \bar{\alpha}$ , to get  $(x - 2\sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^{e_1}(\sqrt{-5})^{e_2} \prod \bar{P}_i^{e_i}$  (since  $(\sqrt{-5}) = (-\sqrt{-5})$  and as noted before  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 - \sqrt{-5})$ ). Note that the products  $P_i$  must be distinct. So we get  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5})(x - 2\sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^{2e_1}(\sqrt{-5})^{2e_2} \prod P_i^{e_i} \prod \bar{P}_i^{e_i} = (y)^3$ . Since factorization into prime ideal is unique, we have  $3 | e_i$  for all  $i$ . Hence  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5}) = I^3$  for some ideal  $I$ .

Let  $\tilde{I}$  be the class of  $I$ . Then in  $\text{Cl}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})}}$ , we have  $\tilde{I}^3 = 1$  (since  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5})$  is principal). Now the class group has order 2, hence  $\tilde{I} = 1$  since  $\text{gcd}(2, 3) = 1$ . Hence  $I$  is principal, so write  $I = (a + b\sqrt{-5})$ . So  $(x + 2\sqrt{-5}) = ((a + b\sqrt{-5})^3) \Rightarrow x + 2\sqrt{-5} = \text{unit} \cdot (a + b\sqrt{-5})^3$ . Now units in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  are  $\pm 1$ , which are both cubes, so without loss of generality,  $x + 2\sqrt{-5} = (a + b\sqrt{-5})^3$ .

Hence  $x + 2\sqrt{05} = a^3 + 3a^2b\sqrt{-5} - 15ab^2 - 5b^3\sqrt{-5} = (a^3 - 15ab^2) + \sqrt{-5}(3a^2b - 5b^3)$ . So we need to solve  $2 = b(3a^2 - 5b^2)$ , but 2 is prime, so  $b = \pm 1, \pm 2$ .

If  $b = \pm 1$ , then  $3a^2 - 5 = \pm 2$ , either  $3a^2 = 7$  which is impossible, or  $3a^2 = 3 \Rightarrow a = \pm 1$ . In that case we have  $x = a^3 - 15ab^2 = \pm(1 - 15) = \pm 14$ . Then  $14^2 + 20 = 196 + 20 = 216 = 6^3 \Rightarrow (\pm 14, 6)$  are solutions.

If  $b = \pm 2$ , then  $3a^2 - 20 = \pm 1$ , so  $3a^2 = 21$  or 19, but both cases are impossible.

Hence  $(\pm 14, 6)$  are the only integer solutions to  $x^2 + 20 = y^3$ .

### 5.3 Kummer-Dedekind Theorem

Let  $K$  be a number field, and  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  a non-zero ideal. Note that  $I$  contains  $a\mathcal{O}_K$  for any  $a \in I$ , hence we have that  $(\mathcal{O}_K : I)$  is finite. This leads us to the following definition:

**Definition 5.27.** The norm of an ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  is defined as 
$$N(I) = \begin{cases} (\mathcal{O}_K : I) & I \neq 0 \\ 0 & I = 0 \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 5.28.** For any principal ideal  $(a) \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ , we have  $N((a)) = |N(a)|$

*Proof.* If  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{O}_K$ , then  $a\omega_1, \dots, a\omega_n$  is a basis for  $(a)$ . Now multiplication by  $a$  can be seen as a matrix  $A$  in terms of  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ . So  $(\mathcal{O}_K : a\mathcal{O}_K) = |\det A| = |N(a)|$   $\square$

**Theorem 5.29.** The norm of ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is multiplicative. That is  $N(IJ) = N(I)N(J)$

*Proof.* First note  $N(\mathcal{O}_K) = 1$ .

We can write every non-zero ideal as a product of prime ideals (as  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is Dedekind and using Theorem 5.16) So it suffices to prove that  $N(IP) = N(I)N(P)$  where  $P$  is a non-zero prime. We have  $N(IP) = (\mathcal{O}_K : IP)$  and  $IP \subset I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ , hence  $N(IP) = (I : IP)(\mathcal{O}_K : I) = (I : IP)N(I)$ .

We must show that  $(I : IP) = N(P) = (\mathcal{O}_K : P)$ . Now  $P$  is maximal, so  $\mathcal{O}_K/P$  is a field. We have  $I/IP$  is a vector space over  $\mathcal{O}_K/P$ . We want to show that  $d = \dim_{\mathcal{O}_K/P} I/IP = 1$ .

$IP \neq I$  as  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is Dedekind, so  $I/IP \neq 0$ , hence  $d \geq 1$

Suppose that  $d \geq 2$ , then there exists  $\bar{a}, \bar{b} \in I/IP$  that are linearly independent over  $\mathcal{O}_K/P$ . Take lifts  $a, b \in I$ . For all  $x, y \in \mathcal{O}_K$  with  $ax + by \in P$ , we have  $x \in P$  and  $y \in P$ . Write  $I = P^e I'$ , then  $(a) \subset I$ , so  $P^e |I|(a)$ , also  $a \notin IP$ , so  $IP \nmid (a)$ . Hence  $P^{e+1} \nmid (a)$ . Similarly we find  $P^{e+1} \nmid (b)$ . So we can rewrite this as  $(a) = P^e I' J_1, (b) = P^e I' J_2$  with  $P \nmid I' J_1, P \nmid I' J_2$ . We have  $(a)J_2 = (b)J_1$ . Since  $J_2 \not\subset P$ , there exists  $c \in J_2 \setminus P$ . So  $av \in (b)J_1 \Rightarrow ac = be$  for some  $e \in J_1$ . Now  $ac - be = 0 \in P \Rightarrow c \in P$ . This is a contradiction. Hence the dimension is 1 as required.  $\square$

**Corollary 5.30.** If  $N(I)$  is prime, then  $I$  is prime

*Proof.* If  $I$  is not prime, then  $I = PI'$  with  $P$  a non-zero prime and  $I' \neq (1)$ . Then  $N(I) = N(P)N(I')$  cannot be prime.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.31.** If  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  is a non-zero prime, then  $N(I) = p^f$  for some prime  $p$  and  $f \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$

*Proof.*  $\mathcal{O}_K/I$  is a field ( $I$  is maximal) of  $N(I)$  elements. Any finite field has  $p^f$  elements for some prime  $p$  and  $f \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$   $\square$

**Theorem 5.32.** If  $I$  is a non-zero ideal, we have  $N(I) \in I$

*Proof.*  $N(I) = |\mathcal{O}_K/I|$  by definition. Then Lagrange theorem implies  $N(I) \cdot \mathcal{O}_K/I = \mathcal{O}_K$ , so  $N(I)\mathcal{O}_K \subset I$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.33.** If  $P$  is a non-zero prime with  $N(P) = p^f$  then  $p \in P$

*Proof.* By the previous theorem we have  $p^f \in P$ . But since  $P$  is prime,  $p \in P$ .  $\square$

**Kummer - Dedekind Theorem.** Let  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be monic and irreducible. Let  $\alpha \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  be such that  $f(\alpha) = 0$ . Let  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$  be prime. Choose  $g_i(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  monic and  $e_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  such that  $f \equiv \prod g_i(x)^{e_i} \pmod{p}$  is the factorization of  $\bar{f} \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  into irreducible (with  $\bar{g}_i \neq \bar{g}_j$  for  $i \neq j$ ). Then:

1. The prime ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  containing  $p$  are precisely the ideals  $(p, g_i(\alpha)) =: P_i$
2.  $\prod P_i^{e_i} \subset (p)$
3. If all  $P_i$  are invertible then  $\prod P_i^{e_i} = (p)$ . Furthermore  $N(P_i) = p^{f_i}$  where  $f_i = \deg g_i$
4. For each  $i$ , let  $r_i \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be the remainder of  $f$  upon division by  $g_i$ . Then  $P_i$  is not invertible if and only if  $e_i > 1$  and  $p^2 | r_i$

*Proof.* 1. We have  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] \cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(f)$  (Galois Theory). Primes of  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  containing  $p$  have a one to one correspondence to primes of  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]/(p) \cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/(p)(f)$ . But  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/(p, f) \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x]/(\bar{f})$ , so primes of  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]/(\bar{f})$  have a one to one correspondence to primes of  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$  containing  $\bar{f}$ . We know  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$  is a PID. So these primes corresponds to irreducible  $\bar{g} \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  such that  $\bar{g} | \bar{f} \iff \bar{f} \in (\bar{g})$ .

Working backward from this set of correspondence we get what we want



2. Let  $I = \prod (p, g_i(\alpha))^{e_i}$ . We want to show that  $I \subset (p)$ , i.e., all elements of  $I$  are divisible by  $p$ . Now  $I$  is generated by expression of the form  $p^d \prod_{i=1}^s g_i(\alpha)^{m_i}$ ,  $m_i \leq e_i$ . So the only non-trivial case is when  $d = 0$ , i.e.,  $\prod g_i(\alpha)^{e_i}$ . We have  $\prod g_i(x)^{e_i} \equiv f \pmod{p}$ . Substituting  $\alpha$  we get  $\prod g_i(\alpha)^{e_i} \equiv f(\alpha) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$
3. Assume  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)}$ . We have  $\prod P_i^{e_i} \subset (p) \Rightarrow (p) | \prod P_i^{e_i}$ . Now  $N((p)) = |N(p)| = p^n$  where  $n = \deg f$ . So  $N(\prod P_i^{e_i}) = \prod N(P_i^{e_i}) = p^{\sum e_i \cdot \deg(g_i)} = p^n$
4. Left out as it requires too much commutative algebra.

□

**Example.** Consider  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$ , then  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})} = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ . So take  $f = x^2 + 5$ .

- $p = 2$ , then  $\bar{f} = x^2 + 1 = (x + 1)^2 \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$ . So  $g_1 = x + 1$  and  $e_1 = 2$ . Now  $(2) = P_1^2 = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^2$  and  $N(P_1) = 2$ . If  $P_1$  principle? If  $P_1 = (\alpha)$  then  $N(P_1) = |N(\alpha)|$ . Now  $N(a + b\sqrt{-5}) = a^2 + 5b^2$  which is never 2. Hence  $P_1$  is not principal.
- $p = 3$ , then  $\bar{f} = x^2 - 1 = (x + 1)(x - 1) \in \mathbb{F}_3[x]$ . So we have  $(3) = P_1 P_2$  where  $P_1 = (3, -1 + \sqrt{-5})$  and  $P_2 = (3, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$ . Again we have  $N(P_1) = N(P_2) = 3$ , so neither are principal as  $3 \neq a^2 + 5b^2$ .
- $p = 5$ , then  $\bar{f} = x^2 \in \mathbb{F}_5[x]$ . So we get  $(5) = (5, \sqrt{-5})^2 = (\sqrt{-5})^2$  (since  $5 = -\sqrt{-5}\sqrt{-5}$ ).

Consider  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ , then  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})} = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt[3]{2}]$ . So take  $f = x^3 - 2$ .

- $p = 2$ , then  $\bar{f} = x^3 \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$ . So  $(2) = (2, \sqrt[3]{2})^3 = (\sqrt[3]{2})^3$  (since  $2 = \sqrt[3]{2}\sqrt[3]{2}\sqrt[3]{2}$ )
- $p = 3$ , then  $\bar{f} = x^3 - 2$  is a cubic. Cubic polynomials are reducible if and only if they have a root. If this case, i.e., in  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , we have 2 is a root. So  $x^3 - 2 = (x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 1) = (x - 2)(x + 1)^2 = (x + 1)^3$ . Hence  $(3) = (3, 1 + \sqrt[3]{2})^3$  and  $N(3, 1 + \sqrt[3]{2}) = 3$ . Now  $(3, 1 + \sqrt[3]{2})$  is principal if there exist  $\alpha \in (3, 1 + \sqrt[3]{2})$  with  $|N(\alpha)| = 3$ . Notice that  $N(1 + \sqrt[3]{2}) = 1^3 + 2 \cdot 1^3 = 3$ , so  $(3, 1 + \sqrt[3]{2}) = (1 + \sqrt[3]{2})$

## 6 The Geometry of Numbers

### 6.1 Minkowski's Theorem

Let  $K$  be a number field of degree  $n$ . Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be its complex embedding. We see that if  $\sigma : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is an embedding then  $\bar{\sigma} : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by  $\alpha \mapsto \overline{\sigma(\alpha)}$  is also an embedding. We have  $\bar{\bar{\sigma}} = \sigma$  so  $\bar{\cdot}$  is an involution on  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$ , with fixed points being those  $\sigma$  with  $\sigma(k) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  for all  $k \in K$ .

**Definition 6.1.** Let  $K$  be a number field of degree  $n$  and  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be its complex embeddings. Say there are  $r$  real embeddings ( $\sigma(k) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ) and  $s$  pairs of complex embedding. So we have  $r + 2s = n$ . Then  $(r, s)$  is called the *signature* of  $K$

We can use  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  to embed  $K$  into  $\mathbb{C}^n$  by  $\alpha \mapsto (\sigma_1(\alpha), \dots, \sigma_n(\alpha))$ . We view  $\mathbb{C}^n$  as  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  with the usual inner product, that is  $\|z_1, \dots, z_n\|^2 = |z_1|^2 + \dots + |z_n|^2$ .

Let  $v_1, \dots, v_m \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$  be given, denote  $P_{v_1, \dots, v_m} := \{\lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_m v_m : \lambda_i \in [0, 1]\}$ . We have (see Algebra I)

$$\text{Vol}(P_{v_1, \dots, v_m}) = \left( \det \begin{pmatrix} \langle v_1, v_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle v_1, v_m \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle v_m, v_1 \rangle & \cdots & \langle v_m, v_m \rangle \end{pmatrix} \right)^{1/2}$$

**Theorem 6.2.**  $(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$  embeds  $K$  as a subset of  $K_{\mathbb{R}} := \{z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C}^n : z_i = \bar{z}_j \text{ when } \sigma_i = \bar{\sigma}_j\}$

*Proof.* For each  $\alpha \in K$  we have  $(\sigma_1(\alpha), \dots, \sigma_n(\alpha)) = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$  satisfied for  $i, j$  with  $\sigma_i = \bar{\sigma}_j$ . So  $z_i = \sigma_i(\alpha) = \overline{\sigma_j(\alpha)} = \bar{z}_j$   $\square$

**Theorem 6.3.**  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$  has dimension  $n$ .

*Proof.* Without loss of generality let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$  be the real embedding of  $K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and let  $\sigma_{r+i} = \overline{\sigma_{r+s+i}}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ . Identifying  $\mathbb{C}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ , we have  $(x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, \dots, x_n, y_n)$  is in  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$  if and only if:

- $y_i = 0$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$
- $x_{r+i} = x_{r+i+s}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$
- $y_{r+i} = -y_{r+i+s}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$

The number of independent linear equations is  $r + 2s = n$ . Hence the dimension of  $K_{\mathbb{R}} = 2n - n = n$ .  $\square$

**Definition 6.4.** Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  (that is a positive definite symmetric bilinear form). Then  $V$  is called a *Euclidean space*.

**Example.**  $V = \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $\langle (x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n) \rangle = x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_n y_n$ . Or  $V$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (with the same inner product)

**Fact.** Any Euclidean space has an orthonormal basis.

**Definition 6.5.** Let  $V$  be an Euclidean space. A *lattice*  $\Lambda$  in  $V$  is a subgroup generated by  $\mathbb{R}$ -linearly independent vectors,  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ .

The *rank* of the lattice is  $m$ .

The *covolume* of  $\Lambda$  is  $\text{Vol}(P_{v_1, \dots, v_m})$

**Theorem 6.6.**  $\mathcal{O}_K$  embeds as a full rank lattice in  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$  of covolume  $\sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$

*Proof.* Let  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  be a basis for  $\mathcal{O}_K$ . Put  $\sigma(\alpha) = (\sigma_1(\alpha), \dots, \sigma_n(\alpha)) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  for all  $\alpha \in K$ . We have the vectors  $\sigma(\omega_1), \dots, \sigma(\omega_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

So we need to show that  $\text{Vol}(P_{\sigma(\omega_1), \dots, \sigma(\omega_n)}) = \sqrt{\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)} \neq 0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Vol}(P_{\sigma(\omega_1), \dots, \sigma(\omega_n)})^2 &= \det \left( (\langle \sigma(\omega_i), \sigma(\omega_j) \rangle)_{ij} \right) \\
&= \det \left( \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \sigma_k(\omega_i) \sigma_k(\omega_j) \right)_{ij} \right) \\
&= \det \left( \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \sigma_k(\omega_i \omega_j) \right)_{ij} \right) \\
&= \det \left( (\text{Tr}(\omega_i \omega_j))_{ij} \right) \\
&= \Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Corollary 6.7.** *For any non-zero ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ , we have  $\sigma(I) \subset K_{\mathbb{R}}$  is a full rank lattice of covolume  $\sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} \cdot N(I)$*

*Proof.* Obvious

□

**Minkowski's Theorem.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a full rank lattice in a Euclidean space  $V$  of dimension  $n$ . Let  $X \subset V$  be a bounded convex symmetric subset, satisfying  $\text{Vol}(X) > 2^n \cdot \text{covolume}(\Lambda)$ . Then  $X$  contains a non-zero point of  $\Lambda$ .*

*Proof.* See Topics in Number Theory course

□

A small refinement to the theorem can be made: If  $X$  is closed then  $\text{Vol}(X) \geq 2^n \cdot \text{covolume}(\Lambda)$  suffices.

## 6.2 Class Number

**Theorem 6.8.** *Let  $K$  be a number field of signature  $(r, s)$ . Then every non-zero ideal  $I$  of  $\mathcal{O}_K$  contains a non-zero element  $\alpha$  with*

$$|N(\alpha)| \leq \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^s N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$$

*Proof.* Let  $n = r + 2s = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ . Consider for  $t \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ , the closed set  $X_t = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} : |z_i| \leq t\}$ . We claim that  $\text{Vol}(X_t) = 2^{r+s} \pi^s t^n$

In terms of the orthogonal basis,  $X_t$  is isomorphic to  $[-t, t]^r \times B(0, \sqrt{2}t)^s$  (where  $B(a, r)$  is the standard notation for a ball of radius  $r$  centred at  $a$ , there is some bit of work need to see that the radius is indeed  $\sqrt{2}t$ ). So

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Vol}(X_t) &= (2t)^2 ((\pi(\sqrt{2}t)^2)^s) \\
&= 2^r t^r \pi^s 2^s t^{2s} \\
&= 2^{r+s} \pi^s t^{r+2s}
\end{aligned}$$

Now choose  $t$  such that  $\text{Vol}(X_t) = 2^n \text{covolume}(I \text{ in } K_{\mathbb{R}}) = 2^n N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$ . Then by Minkowski's there is an  $0 \neq \alpha \in I$  with  $\sigma(\alpha) \in X_t$ . So  $|N(\alpha)| = \prod |\sigma_i(\alpha)| \leq t^n$ , but since  $s^{r+s} \pi^s t^n = 2^n N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$ , we have  $|N(\alpha)| \leq t^n = \frac{2^s}{\pi^s} N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$  □

A better set for the above proof is  $X'_t = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} : |z_1| + \dots + |z_n| \leq t\}$ . In that case we have  $\text{Vol}(X'_t) = \frac{2^r \pi^s t^n}{n!}$ . This can be proven using integral calculus.

**Theorem 6.9.** *Every ideal  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  has an element  $\alpha \neq 0$  with  $|N(\alpha)| \leq \mu_K N(I)$  with*

$$\mu_K = \left(\frac{4}{\pi}\right)^s \frac{n!}{n^n} \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$$

*Proof.* Choose  $t$  with  $\text{Vol}(X'_t) = 2^n N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$ , that is  $\frac{2^r \pi^s t^n}{n!} = 2^n N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$ . Then there exists  $0 \neq \alpha \in I$  with  $\sigma(\alpha) \in X'_t$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} |N(\alpha)| &= \prod |\sigma_i(\alpha)| \\ &\leq \left( \frac{\sum |\sigma_i(\alpha)|}{n} \right)^n \\ &\leq \left( \frac{t}{n} \right)^n \\ &= \frac{1}{n^n} n! 2^{n-r} \pi^{-s} N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} \\ &= \frac{4^s n!}{\pi^s n^n} N(I) \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality follows from the well know theorem that Geometric Mean  $\leq$  Arithmetic Mean. (If  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ , then the Geometric mean is  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)^{1/n}$ , while the arithmetic mean is  $\frac{1}{n}(x_1 + \dots + x_n)$ )  $\square$

*Remark.* The number  $\mu_K$  is sometimes called *Minkowski's constant*.

**Theorem 6.10.** *For any number field  $K$  we have*

$$|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)| \leq \left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^{2s} \left( \frac{n^n}{n!} \right)^2$$

*Proof.* Apply the above with  $I = \mathcal{O}_K$ . Then there exists  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$  with  $|N(\alpha)| \leq \mu_K$ . Also  $N(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$  and non-zero if  $\alpha \neq 0$ . So  $|N(\alpha)| \geq 1$ . Hence

$$\mu_K = \left( \frac{4}{\pi} \right)^s \frac{n!}{n^n} \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} \geq 1 \Rightarrow |\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)| \leq \left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^{2s} \left( \frac{n^n}{n!} \right)^2$$

$\square$

**Corollary 6.11.** *If  $K \neq \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)| \neq 1$*

*Proof.* We have  $n \geq 2$ . We need to show that  $\left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^{2s} \left( \frac{n^n}{n!} \right)^2 > 1$ . Now  $\left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^{2s} \geq \left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^n$ , so we need to show  $\left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)^n \left( \frac{n^n}{n!} \right)^2 > 1$ . This can easily be done by induction.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.12.** *Let  $K$  be a number field and let  $C$  be an ideal class of  $K$ . Then there exists  $I \in C$  with  $N(I) \leq \mu_K$*

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 6.9 to an ideal  $J \in C^{-1}$ . (Note: if  $J \in C^{-1}$  is any fractional ideal there is an  $a \in \mathcal{O}_K$  with  $aJ \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ , since  $aJ \in C^{-1}$  we may suppose without lose of generality that  $J$  is an ideal).

So there exists  $\alpha \in J$  with  $|N(\alpha)| \leq \mu_K N(J)$ . Consider  $(\alpha)J^{-1}$ , we have  $J|(\alpha)$  so  $I := (\alpha)J^{-1}$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_K$ . Furthermore  $N(I) = N((\alpha))N(J^{-1}) \leq \mu_K N(J)N(J^{-1}) = \mu_K$   $\square$

**Corollary 6.13.** *The class group of any number field is finite.*

*Proof.* Every class is represented by an ideal of bounded norm and norms are in  $\mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . So it suffices to show that for any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  we have  $\#\{I \subset \mathcal{O}_K : N(I) = n\} < \infty$

Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  be given and  $I \subset \mathcal{O}_K$  be an ideal with  $N(I) = n$ . Factor  $n$  into primes,  $n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \dots p_r^{e_r}$ , and factor  $I$  into prime ideals  $I = P_1^{f_1} P_2^{f_2} \dots P_s^{f_s}$ . Then we have  $N(I) = N(P_1)^{f_1} N(P_2)^{f_2} \dots N(P_s)^{f_s} = p_1^{e_1} \dots p_r^{e_r}$ . By Kummer - Dedekind, for any  $p$  there exists finitely many prime ideals whose norms is a power of  $p$ . So there are finitely many prime ideals  $P$  whose norm is a power of one of the  $p_i$ . Furthermore if  $N(P_i) = p_j^{e_j}$ , then  $f_i \leq e_j$ , so there are finitely many possibilities.  $\square$

**Example.** • Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$ , note that it has signature  $(0, 1)$ . Then we have

$$\mu_K = \left( \frac{4}{\pi} \right)^s \frac{n!}{n^n} \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{2}{4} \sqrt{4 \cdot 5} = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{80} < \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{81} = 3$$

So every ideal class is represented by an ideal of norm at most 2. Let us work out the ideals of norm 2. By Kummer - Dedekind, we know  $(2) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^2$ , and  $N((2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})) = 2$ .

We have seen before that  $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$  is not principal. So there are two ideal class in  $\mathcal{O}_K$ . They are  $[(1)], [(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})]$ , so  $h_K = 2 \Rightarrow \text{Cl}_K \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$

- Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-19})$ , note that it has signature  $(0, 1)$ . Then we have

$$\mu_K = \left(\frac{4}{\pi}\right)^s \frac{n!}{n^n} \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{2}{4} \sqrt{19} = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{76} < \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{81} = 3$$

Also here, every ideal class is represented by an ideal of norm 1 or 2. Apply Kummer - Dedekind to factor (2).  $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{-19}}{2}\right]$ , hence  $f_\alpha = \left(x - \frac{1+\sqrt{-19}}{2}\right)\left(x - \frac{1-\sqrt{-19}}{2}\right) = x^2 - x + 5$ . So  $f \equiv x^2 + x + 1 \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$ , but this is an irreducible polynomial. So  $(2) = (2, 0) = (2)$  is a prime ideal, of norm 4. Hence there are no ideals of norm 2.

So  $h_K = 1$ , hence  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a PID.

- Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-14})$ , this has signature  $(0, 1)$ . Then we have

$$\mu_K = \left(\frac{4}{\pi}\right)^s \frac{n!}{n^n} \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|} = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{2}{4} \sqrt{4 \cdot 14} = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{16 \cdot 14} \leq \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{15^2} = 5$$

So only ideals of norms at most 4 are of concern. Every ideal can be factored into prime ideals. So the class group is generated by classes represented by prime ideals of norm  $\leq \mu_K$ . Prime ideals of norm  $\leq 4$  are prime ideals dividing (2) or (3). Hence we apply Kummer - Dedekind. We have  $f = x^2 + 14$

- $p = 2$ :  $x^2 + 14 \equiv x^2 \pmod{2}$ . So  $(2) = (2, \sqrt{-14})^2 := P^2$ . Note that  $N(P) = 2$
- $p = 3$ :  $x^2 + 14 \equiv x^2 - 1 \equiv (x-1)(x+1) \pmod{3}$ . So  $(3) = (3, \sqrt{-14}-1)(3, \sqrt{-14}+1) := QR$ . Note that  $N(Q) = N(R) = 3$

So ideals of norms less than 4 are  $(1), P, Q, R, P^2$ . Note that  $P^2$  is principal as it is  $(2)$ , so  $[P^2] = [(1)]$ . Since  $N(a + b\sqrt{-14}) = a^2 + 14b^2$  but 2 and 3 are not of this form, we have that  $P, Q, R$  are not principal. Also note that  $QR = (3)$  so  $[Q][R] = 1$

We claim that  $[(1)], [P], [Q], [R]$  are four distinct elements of the class group.

Suppose that  $[P] = [Q]$ . Then  $[Q][Q] = [P]^2 = 1 = [Q][R] \Rightarrow [Q] = [R]$ . Furthermore, since  $N(Q) = N(R) = 3$ , if  $[Q] = [R]$  then  $[QR] = 1 = [QQ]$ . Hence  $Q^2$  is principal,  $N(Q^2) = N(Q)^2 = 9$ , so we need to solve  $a^2 + 14b^2 = 9 \Rightarrow a = 3, b = 0$ . Hence  $Q^2 = (3) = QR \Rightarrow Q = R$ . Which is a contradiction.

This argument also showed  $[Q] \neq [R]$ . A similar argument shows that  $[P] \neq [R]$ .

Hence we have that  $h_K = 4$ . (With not too much work we can show that  $\text{Cl}_K \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ )

### 6.3 Dirichlet's Unit Theorem

**Dirichlet's Unit Theorem.** Let  $K$  be a number field of signature  $(r, s)$ . Let  $W$  be the group of roots of unity in  $K$ . Then  $W$  is finite, and  $\mathcal{O}_K^* \cong W \times \mathbb{Z}^{r+s-1}$ . That is, there exists  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_{r+s-1} \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$  such that every units in  $\mathcal{O}_K$  can be uniquely written as  $\omega \cdot \eta_1^{k_1} \cdots \eta_{r+s-1}^{k_{r+s-1}}$  with  $\omega \in W$  and  $k_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Example.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  with  $d > 0$  and square free. Then it has signature  $(2, 0)$ , so  $r + s - 1 = 1$ . Also  $W = \{\pm 1\}$ . Hence  $\mathcal{O}_K^* \cong W \times \mathbb{Z} = \{\pm 1\} \times \mathbb{Z} = \pm \epsilon_d^n$  (where  $\epsilon_d$  is as in section 1)

If  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  with  $d < 0$  square free, then it has signature  $(0, 1)$ , so  $\mathcal{O}_K^* = W$ , which is finite (see next lemma)

**Fact.** A subgroup  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a lattice if and only if for any  $M \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  we have  $[-M, M]^n \cap \Lambda$  is finite.

**Lemma 6.14.** The group  $W$  is finite.

*Proof.* If  $\omega \in W$ , then for all  $\sigma_i : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  we have  $\sigma_i(\omega)$  is a root of unity (if  $\omega^n = 1$  then  $\sigma_i(\omega)^n = 1$ ). So  $\sigma(\omega) = (\sigma_1(\omega), \dots, \sigma_n(\omega)) \in \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} : |z_i| = 1 \forall i\}$ . This is a bounded subset of  $K_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Also  $\omega \in \mathcal{O}_K$  as it satisfies some monic polynomial  $x^n - 1 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Hence  $\sigma(W) \subset \sigma(\mathcal{O}_K) \cap$  bounded set, but  $\sigma(\mathcal{O}_K)$  is a lattice, hence by the fact,  $\sigma(W)$  is finite.  $\square$

*Proof of Dirichlet's Unit Theorem.*

Let  $K_{\mathbb{R}}^* = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} : z_i \neq 0 \forall i\}$ . We have  $\mathcal{O}_K^* \hookrightarrow K^* \hookrightarrow K_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ . We will use logarithms: define  $\log : K_{\mathbb{R}}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  by  $(z_1, \dots, z_n) \mapsto (\log |z_1|, \dots, \log |z_n|)$ . This is a group homomorphism. Also define  $L : \mathcal{O}_K^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  by  $\alpha \mapsto \log(\sigma(\alpha)) = (\log |\sigma_1(\alpha)|, \dots, \log |\sigma_n(\alpha)|)$ , this is also a group homomorphism.

**Lemma 6.15.**  $\ker(L) = W$

*Proof.*  $\supset$ : For all  $\omega \in W$  and  $\sigma_i$  we have  $|\sigma_i(\omega)| = 1$ , so  $\log |\sigma_i(\omega)| = 0$

$\subset$ : Take  $\alpha \in \ker(L)$ . Then  $\log |\sigma_i(\alpha)| = 0 \forall i \Rightarrow |\sigma_i(\alpha)| = 1$  for all  $i$ . So  $\alpha$  is in some finite set. For every  $n$ , we have  $\alpha^n \in \ker(L)$  which is a finite set, so there are some  $n > m$ , with  $\alpha^n = \alpha^m$  and  $n \neq m$ . Then  $\alpha^{n-m} = 1$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.16.**  $\text{im}(L)$  is a lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Proof.* We must show that  $[-M, M]^n \cap \text{im}(L)$  is finite. Take  $L(\alpha) = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in [-M, M]^n \cap \text{im}(L)$  (where  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^* \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ ). We have for all  $i$ ,  $|\log |\sigma_i(\alpha)|| \leq M$ , so  $|\sigma_i(\alpha)| \leq e^M$ , hence  $\sigma(\alpha) \in$  bounded set  $\cap \sigma(\mathcal{O}_K) =$  finite. So there are finitely many possibilities for  $\alpha$   $\square$

Put  $\Lambda = L(\mathcal{O}_K^*) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Eventually, we have to show that  $\text{rk}(\Lambda) = r + s - 1$ .

**Lemma 6.17.** We have that  $\text{rk}(\Lambda) \leq r + s - 1$

*Proof.* Order  $\sigma_i$  such that  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$  are real and  $\sigma_{r+i} = \overline{\sigma_{r+s+i}}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ . Take  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$ . Then for  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$  we have  $\sigma_{r+i}(\alpha) = \overline{\sigma_{r+s+i}(\alpha)}$ . Hence  $\log |\sigma_{r+i}(\alpha)| = \log |\overline{\sigma_{r+s+i}(\alpha)}| = \log |\sigma_{r+s+i}(\alpha)|$ . So for  $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \Lambda$ , we have  $x_{r+i} = x_{r+s+i}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ . Hence we have found  $s$  relations. So  $\Lambda \subset$  subspace of dimension  $n - r = r + 2s - s = r + s$

So we need to find one extra relation. Now  $\alpha$  is a unit, so  $|N(\alpha)| = 1$ . So  $|N(\alpha)| = |\sigma_1(\alpha) \dots \sigma_n(\alpha)| = |\sigma_1(\alpha)| \dots |\sigma_n(\alpha)| = 1 \Rightarrow \log |\sigma_1(\alpha)| + \dots + \log |\sigma_n(\alpha)| = 0$ . So we have also the relation  $x_1 + \dots + x_n = 0$ . this shows  $\Lambda \subset V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $V$  is a subspace of dimension  $r + s - 1$  defined by these relations.  $\square$

So we are left to prove that  $\text{rk}(\Lambda) \geq r + s - 1$  or  $\Lambda$  is a full rank lattice in  $V$ .

Note that for  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$ , we have  $\sigma_1(\alpha) \dots \sigma_n(\alpha) = \pm 1$ . So  $\sigma(\mathcal{O}_K^*) \subset \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}}^* : z_1 \dots z_n = \pm 1\} =: E$ . We have to construct lots of units:

The idea: if  $(\alpha) = (\beta)$  then  $\beta/\alpha$  is a unit. So we will construct lots of  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$  by generating finitely many ideals. Consider  $X_t = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} : |z_i| \leq t\}$ . Choose  $t$  such that  $\text{Vol}(X_t) = 2^n \sqrt{|\Delta(\mathcal{O}_K)|}$ . Then by Minkowski's theorem, there exists a non-zero element in  $\sigma(\mathcal{O}_K) \cap X_t$ .

For any  $e \in E$ , consider  $eX_t = \{(z_1, \dots, z_n) \in K_{\mathbb{R}} : |z_i| < |e_i|t\}$ . Then  $\text{Vol}(eX_t) = |e_1 \dots e_n| \text{Vol}(X_t) = \text{Vol}(X_t)$ . So by Minkowski's there exists a non-zero element in  $\sigma(\mathcal{O}_K) \cap eX_t$ . Covering  $E$  with boxes  $eX_t$  means we get lots of elements  $a_e \in \sigma(\mathcal{O}_K) \cap eX_t \forall e \in E$ . We have  $|N(a_e)| = \prod |\sigma_i(a_e)| \leq \prod |e_i|t \leq t^n$ . So the norms of  $a_e$  are bounded, hence  $N((a_e)) = |N(a_e)|$  is bounded.

So the set of ideals  $\{(a_e) : e \in E\}$  is finite. Let  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  be such that  $\{(a_e) : e \in E\} = \{(b_1), \dots, (b_m)\}$ . For all  $e \in E$  there is some  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  such that  $(a_e) = (b_i)$ . So  $U_e = a_e/b_i$  is a unit of  $\mathcal{O}_K$ .

Claim:  $S = \{U_e : e \in E\}$  generates a full rank lattice in  $V$ , after applying  $L$ . If  $\langle L(S) \rangle$  is not of full rank, then  $L(S)$  spans a subspace  $Z \subsetneq V$ . Consider  $Y := \cup (b_i^{-1} \cdot X_t) \subset K_{\mathbb{R}}$ , it is bounded and without loss of generality we can choose it, such that  $\sigma(1) \in Y$ . Consider  $\cup_{e \in E} U_e^{-1} \cdot Y$  (all of these are bounded) We want to show that  $e^{-1} \in U_e^{-1} Y = \frac{b_i}{a_e} \cdot Y$ . By construction,  $b_i \cdot Y \supset X_t$ , so  $\frac{b_i}{a_e} \cdot Y \supset \frac{1}{a_e} \cdot X_t$ . We have  $a_e \in eX_t$ , so  $\frac{1}{e} \in \frac{1}{a_e} X_t$ . Hence  $\cup_{e \in E} U_e^{-1}$  contains  $E$ . So  $V = \cup_{s \in S} \log(s) + \log(Y)$ . We are assuming  $\log(s) \in Z$  and  $\log(Y)$  is bounded. If  $Z \neq V$  then  $V$  is at some bounded distance from  $Z$ . This proves that  $\langle L(S) \rangle$  is of full rank.

So  $L(\mathcal{O}_K^*)$  is a full rank lattice in  $V$ . Hence it has rank  $r + s - 1$ , i.e.,  $L(\mathcal{O}_K^*) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{r+s-1}$

**Lemma 6.18.** Let  $A$  be an abelian group, let  $A' \subset A$  be a subgroup and put  $A'' = A/A'$ . If  $A''$  is free (i.e.,  $\cong \mathbb{Z}^n$  for some  $n$ ), then  $A \cong A' \times A''$

*Proof.* Omitted, but can be found in any algebra course.  $\square$

In our case, we have  $A = \mathcal{O}_K^*$  and  $A' = W$ . Then by the first isomorphism theorem  $A'' \cong L(\mathcal{O}_K^*)$  (as  $W = \ker(L)$ ). So using the lemma, we have  $A \cong W \times L(\mathcal{O}_K^*) \cong L \times \mathbb{Z}^{r+s-1}$  as required.  $\square$