

Math 525

Class 14

September 27.

Homework will be postponed to Friday.

No quiz Friday.

**\* IMPORTANT \***

Most problems in this textbook have solutions online somewhere.

It is OK to look up solutions.

By turning in a solution, even one obtained with the help of your friend "Google", you are representing that you understand what you have written, and that you could solve a similar problem on a test (time permitting)

Suggestion: think about the problem before looking it up! When you see the solution ask: what did I miss?

Recall that  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  is NOT a UFD.

$$3 \cdot 3 = 9 = (2 + \sqrt{-5})(2 - \sqrt{-5})$$

Claim:  $3$ ,  $2 + \sqrt{-5}$ , and  $2 - \sqrt{-5}$  are irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ .

Proof: These elements have norm 9.

$$N(a + b\sqrt{-5}) = a^2 + 5b^2$$

Norm is multiplicative, so if  $\alpha\beta = 2 + \sqrt{-5}$  then  $N(\alpha)N(\beta) = N(2 + \sqrt{-5}) = 9$ .

Thus either one of  $\alpha, \beta$  has norm 1 or  $N(\alpha) = N(\beta) = 3$ .

But there are no elements of norm  $a^2 + 5b^2 = 3$

Thus one of  $\alpha, \beta$  has norm 1, so  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  is  $\pm 1$  and  $2 + \sqrt{-5}$  is irreducible.

The same argument applies to  $3$ ,  $2 - \sqrt{-5}$ .

What is the  $\gcd(3, 2+\sqrt{-5})$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$

Note that  $3 \nmid 2+\sqrt{-5}$  and vice versa.

$3$  and  $2+\sqrt{-5}$  are irreducible, so any divisor is the same element (up to a unit).

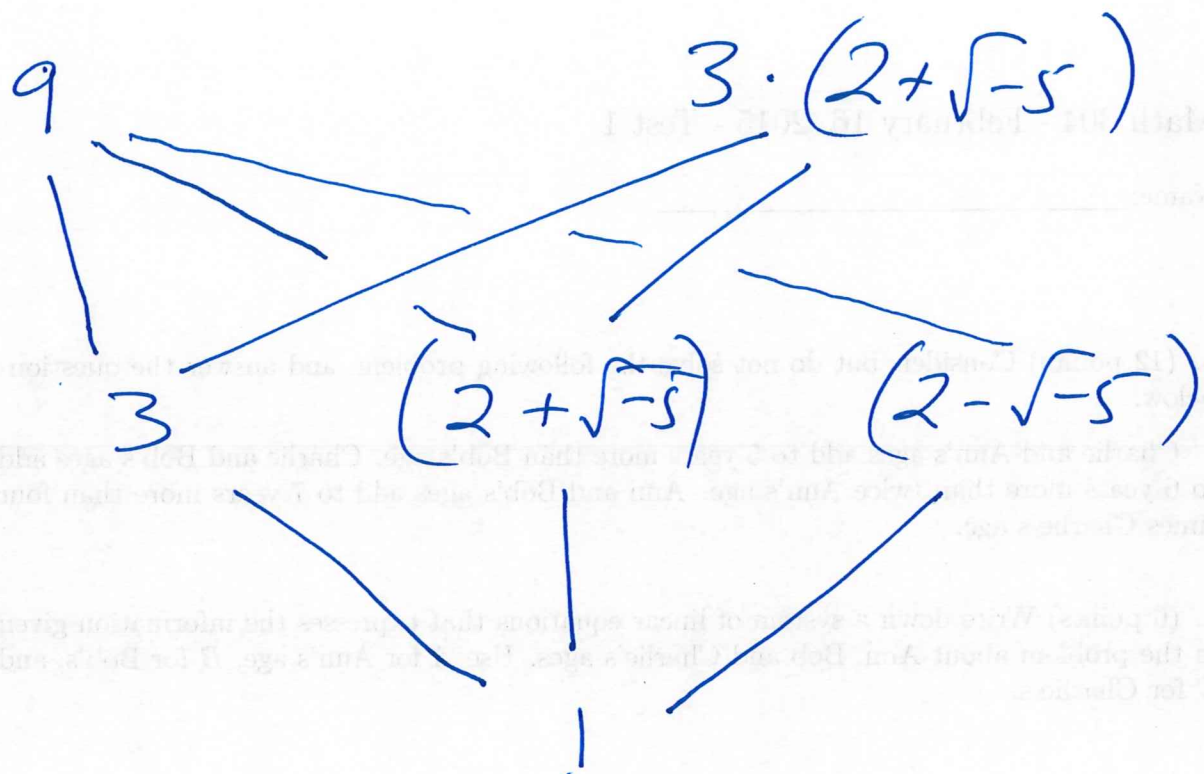
Thus  $\gcd(3, 2+\sqrt{-5}) = 1$ .

What is  $\gcd(3^2, 3 \cdot (2+\sqrt{-5}))$ ?

Note that there is a uniqueness requirement in the definition of  $\gcd$ : The  $\gcd$   $d$  is required to divide  $a$  and  $b$ .

AND if  $d' \mid a$ ,  $d' \mid b$  we must have  $d' \mid d = \gcd(a, b)$ .

Let's draw a picture!



Note that  $2+\sqrt{-5}$  is a common divisor:

$$(2+\sqrt{-5})(2-\sqrt{-5}) = 9$$

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

AND  $3$  is a common divisor:

$$3 \cdot 3 = 9 \quad 3 \cdot (2+\sqrt{-5}) = 3 \cdot (2+\sqrt{-5})$$

But there is no common divisor satisfying the uniqueness requirement.

$3 \nmid (2+\sqrt{-5})$  and vice versa

So neither can be the gcd.

In fact the GCD does not exist.

So the point of #7 in 8.2

is that in a "Bezout Domain"

by definition the gcd  $(a, b)$  is a

linear combination  $xa + yb$ , and

so gcds do exist.

So if you have  $\frac{9}{10}$  you can

factor out the gcd and get a

"lowest terms": no common factor.

But wait! In  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$  we can  
do this anyway.

Consider, for example  $\frac{9}{3(2+\sqrt{-5})}$

We can write  $9 = 3 \cdot 3 = (2+\sqrt{-5})(2-\sqrt{-5})$

So  $\frac{9}{3(2+\sqrt{-5})} = \frac{3}{2+\sqrt{-5}}$  AND  $\frac{9}{3(2+\sqrt{-5})} = \frac{2-\sqrt{-5}}{3}$

Can we always do this?

No: Let  $R = \mathbb{Z} + x \mathbb{Q}[x, y] + y \mathbb{Q}[x, y]$

$R =$  polys in  $\mathbb{Q}[x, y]$  with integer constant term.

Now consider  $\frac{x}{y}$

For any  $n$  we can write  $n \cdot \left(\frac{1}{n}x\right) = x$ .

$$\text{So } \frac{n}{n} \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{n}x}{\frac{1}{n}y} = \frac{x}{y}$$

and we can remove a factor of  $n$  from top and bottom for any  $n$ .

$$\text{So } \frac{x}{y} = \frac{2}{2} \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{2}x}{\frac{1}{2}y} = \frac{2}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{2} \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{4}x}{\frac{1}{4}y} \text{ etc.}$$

We can keep removing factors indefinitely

There is no such thing as lowest terms.

Why do I say "uniqueness requirement" in part (2)(ii) of defn of gcd p. 274?

Because if there were two gcds,  $d$ ,  $\overset{u}{d}$  then the definition implies  $d \mid \overset{u}{d}$  and  $\overset{u}{d} \mid d$ , so they are the same up to a unit.

Example: in  $\mathbb{Z}$   $\gcd(12, 9)$  can be 3 or  $-3$ .

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Q: Why can't we have a simpler example than

$$R = \mathbb{Z} + x \mathbb{Q}[x, y] + y \mathbb{Q}[x, y]?$$

A: If factoring stops, we can get a representation which is not unique, but has lowest terms,

$$\text{as in } \frac{9}{3(2+\sqrt{-5})} = \frac{3}{2+\sqrt{-5}} = \frac{2-\sqrt{-5}}{3}.$$

If it doesn't, the ring doesn't satisfy ACC, so must be "complicated".

In  $\mathbb{H}$  how many solutions are there to

$$X^2 + I = 0 \text{ ?}$$

In  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  how many sol'n's to  $X^2 + I = 0$ ?

In  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  : reflection in any line through the origin. is a linear trans with  $X^2 = I$ .

Rotation by  $90^\circ$  has  $X^2 = -I$ .

Infinitely many matrices with  $X^2 = -I$ .

In  $\mathbb{H}$ , let ~~affix~~  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^3$  with

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$$

Claim:  $(xi + yj + zk)^2 = -1$ .

infinitely many.