

Meeting 2:

Materials course: **basic properties of ring**

Theorem 1. If  $R$  is ring, then for every  $a, b, c \in R$  the following statements are satisfied.

1.  $az = za = z$
2.  $a(-b) = (-a)b = -(ab)$
3.  $(-a)(-b) = ab$
4.  $-(a+b) = (-a) + (-b)$
5.  $a(b-c) = ab - ac$
6.  $(a-b)c = ac - bc$
7.  $(-u)a = -a$  where  $u$  is unity

Theorem 2. Let  $R$  be ring. The ring  $R$  has no zero divisor if and only if the cancellation law is satisfied in  $R$ .

Theorem 3. The finite integral domain is field.

Exercises:

1. Proof Theorem 1, 2 and 3.

Definition 1.

Let  $R$  be ring and  $a \in R$  and  $m$  be a positive integer. We have the following definitions.

1.  $ma = \underbrace{a + a + a + \dots + a}_m$
2.  $-ma = \underbrace{(-a) + (-a) + \dots + (-a)}_m = -(ma)$
3.  $0a = z$

Theorem 4. If  $R$  is ring and  $m, n$  are integers, then

1.  $(m+n)a = ma + na$
2.  $m(a+b) = ma + mb$
3.  $m(na) = (mn)a = n(ma)$

Definition 2. If  $R$  is ring,  $a \in R$  and  $m$  is a positive integer, then we define

$$a^m = \underbrace{a.a.a\dots a}_m$$

If  $a \in R$  and  $a^2 = a$ , then  $a$  is called idempotent element of  $R$ .

If  $a \in R$  and there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $a^n = z$ , then  $a$  is called nilpotent element of  $R$ .

Definition 3. Let  $R$  be ring. If there exists the least positive integer  $n$  such that  $na = z$  for every  $a \in R$ , then  $n$  is called **characteristic of ring  $R$** . If there no such number, then the **characteristic of  $R$**  is 0 or infinite.

Examples.

1. Identify characteristic of ring  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$ .
2. Find characteristic of  $n\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

Theorem 5. Let  $(R, +, \times)$  be an integral domain and  $a, b \in R, a \neq z, b \neq z$ , then  $p(a) = p(b)$  ( period of a is equal to period of b under group  $(R, +)$ ).

Theorem 6. Let  $(R, +, \times)$  be an integral domain, then characteristic of R is 0 or a positive integer  $n$  such that  $n$  is period of nonzero element of R under group  $(R, +)$ .

Theorem 7. Let  $(R, +, \times)$  be an integral domain, then characteristic of R is 0 or a prime number.

Exercises:

Find the characteristic of the given ring:

1.  $2\mathbb{Z}$
2.  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$
3.  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \times 3\mathbb{Z}$
4.  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$
5.  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$
6.  $\mathbb{Z}_6 \times \mathbb{Z}_{15}$
7. Let R be commutative ring with unity of characteristic 3. Compute and simplify  $(a+b)^4$  for  $a, b \in R$ .
8. Let R be commutative ring with unity of characteristic 3. Compute and simplify  $(a+b)^3$  for  $a, b \in R$ .
9. Let R be commutative ring with unity of characteristic p where p is prime number. Compute and simplify  $(a+b)^p$  for  $a, b \in R$ .
10. Let R be an integral domain of order m, show that characteristic of R divides m.
11. Let F be a field of order 8, find characteristic of F.
12. Let F be a field of order  $2^n$ , find characteristic of F.
13. Let F be a field of order  $p^n$  where p is prime number, find characteristic of F.

Let R be ring and  $a \in R$ . If there exists positive integer n such that  $a^n = z$ , then a is called a **nilpotent element**. If  $a^2 = a$ , then a is called an **idempotent element**.

14. Find all nilpotent elements of integral domain R.
15. Find all idempotent elements of integral domain R.
16. Determine all ring elements that are both nilpotents and idempotents.
17. Let R be ring with unity and  $a \in R$ . Suppose  $a^n = z$  for some positive integer n, prove that  $1 - a$  has multiplicative inverse in R. (hint: compute  $(1-a)(1+a+a^2+\dots+a^{n-1})$ ).