

Test n° 1 - Answers and Solutions

Question about course 1. $(R, +, \times)$ is a ring if it satisfies each of the following point

i) R is a nonempty set

ii) $+$ and \times are binary operation on R

$$\forall (a, b) \in R^2, \begin{cases} a + b \in R \\ a \times b \in R \end{cases}$$

iii) $(R, +)$ is an abelian group, that is it satisfies each of the following point

$$\forall (a, b, c) \in R^3, (a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$$

$$\exists 0 \in R / \forall a \in R, a + 0 = 0 + a = a$$

$$\forall a \in R, \exists a' \in R / a + a' = a' + a = 0$$

$$\forall (a, b) \in R^2, a + b = b + a$$

iv) the binary operation \times is associative

$$\forall (a, b, c) \in R^3, (a \times b) \times c = a \times (b \times c)$$

v) the binary operation \times is distributive over the binary operation $+$

$$\forall (a, b, c) \in R^3, \begin{cases} a \times (b + c) = a \times b + a \times c \\ (b + c) \times a = b \times a + c \times a \end{cases}$$

Exercise 2. At first, $n = 0$ gives

$$6^{2n+1} + 2^{3n+1} = 6^1 + 2^1 = 8 = 1 + 7 \equiv 1 \quad [7]$$

So the claim is true for $n = 0$. Now assume the claim is true for a given integer $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We have

$$6^{2(n+1)+1} + 2^{3(n+1)+1} = 6^{2n+2+1} + 2^{3n+3+1} = 6^2 \times 6^{2n+1} + 2^3 \times 2^{3n+1} = 36 \times 6^{2n+1} + 8 \times 2^{3n+1}$$

Using the division algorithm we get

$$\begin{cases} 36 = 5 \times 7 + 1 \equiv 1 & [7] \\ 8 = 1 \times 7 + 1 \equiv 1 & [7] \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 6^{2(n+1)+1} + 2^{3(n+1)+1} &= 36 \times 6^{2n+1} + 8 \times 2^{3n+1} \equiv 1 \times 6^{2n+1} + 1 \times 2^{3n+1} & [7] \\ &\equiv 6^{2n+1} + 2^{3n+1} & [7] \end{aligned}$$

Consequently the claim is also true for $n + 1$ since it is true for n by inductive assumption. The conclusion follows by induction.

Problem 3. 1. Obviously, if $a = b = 0$ then $a + b\sqrt{2} = 0$. Conversely, assume $a + b\sqrt{2} = 0$. If $b \neq 0$ then we get $\sqrt{2} = \frac{-a}{b}$ which is a contradiction with $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$. Consequently $b = 0$ and $a = -b\sqrt{2} = 0$.

2. A is a nonempty subset of \mathbb{R} and $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times)$ is a commutative unital ring (and even more a field). Moreover for every $x = a + b\sqrt{2} \in A$ and $y = c + d\sqrt{2} \in A$ we have

$$\begin{cases} x - y = (a + b\sqrt{2}) - (c + d\sqrt{2}) = (a - c) + (b - d)\sqrt{2} \in A \\ x \times y = (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (c + d\sqrt{2}) = (ac + 2bd) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2} \in A \end{cases}$$

The first point shows that $(A, +)$ is a subgroup of $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ and the second point shows that \times is a binary operation on A . Consequently $(A, +, \times)$ is a subring of $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times)$ and in particular $(A, +, \times)$ is a commutative ring. Furthermore $1 = 1 + 0\sqrt{2} \in A$ is the multiplicative identity, so $(A, +, \times)$ is unital.

Now we need to find a nonzero element in A which has no multiplicative inverse in A . For instance, assume $\sqrt{2} = 0 + 1\sqrt{2} \in A$ has a multiplicative inverse denoted by $a + b\sqrt{2}$, that is

$$\sqrt{2} \times (a + b\sqrt{2}) = 2b + a\sqrt{2} = 1$$

In particular we get $(2b - 1) + a\sqrt{2} = 0$ and the first point of this problem implies $2b - 1 = 0$ and $a = 0$. But $2b - 1 = 0$ is a contradiction with $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ (2 has no multiplicative inverse in \mathbb{Z}). It follows that $\sqrt{2} \neq 0$ has no multiplicative inverse in A and then $(A, +, \times)$ is not a field.

3. (a) Let $x = a + b\sqrt{2} \in A$ and $y = c + d\sqrt{2}$. Then

$$N(x) = x \times \varphi(x) = (a + b\sqrt{2}) \times (a - b\sqrt{2}) = a^2 - ab\sqrt{2} + ab\sqrt{2} + 2b^2 = a^2 - 2b^2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } N(xy) &= N\left((a + b\sqrt{2})(c + d\sqrt{2})\right) \\ &= N\left((ac + 2bd) + (ad + bc)\sqrt{2}\right) \\ &= (ac + 2bd)^2 - 2(ad + bc)^2 \\ &= a^2c^2 + 4abcd + 4b^2d^2 - 2a^2d^2 - 4abcd - 2b^2c^2 \\ &= a^2c^2 - 2b^2c^2 - 2a^2d^2 + 4b^2d^2 \\ &= (a^2 - 2b^2)(c^2 - 2d^2) \\ &= N(x)N(y) \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Assume $x \in A$ has a multiplicative inverse in A denoted by x^{-1} . Using the previous results we get

$$N(x)N(x^{-1}) = N(xx^{-1}) = N(1) = 1$$

In particular, $N(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$ has a multiplicative inverse $N(x^{-1}) \in \mathbb{Z}$. That implies either $N(x) = 1$ or $N(x) = -1$ (only these two integers have multiplicative inverse in \mathbb{Z}).

Conversely, if $N(x) = x \times \varphi(x)$ is equal to 1 or -1 then x has a multiplicative inverse in A which is respectively $\varphi(x)$ or $-\varphi(x)$.

Problem 4. Consider the following map for a given number $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^*$

$$\begin{aligned} f_\lambda : \mathbb{R}^2 &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto \left(\lambda x, \frac{y}{\lambda}\right) \end{aligned}$$

1. $(\mathbb{R}^2, +)$ is an abelian group. Let (x, y) and (x', y') be two points in \mathbb{R}^2 . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_\lambda((x, y) + (x', y')) &= f_\lambda((x + x', y + y')) \\ &= \left(\lambda(x + x'), \frac{y + y'}{\lambda}\right) \\ &= \left(\lambda x, \frac{y}{\lambda}\right) + \left(\lambda x', \frac{y'}{\lambda}\right) \\ &= f_\lambda((x, y)) + f_\lambda((x', y')) \end{aligned}$$

So f_λ is a group endomorphism from $(\mathbb{R}^2, +)$ to itself.

2. (a) Let (x, y) be a point in \mathbb{R}^2 . Then

$$f_\lambda \circ f_\mu(x, y) = f_\lambda(f_\mu(x, y)) = f_\lambda\left(\mu x, \frac{y}{\mu}\right) = \left(\lambda\mu x, \frac{y}{\lambda\mu}\right) = f_{\lambda\mu}(x, y)$$

Consequently, $f_\lambda \circ f_\mu = f_{\lambda\mu}$.

- (b) Since the product of two numbers in \mathbb{R}^* stays in \mathbb{R}^* , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \circ : \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \\ (f_\lambda, f_\mu) &\longmapsto f_\lambda \circ f_\mu = f_{\lambda\mu} \in \mathcal{F} \end{aligned}$$

In other words, \circ is a binary operation on \mathcal{F} .

- (c) The associativity of (\mathcal{F}, \circ) comes from that one of (\mathbb{R}^*, \times)

$$\forall (\lambda, \mu, \nu) \in (\mathbb{R}^*)^3, (f_\lambda \circ f_\mu) \circ f_\nu = f_{\lambda\mu} \circ f_\nu = f_{(\lambda\mu)\nu} = f_{\lambda(\mu\nu)} = f_\lambda \circ f_{\mu\nu} = f_\lambda \circ (f_\mu \circ f_\nu)$$

$f_1 : (x, y) \mapsto (x, y)$ is obviously the identity element of (\mathcal{F}, \circ) . Moreover for every $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^*$ we have

$$f_\lambda \circ f_{1/\lambda} = f_{\lambda/\lambda} = f_1 \quad \text{and} \quad f_{1/\lambda} \circ f_\lambda = f_{1/\lambda} \circ f_\lambda = f_1$$

In particular, every $f_\lambda \in \mathcal{F}$ has an inverse element (which is $f_{1/\lambda} \in \mathcal{F}$). Finally (\mathcal{F}, \circ) is a group.

3. (a) Let λ and μ be two numbers in \mathbb{R}^* . We have

$$h(\lambda\mu) = f_{\lambda\mu} = f_\lambda \circ f_\mu = h(\lambda) \circ h(\mu)$$

Then h is a group homomorphism from (\mathbb{R}^*, \times) to (\mathcal{F}, \circ) . Moreover h is a surjective map by definition of \mathcal{F} and an injective map since

$$\forall (\lambda, \mu) \in (\mathbb{R}^*)^2, h(\lambda) = h(\mu) \Rightarrow f_\lambda = f_\mu \Rightarrow f_\lambda(1, 0) = f_\mu(1, 0) \Rightarrow (\lambda, 0) = (\mu, 0) \Rightarrow \lambda = \mu$$

Finally, h is a bijective map and hence a group isomorphism from (\mathbb{R}^*, \times) to (\mathcal{F}, \circ) .

- (b) Since (\mathbb{R}^*, \times) is an abelian group, we have

$$\forall (\lambda, \mu) \in (\mathbb{R}^*), f_\lambda \circ f_\mu = h(\lambda) \circ h(\mu) = h(\lambda\mu) = h(\mu\lambda) = h(\mu) \circ h(\lambda) = f_\mu \circ f_\lambda$$

Then the binary operation \circ is commutative on \mathcal{F} or equivalently, (\mathcal{F}, \circ) is an abelian group.