

# Lecture 1

① Course Info: See class website, syllabus, calendar

② HW01 due this Friday at 11:59pm:

will ask you to recall prereq topics from 150ab, 250a and review some important ones for 250b

③ Goal: Cover material from Chp 6 & 8 in Rotman, mostly linearly. Fill in gaps as needed.  
Will cover some other stuff at the end.

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Recall. A category  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of

collection of objects  $Ob(\mathcal{C})$   $X, Y$

and structure-preserving maps  $Mor(\mathcal{C})$   $Mor(X, Y)$

these  $Mor/Hom$  sets can be enriched in other categories

Rings:  $(R, +, \cdot)$  where

- $(R, +)$  is an abelian group ( $\Rightarrow 0 \in R$ )
- there is a multiplicative identity  $1 \in R$   
and multiplication is associative

(e  $(R - \{0\}, \cdot)$  is a monoid

- Distributive:  $a(b+c) = ab+ac$ ,  
 $(b+c)a = ba+ca \quad \forall a, b, c \in R$

Remark. If  $1=0$ , then the whole thing collapses and we have

$R = \{0\}$ , the zero ring.

Remark If mult. is comm, then we have a commutative ring.

$\leadsto$  commutative algebra is a whole course

We will not assume  $R$  is commutative.

Eg. Many important non-comm rings:

①  $\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{C})$  where  $n \geq 2$

② or for that matter,  $\text{Mat}_n(k)$  where  $k$  is any nonzero commutative ring (eg. fields) ( $n \geq 2$ )

③ or even  $\text{Mat}_n(R)$  where  $R$  is noncomm ( $n \geq 1$ )

② Group ring:  $(G, \cdot) = \text{a group}$ .

$$\underline{\mathbb{Z}G} = \mathbb{Z}[G] = \left\{ \sum_{g \in G} a_g g \mid \text{only finitely many } a_g \neq 0 \right\}$$

*Rotman*

where multiplication is like polynomial mult:

$$\text{eg. } (3x + 2y)(x + y) = 3x^2 + 3xy + 2yx + 2y^2$$

here  $x^2, xy, yx, y^2 \in G$ .

③ Polynomials!  $k$  - not nec. comm. ring. Then  $k[x]$  also is noncomm (*Why is this obvious?*)

*not "proof by intimidation"; rather, should be a quick answer once you figure it out*

④  $\text{End}(A)$  where  $A$  is an abelian group

eg.  $\text{End}(\mathbb{Z}^2) \cong \text{Mat}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ .

Some important structures:

defn. Subring:  $S \subset R$  that has the same  $0, 1$  as  $R$ , and is closed under  $+, \cdot$ .  $\Rightarrow$  also a ring.

defn. Center  $Z(R)$  = elements that (obv. multiplicatively) comm. w/ all others.

Eg. Scalar matrices in  $M_n(k)$ , when  $k$  is comm.

Claim  $Z(R)$  is a subring (Prove this — this is ISO-level proof)

Eg.  $S = \{a+ib \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \mathbb{C}$

where  $(a+bi)(c+di) = ac + (ad+bc)i$

is a ring... but not a subring of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

What is  $1_S$ ?

$ac + (ad+bc)i = c + di$  iff  $a=1, b=0$  ✓ same  $1$

But multiplication is not the same!

Eg.  $R = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ .  $1_R = (1, 1)$ .

$S = \{(n, 0)\} \cong \mathbb{Z}$  but  $1_S = (1, 0)$ .

So  $S$  is not a subring of  $R$ .

Easier to think of all this by morphisms:

$S$  is a subring of  $R$  iff there is an injective

ring hom / ring map  $i: S \hookrightarrow R$ .

defn. A ring hom  $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$  is a set map where  $(+, \cdot, 1)$  are respected.

$$\varphi(a+b) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b), \quad \varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b), \quad \varphi(1_R) = 1_S.$$

Obvious consequence:  $\varphi(0) = 0$ . Why? (group hom. condition)

$\rightsquigarrow$  this gives us the notion of ring isom- (hom + bij),  
endo-, auto-morphisms; kernel, image...

Subrings are not to be confused with ideals.

defn. let  $I$  be an additive subgroup of  $R$ .

①  $I$  is a left ideal if  $\forall a \in I, r \in R, \quad ra \in I$

ie  $R \cdot I \subset I$ , i.e.  $\exists$  action by  $R$  on left

②  $I$  is a right ideal if  $\forall a \in I, r \in R, \quad ar \in I$

ie  $I \cdot R \subset I$ , i.e.  $\exists$  action by  $R$  on the right

③  $I$  is a 2-sided ideal if both  $IR, RI \subset I$

ie there is left and right action by  $R$ .

eg.  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r & 0 \\ s & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 \\ * & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Re_1$  is a left ideal

$\rightsquigarrow \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 \\ * & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  and  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & * \\ 0 & * \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  are left ideals

OTDH,  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  and  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ * & * \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  are right ideals

What are the two-sided ideals?

$\hookrightarrow$  only  $\{0\}$  and  $\text{Mat}_2(\mathbb{R})$

$\Rightarrow$  no proper two-sided ideals



Why are ideals "more important" than subrings?

defn. If  $I$  is a 2-sided ideal, then  $R/I$  is a quotient ring

$$R/I = \{ r+I \mid r \in R \}$$

- addition is clearly ok
- $(r+I)(s+I) = rs + rI + sI + I^2 = rs + I$

Is this well-defined?

if  $r \sim r'$ ,  $s \sim s'$ , then  $r-r', s-s' \in I$ .

$$\begin{aligned} rs - r's' &= rs - rs' + rs' + r's' \\ &= r(s-s') + (r-r')s' \in I. \end{aligned}$$

Think back to normal subgroups...

The canonical/natural map:  $\pi: R \longrightarrow R/I$   
 $r \longmapsto r+I$

Next time: Modules.