

## sup(E) and inf(E)

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Algebra Lect 16  
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Let  $S$  be a set.

A relation on  $S$  is a subset  $\subset$  of  $S \times S$

If  $x, y \in S$  and  $(x, y) \in \subset$  then write  $x \subset y$

A poset, or partially ordered set, is a set  $S$  with a relation  $\leq$  such that

(a) if  $x, y \in S$  and  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$  then  $x \leq z$

(b) if  $x, y \in S$  and  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$  then  $x = y$ .

Let  $(S, \leq)$  be a poset. Let  $E \subseteq S$ .

The supremum of  $E$  is  $\text{sup}(E)$  such that

(a)  $\text{sup}(E) \in S$  and  $\text{sup}(E)$  satisfies

if  $x \in E$  then  $x \leq \text{sup}(E)$

(b) If  $b \in S$  and  $b$  satisfies

if  $x \in E$  then  $x \leq b$

then  $\text{sup}(E) \leq b$ .

The infimum of  $E$  is  $\text{inf}(E)$  such that

(a)  $\text{inf}(E) \in S$  and  $\text{inf}(E)$  satisfies

if  $x \in E$  then  $x \geq \text{inf}(E)$

(b) If  $b \in S$  and  $b$  satisfies

if  $x \in E$  and  $x \geq b$

then  $\text{inf}(E) \geq b$ .

P+Q and P∩Q

Let R be a ring. Let M be an R-module <sup>R-Mod</sup>

Let N be an R-submodule of M. Define

$$\mathcal{L}_{[N, M]} = \{ \text{R-modules } P \text{ with } N \subseteq P \subseteq M \}$$

partially ordered by inclusion.

Let P, Q ∈  $\mathcal{L}_{[N, M]}$ . Define

$$P+Q = \{ p+q \mid p \in P \text{ and } q \in Q \} \text{ and}$$

$$P \cap Q = \{ m \in M \mid m \in P \text{ and } m \in Q \}.$$

Proposition

$$P+Q = \text{sup}(P, Q) \text{ and } P \cap Q = \text{inf}(P, Q)$$

Proof sketch: To show:

- (a)  $P \subseteq P+Q$  and  $Q \subseteq P+Q$
- (b) If  $L \in \mathcal{L}_{[N, M]}$  and  $P \subseteq L$  and  $Q \subseteq L$  then  $P+Q \subseteq L$
- (c)  $P \cap Q \subseteq P$  and  $P \cap Q \subseteq Q$
- (d) If  $K \in \mathcal{L}_{[N, M]}$  and  $K \subseteq P$  and  $K \subseteq Q$  then  $K \subseteq P \cap Q$ .

gcd and lcm

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Let  $R$  be a UFD and let  $x, y \in R$ .

The greatest common divisor of  $x$  and  $y$  is

$\gcd(x, y)$  such that

(a)  $\gcd(x, y) \in R$  and  $\gcd(x, y)$  divides  $x$   
and  $\gcd(x, y)$  divides  $y$ .

(b) If  $d \in R$  and  $d$  divides  $x$  and  $d$  divides  $y$   
then  $d$  divides  $\gcd(x, y)$ .

The least common multiple of  $x$  and  $y$  is

$\text{lcm}(x, y)$  such that

(a)  $\text{lcm}(x, y) \in R$  and  $\text{lcm}(x, y)$  is a multiple of  $x$   
and  $\text{lcm}(x, y)$  is a multiple of  $y$ .

(b) If  $m \in R$  and  $m$  is a multiple of  $x$  and  
 $m$  is a multiple of  $y$  then

$m$  is a multiple of  $\text{lcm}(x, y)$ .

Rewrite the definition of  $\gcd(x, y)$  in terms of  
principal ideals.

(a)  $\gcd(x, y) \in R$  and  $\gcd(x, y)R \supseteq xR$   
and  $\gcd(x, y)R \supseteq yR$

(b) If  $d \in R$  and  $dR \supseteq xR$  and  $dR \supseteq yR$   
then  $dR \supseteq \gcd(x, y)R$ .

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If  $R$  is a PID then

$$\gcd(x, y)R = xR + yR = \sup(xR, yR)$$

$$\text{lcm}(x, y)R = xR \cap yR = \inf(xR, yR)$$

in  $\mathcal{L}(0, R]$ .

If  $R$  is a UFD and  $p_1, \dots, p_L \in R$  are irreducible and  $a_1, \dots, a_L, b_1, \dots, b_L \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  and

$$x = p_1^{a_1} \dots p_L^{a_L} \quad \text{and} \quad y = p_1^{b_1} \dots p_L^{b_L}$$

then

$$\gcd(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} \dots p_L^{\min(a_L, b_L)} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{lcm}(x, y) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} \dots p_L^{\max(a_L, b_L)}$$

Note that  $\gcd(x, y)$  and  $\text{lcm}(x, y)$  are determined only up to multiplication by units.

Proposition (modular law) Let  $R$  be a ring and  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $N$  a submodule of  $M$ .

Let  $\mathcal{L}_{N, M} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} R\text{-modules } P \text{ with} \\ N \subseteq P \subseteq M \end{array} \right\}$  partially ordered by inclusion.

Let  $P, Q, L \in \mathcal{L}_{N, M}$ .

If  $P \subseteq Q$  then  $Q \cap (P + L) = P + (Q \cap L)$ .

## The modular law

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Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module.

Let  $N$  be an  $R$ -submodule of  $M$ . Let

$$\mathcal{S}_{[N, M]} = \left\{ R\text{-modules } P \text{ with } N \subseteq P \subseteq M \right\}$$

partially ordered by inclusion.

Let  $P, Q \in \mathcal{S}_{[N, M]}$ . Then

$$\sup(P, Q) = P + Q \quad \text{and} \quad \inf(P, Q) = P \cap Q.$$

Proposition (modular law). Let  $P, Q, L \in \mathcal{S}_N^M$ .

$$\text{If } P \subseteq Q \text{ then } Q \cap (P + L) = P + (Q \cap L)$$

(Think:  $\text{lcm}(q, \text{gcd}(p, l)) = \text{gcd}(p, \text{lcm}(q, l))$ )

Proof: Assume  $P \subseteq Q$ .

To show: (a)  $Q \cap (P + L) \subseteq P + (Q \cap L)$ .

(b)  $P + (Q \cap L) \subseteq Q \cap (P + L)$

(a) Assume  $a \in Q \cap (P + L)$ .

Then  $a \in Q$  and there exist  $p \in P$  and  $l \in L$  such that  $a = p + l$ .

To show:  $a \in P + (Q \cap L)$ .

Since  $p \in P \subseteq Q$  and  $a \in Q$

then  $l = a - p \in Q$ .

So  $\ell \in Q \cap L$  and  $a = p + \ell \in P + (Q \cap L)$ .

So  $Q \cap (P + L) \subseteq P + (Q \cap L)$ .

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(b) To show:  $P + (Q \cap L) \subseteq Q \cap (P + L)$ .

Assume  $b \in P + (Q \cap L)$ .

To show:  $b \in Q \cap (P + L)$ .

Since  $b \in P + (Q \cap L)$  then there exist  $p \in P$  and  $\ell \in Q \cap L$  such that

$$b = p + \ell.$$

Since  $p \in P \subseteq Q$  and  $\ell \in Q$  then ~~the~~

$$b = p + \ell \in Q.$$

So  $b \in Q \cap (P + L)$ .

So  $P + (Q \cap L) \subseteq Q \cap (P + L)$ .

So if  $P \subseteq Q$  then  $P + (Q \cap L) \subseteq Q \cap (P + L)$ .  $\square$