

Math 446 - Homework # 6 Solutions

1. Do the following calculations in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

(a) $(2 + 10i) + (-3 + 15i)$

Solution: $-1 + 25i$

(b) $(-13 + i) - (2 - 3i)$

Solution: $-15 + 4i$

(c) $(1 + 3i)(2 - 10i)$

Solution: $2 - 10i + 6i - 30i^2 = 2 - 4i + 30 = 32 - 4i$

(d) $\frac{1+i}{i}$

Solution: $\frac{1+i}{i} \cdot \frac{-i}{-i} = \frac{-i-i^2}{-i^2} = \frac{1-i}{1} = 1-i$

(e) $\frac{2-3i}{1-2i}$

Solution: $\frac{2-3i}{1-2i} \cdot \frac{1+2i}{1+2i} = \frac{2+4i-3i-6i^2}{1+2i-2i-4i^2} = \frac{8+i}{5} = \frac{8}{5} + \frac{1}{5}i$

2. Calculate the norms of the following elements of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

(a) i

Solution: $N(i) = N(0 + 1 \cdot i) = 0^2 + 1^2 = 1$.

(b) $2 - i$

Solution: $N(2 - i) = N(2 - 1 \cdot i) = 2^2 + (-1)^2 = 5$.

(c) 15

Solution: $N(15) = N(15 + 0 \cdot i) = 15^2 + 0^2 = 225$.

(d) $15 + 102i$

Solution: $N(15 + 102i) = 15^2 + 102^2 = 225 + 10,404 = 10,629$.

3. List all the associates of $-1 + 2i$.

Solution:

$$-1 + 2i$$

$$-(-1 + 2i) = 1 - 2i$$

$$i \cdot (-1 + 2i) = -2 - i$$

$$(-i) \cdot (-1 + 2i) = 2 + i$$

4. List all the associates of 10.

Solution: 10, -10 , $10i$, $-10i$.

5. Carry out the division algorithm for z and w . That is, find q and r in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ with $z = wq + r$.

(a) $z = -8 - i$ and $w = 3 + 2i$

Solution: $z/w = \frac{-8 - i}{3 + 2i} \cdot \frac{3 - 2i}{3 - 2i} = \frac{-24 + 16i - 3i - 2}{9 + 4} = -2 + i$.

Hence, $q = -2 + i$ and $r = 0$ since w divides z .

(b) $z = 5 + i$ and $w = -1 - 2i$

Solution: $z/w = \frac{5 + i}{-1 - 2i} \cdot \frac{-1 + 2i}{-1 + 2i} = \frac{-5 + 10i - i + 2i^2}{1 + 4} =$

$\frac{-7 - 9}{5} + \frac{9}{5} \cdot i = -1.4 + 1.8i$. Let, $q = -1 + 2i$. Then $r = z - wq = 5 + i - (-1 - 2i)(-1 + 2i) = i$. Note that $N(r) = N(i) = 1 < 5 = N(w)$.

(c) $z = 33 + 5i$ and $w = 10 - 2i$

Solution: $z/w = \frac{33 + 5i}{10 - 2i} = \frac{40}{13} + \frac{29}{26} \cdot i \approx 3.08 + 1.12i$. Let,

$q = 3 + i$. Then $r = z - wq = 33 + 5i - (10 - 2i)(3 + i) = 1 + i$. Note that $N(r) = N(1 + i) = 1^2 + 1^2 = 2 < 104 = N(w)$.

6. Determine whether or not $2 + 3i$ divides $10 - 11i$ in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Solution: Yes, $\frac{10 - 11i}{2 + 3i} = -1 - 4i \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$.

7. Determine whether or not $3 - 2i$ divides $10 + i$ in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Solution: No, $\frac{10 + i}{3 - 2i} = \frac{28}{13} + \frac{23}{13} \cdot i \notin \mathbb{Z}[i]$.

8. Determine whether or not $2 + i$ is prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Find all the divisors of $2 + i$.

Solution: Since $N(2 + i) = 5$ and 5 is prime in \mathbb{Z} , by exercise 18, we know that $2 + i$ is prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Hence the only divisors of $2 + i$ are the units of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ and the associates of $2 + i$, which are 1, -1 , i , $-i$, $2 + i = (1)(2 + i)$, $-2 - i = (-1)(2 + i)$, $-1 + 2i = (i)(2 + i)$, and $1 - 2i = (-i)(2 + i)$.

9. Let w and v be Gaussian integers with $w \neq 0$ and $v \neq 0$. If w divides v and $N(w) = N(v)$, then w is an associate of v .

Solution: Since w divides v we have that $v = wz$ where z is a Gaussian integer. The associates of v are $1 \cdot v$, $(-1) \cdot v$, $i \cdot v$, and $(-i) \cdot v$. Thus our goal is to show that $w = uv$ where u is a unit. Applying the norm to the equation $v = wz$ we get that $N(v) = N(wz) = N(w)N(z)$. Since $w \neq 0$ we know that $N(w) \neq 0$. Dividing $N(v) = N(w)N(z)$ by $N(w)$, and using the fact that $N(v) = N(w)$ we get that $1 = N(z)$. Thus z is a unit. So $z = 1, -1, i$, or $-i$. Since $1^{-1} = 1$, $(-1)^{-1} = -1$, $i^{-1} = -i$, and $(-i)^{-1} = i$ we have that $z^{-1} = 1, -1, -i$, or i . Thus z^{-1} is a unit. Multiplying $v = wz$ by z^{-1} we get that $w = z^{-1}v$. Thus w is an associate of v .

10. Can there exist Gaussian integers z and w where $N(z)$ divides $N(w)$, but z does not divide w ? Try to find some cases that are non-trivial, ie where $1 < N(z) < N(w)$. [Hint: You might need to write a computer program.]

Solution: I used a Mathematica program to find these examples.

Let $z = 3 + i$ and $w = 4 + 2i$. Then $N(z) = 3^2 + 1^2 = 10$ and $N(w) = 4^2 + 2^2 = 20$. So $N(z) | N(w)$. However,

$$\frac{4 + 2i}{3 + i} = \frac{(4 + 2i)(3 - i)}{(3 + i)(3 - i)} = \frac{7}{5} + \frac{1}{5} \cdot i \notin \mathbb{Z}[i]$$

Therefore, z does not divide w .

Here's another example. Let $z = 1 + 2i$ and $w = -3 + i$. Then $N(z) = 1^2 + 2^2 = 5$ and $N(w) = (-3)^2 + 1^2 = 10$. So $N(z) | N(w)$. However,

$$\frac{-3 + i}{1 + 2i} = \frac{(-3 + i)(1 - 2i)}{(1 + 2i)(1 - 2i)} = \frac{-1}{5} + \frac{7}{5} \cdot i \notin \mathbb{Z}[i]$$

Therefore, z does not divide w .

What have we learned from this exercise? Suppose that we want to find the divisors of $w = -3 + i$ for example. We say, ok, if z divides w then $w = zv$ and so $10 = N(w) = N(z)N(v)$. So, $N(z)$ divides 10. So, $N(z)$ is either 1, 2, 5, or 10. Then we look for say elements of norm 5 and we find one. It is $z = 1 + 2i$. Then we say, ok, $z = 1 + 2i$ is a divisor

of w . This is wrong. When solving these norm equations, we only find *possible* divisors of w . We must actually check that we have a divisor by trying to divide it into w . The only exceptions to this rule are when you find the elements with $N(z) = 1$ and $N(z) = N(w) = 10$. These are the units, and by exercise 9, the associates of w . These never need to be checked because we know from class that they always divide w .

11. Determine whether or not 2 is prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Find all the divisors of 2.

Solution: Note that $N(2) = 4$. Suppose that $w \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ is a divisor of 2, then $2 = zw$ where $z \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Hence $4 = N(2) = N(zw) = N(z)N(w)$. Since $N(z)$ and $N(w)$ are positive integers, we see that $N(w)$ divides 4 in \mathbb{Z} . Hence $N(w)$ can be 1, 2, or 4.

We first deal with the trivial cases of $N(w)$ equal to 1 or 4. Then we do the $N(w)$ equal to 2 case.

Case 1: If $N(w) = 1$, then w is a unit, so w must be 1, -1 , i , or $-i$. All of these Gaussian integers divide 2 because every unit divides every Gaussian integer.

Case 2: Suppose that $N(w) = 4$. By Exercise 9, since $w|2$ and $N(w) = 4 = N(2)$, we must have that w is an associate of 2, that is w is one of 2, -2 , $2i$, and $-2i$. Each of these is a divisor of 2 since the associates of a Gaussian integer g always divide g .

Case 3: Suppose that $w = a + bi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. If $N(w) = 2$, then $a^2 + b^2 = 2$. The only solutions to this equation with a and b integers are $(a, b) = (\pm 1, \pm 1)$. This gives us the solutions $1 + i$, $-1 + i$, $1 - i$ and $-1 - i$. By exercise 10, we must be careful here and verify that these all actually divide 2. We do this below:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{1+i} &= 1-i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{2}{-1+i} &= -1-i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{2}{1-i} &= 1+i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{2}{-1-i} &= -1+i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \end{aligned}$$

Hence the divisors of 2 are 1, -1 , i , $-i$, $1 + i$, $-1 + i$, $1 - i$, $-1 - i$,

2, -2 , $2i$, and $-2i$. Since 2 has divisors other than its associates and units, we have that 2 is not prime.

12. Determine whether or not 13 is prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Find all the divisors of 13.

Solution: Note that $N(13) = 13^2 = 169$. Suppose that $w \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ is a divisor of 13, then $13 = zw$ where $z \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Hence $169 = N(13) = N(zw) = N(z)N(w)$. Since $N(z)$ and $N(w)$ are positive integers, we see that $N(w)$ divides 169 in \mathbb{Z} . Hence $N(w)$ can be 1, 13, or 169.

We first deal with the trivial cases of $N(w)$ equal to 1 or 169. Then we do the $N(w)$ equal to 13 case.

Case 1: If $N(w) = 1$, then w is a unit, so w must be 1, -1 , i , or $-i$. All of these Gaussian integers divide 13 because every unit divides every Gaussian integer.

Case 2: Suppose that $N(w) = 169$. By Exercise 9, since $w|13$ and $N(w) = 169 = N(13)$, we must have that w is an associate of 13, that is w is one of 13, -13 , $13i$, and $-13i$. Each of these is a divisor of 13 since the associates of a Gaussian integer g always divide g .

Case 3: Suppose that $w = a+bi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. If $N(w) = 13$, then $a^2+b^2 = 13$. The only solutions to this equation with a and b integers are $(a, b) = (\pm 2, \pm 3)$ and $(a, b) = (\pm 3, \pm 2)$. This gives us the solutions $2 + 3i$, $2 - 3i$, $-2 + 3i$, $-2 - 3i$, $3 + 2i$, $3 - 2i$, $-3 + 2i$, $-3 - 2i$. By exercise 10, we must be careful here and verify that these all actually divide 13.

We do this below:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{13}{2+3i} &= 2-3i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{2-3i} &= 2+3i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{-2+3i} &= -2-3i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{-2-3i} &= -2+3i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{3+2i} &= 3-2i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{3-2i} &= 3+2i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{-3+2i} &= -3-2i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ \frac{13}{-3-2i} &= -3+2i \in \mathbb{Z}[i]\end{aligned}$$

Hence the divisors of 13 are 1, -1 , i , $-i$, $2+3i$, $-2+3i$, $2-3i$, $-2-3i$, $3+2i$, $-3+2i$, $3-2i$, $-3-2i$, 13, -13 , $13i$, and $-13i$.

Since 13 has divisors other than its associates and units, we have that 13 is not prime.

13. Let z be a Gaussian integer. Suppose that z is not prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Suppose further that $z \neq 0$ and z is not a unit. Then there exist Gaussian integers w and v where

- (a) $z = wv$
- (b) w is not a unit and w is not an associate of z
- (c) v is not a unit and v is not an associate of z

That is, z factors non-trivially.

Solution: Suppose that z is not prime and $z \neq 0$ and z is not a unit. Since z is not prime and not a unit, there exists a Gaussian integer w that divides z , where w is not a unit and w is not an associate of z . Therefore, $z = wv$ where v is a Gaussian integer. The only thing left to show is that v is not a unit and not an associate of z .

Suppose v is a unit. Then $N(v) = 1$. So $N(z) = N(wv) = N(w)N(v) = N(w) \cdot 1 = N(w)$. Thus w divides z and $N(w) = N(z)$. By exercise 9, this implies that w is an associate of z , which can't happen.

Suppose that v is an associate of z . Then $v = uz$ where u is a unit. This implies that $N(v) = N(uz) = N(u)N(z) = 1 \cdot N(z) = N(z)$. Combining this with $N(z) = N(w)N(v)$ gives $N(v) = N(z) = N(w)N(v)$. Cancelling off the $N(v)$ term gives $N(w) = 1$. This implies that w is a unit, which can't happen.

Hence v is not a unit, and v is not an associate of z .

14. Let p be an odd prime in \mathbb{Z} with $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Prove that p is not prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Solution: Since $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, we know from class that there exist integers a and b with $p = a^2 + b^2$. Thus $p = (a + bi)(a - bi) = wz$ where $w = a + bi$ and $z = a - bi$. Let's show that w is not a unit and is not an associate of p .

Note that a is non-zero, since if it was, then $p = b^2$. This can't happen since p is prime. Similarly, b is non-zero. Hence $N(w) = N(a + bi) = a^2 + b^2 \geq 1 + 1 = 2$. So w is not a unit. Similarly, $N(z) = N(a - bi) = a^2 + (-b)^2 \geq 1 + 1 = 2$. So z is not a unit.

Let's now rule out the case that w is an associate of p . Suppose w is an associate of p . Then $w = up$ where u is a unit. Thus, $N(w) = N(u)N(p) = 1 \cdot p^2 = p^2$. We also know from the equation $p = wz$ that $p^2 = N(p) = N(w)N(z)$. Thus, $N(w) = p^2 = N(w)N(z)$. So $1 = N(z)$ and hence z is a unit. But this is contrary to what we know from above. Hence w is not an associate of p .

Therefore, we have shown that p has a divisor w that is not a unit and not an associate of p . Hence p is not prime in the Gaussian integers.

15. Let p be an odd prime in \mathbb{Z} with $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Prove that p is prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Solution: Suppose that p is not prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. By exercise 13, there exist Gaussian integers w and z where $p = wz$, z is not a unit, z is not an associate of p , w is not a unit, and w is not an associate of p .

Since w and z are not units, $N(w) \neq 1$ and $N(z) \neq 1$. Since w and z are divisors of p and they are not associates of p , by exercise 9, we

must have that $N(w) \neq p^2$ and $N(z) \neq p^2$.

Since $p = wz$ we have that $p^2 = N(p) = N(wz) = N(w)N(z)$. Since p is prime in \mathbb{Z} , the only divisors of p^2 are 1, p , and p^2 . Hence $N(w)$ and $N(z)$ must be either 1, p , or p^2 . From the arguments above we see that we must have that $N(w) = N(z) = p$. Let $w = a + bi$ where $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $p = N(w) = a^2 + b^2$. However from class, we know that a prime that is congruent to 3 modulo 4 cannot be the sum of two squares (we showed that the equation $\bar{3} = \bar{p} = \bar{a}^2 + \bar{b}^2$ has no solutions in \mathbb{Z}_4). Hence we have a contradiction. Thus p must be prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

16. Let $z, w \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Prove that w divides z if and only if \bar{w} divides \bar{z} .

Solution: Suppose that w divides z . Then there exists an element $q \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ such that $wq = z$. Hence $\overline{wq} = \bar{z}$. Thus, $\bar{w} \cdot \bar{q} = \bar{z}$. Hence \bar{w} divides \bar{z} .

Conversely, suppose that \bar{w} divides \bar{z} . Then there exists an element $q \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ such that $\bar{w} \cdot q = \bar{z}$. Hence $\overline{\bar{w} \cdot q} = \bar{\bar{z}}$. Thus, $\overline{\bar{w}} \cdot \bar{q} = \bar{\bar{z}}$. So, $w \cdot \bar{q} = z$. Therefore w divides z .

17. (a) $N(v) = N(\bar{v})$ for all Gaussian integers v .

Solution: Suppose that $v = a + bi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Then

$$N(v) = N(a + bi) = a^2 + b^2 = a^2 + (-b)^2 = N(a - bi) = N(\bar{v}).$$

- (b) For any Gaussian integer u we have the following: u is a unit iff \bar{u} is a unit.

Solution: We use exercise (17a). We have that u is a unit if and only if $N(u) = 1$ if and only if $N(\bar{u}) = 1$ if and only if \bar{u} is a unit.

- (c) Let $z \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Prove that z is prime if and only if \bar{z} is prime.

Solution: We will prove the contrapositive: z is not prime if and only if \bar{z} not is prime.

Note that we only have to prove one direction of this exercise. Suppose that we prove the statement “Let w be a Gaussian integer. If w is not prime, then \bar{w} is not prime.” Plugging in $w = z$ gives one direction: If z is not prime, then \bar{z} not is prime. Plugging in $w = \bar{z}$ and using the fact that $\overline{\bar{z}} = z$ we get the other direction: If \bar{z} is not prime then if z not is prime.

We now prove: If w is not prime, then \bar{w} is not prime.

Suppose that w is not prime in the Gaussian integers. Then by negating the definition of prime, there exists a Gaussian integer α that divides w such that (i) α is not a unit and (ii) α is not an associate of w . Since α is a divisor of w , we have that $w = \alpha\beta$ where β is a Gaussian integer. Conjugating this equation we get that $\bar{w} = \bar{\alpha}\bar{\beta}$. Therefore, $\bar{\alpha}$ is a divisor of \bar{w} . If we now show that $\bar{\alpha}$ is not a unit and not an associate of \bar{w} then we have shown that \bar{w} is not a prime in the Gaussian integers.

Let us first show that $\bar{\alpha}$ is not a unit. If $\bar{\alpha}$ was a unit, by exercise 17b we would have that α was a unit. But from above we know that α is not a unit. Therefore, $\bar{\alpha}$ is not a unit.

We now show that $\bar{\alpha}$ is not an associate of \bar{w} . Suppose that $\bar{\alpha}$ was an associate of \bar{w} . Then $\bar{\alpha} = u\bar{w}$ where u is a unit of the Gaussian integers. Conjugating this equation we get that $\alpha = \bar{u}w$. By exercise 17b we have that \bar{u} is a unit. Thus from $\alpha = \bar{u}w$ we get that α is an associate of w . But above we had that α was not an associate of w . Therefore, we must have that $\bar{\alpha}$ is not an associate of \bar{w} .

18. Let $z \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Prove that if $N(z)$ is a prime in \mathbb{Z} , then z is prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Solution: We prove the contrapositive: If z is not prime, then $N(z)$ is not prime.

Suppose that z is not prime in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. If $z = 0$, then $N(0) = 0$ which is not prime in \mathbb{Z} . If z is a unit, then $N(z) = 1$ which is not prime in \mathbb{Z} .

Henceforth, we assume that $z \neq 0$ and z is not a unit. This implies that $N(z)$ is an integer and $N(z) \geq 1$.

By exercise 13, there exists $w, x \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ such that $z = wx$, where w is not a unit, w is not an associate of z , where x is not a unit, and x is not an associate of z .

Since w and x are not units, $N(w) \neq 1$ and $N(x) \neq 1$. Since w and x are divisors of z and they are not associates of z , by exercise 9, we must have that $N(w) \neq N(z)$ and $N(x) \neq N(z)$.

Since $z = wx$, we have that $N(z) = N(wx) = N(w)N(x)$. Thus $N(w)$ and $N(x)$ are divisors of $N(z)$ in \mathbb{Z} . From above, we have that $1 < N(w) < N(z)$ and $1 < N(x) < N(z)$. Therefore, we have factored $N(z) = N(w)N(x)$ non-trivially, and hence $N(z)$ is not a prime in \mathbb{Z} .

19. Let $w, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$. Prove that if w is a unit and z divides wy , then z divides y .

Solution: Suppose that w is a unit and z divides wy . This implies that there exists an element $k \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ with $wy = zk$. Since w is a unit, we know that w^{-1} is in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Thus $w^{-1}(wy) = w^{-1}(zk)$. So $y = z(w^{-1}k)$. Since $w^{-1}k \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ we know that z divides y .