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## The ring of integers and C\*-algebras.

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Among the most basic structures in mathematics are the sets of natural numbers and of integers with their operations of addition and multiplication. These structures give rise, in a completely natural way, to C-algebras with intriguing properties. The study of these C-algebras and in particular of their K-theoretical invariants reveals close connections with algebraic number theory. These connections can be extended, from the usual ring of integers to rings of algebraic integers in number fields.

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