



divisor as factor of principal divisor

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Let an integral domain  $\mathcal{O}$  have a divisor theory  $\mathcal{O}^* \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}$ . The <http://planetmath.org/Divisor> of divisor theory implies that for any divisor  $\mathfrak{a}$ , there exists an element  $\omega$  of  $\mathcal{O}$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}$  divides the principal divisor  $(\omega)$ , i.e. that  $\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{c} = (\omega)$  with  $\mathfrak{c}$  a divisor. The following theorem states that  $\mathfrak{c}$  may always be chosen such that it is coprime with any beforehand given divisor.

**Theorem.** For any two divisors  $\mathfrak{a}$  and  $\mathfrak{b}$ , there is a principal divisor  $(\omega)$  such that

$$\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{c} = (\omega)$$

and

$$\gcd(\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{c}) = (1).$$

*Proof.* Let  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_s$  all distinct prime divisors, which divide the product  $\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}$ , and let the divisor  $\mathfrak{a}$  be <http://planetmath.org/ExactlyDivides> exactly divisible by the powers  $\mathfrak{p}_1^{a_1}, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_s^{a_s}$  (the cases  $a_i = 0$  are not excluded). For each  $i = 1, \dots, s$ , we choose a nonzero element  $\alpha_i$  of  $\mathcal{O}$  being exactly divisible by the power  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i}$ ; the choosing is possible, since any nonzero element of the ideal determined by the divisor  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i}$ , not belonging to the sub-ideal determined by the divisor  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i+1}$ , will do. According to the <http://planetmath.org/ChineseRemainderTheorem> remainder theorem, there exists a nonzero element  $\omega$  of the ring  $\mathcal{O}$  such that

$$\omega \equiv \alpha_i \pmod{\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i+1}} \quad (i = 1, \dots, s). \quad (1)$$

Because  $\alpha_i$  is divisible by  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i}$ , the element  $\omega$  is divisible by  $\mathfrak{p}_1^{a_1} \cdots \mathfrak{p}_s^{a_s} = \mathfrak{a}$ , i.e.  $(\omega) = \mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{c}$ . If one of the divisors  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  would divide  $\mathfrak{c}$ , then  $(\omega)$  would be divisible by  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i+1}$  and thus by (1), also  $\alpha_i$  were divisible by  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i+1}$ . Therefore, no one of the prime divisors  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_s$  divides  $\mathfrak{c}$ . On the other hand, every prime divisor dividing the divisor  $\mathfrak{b}$  divides  $\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}$  and thus is one of  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_s$ . Accordingly, the divisors  $\mathfrak{b}$  and  $\mathfrak{c}$  have no common prime divisor, i.e.  $\gcd(\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{c}) = (1)$ .

## References

- [1] М. М. Постников: *Введение в теорию алгебраических чисел*. Издательство “Наука”. Москва (1982).