



**planetmath.org**

Math for the people, by the people.

**examples of semiprimitive rings**

Canonical name	ExamplesOfSemiprimitiveRings
Date of creation	2013-03-22 12:50:39
Last modified on	2013-03-22 12:50:39
Owner	yark (2760)
Last modified by	yark (2760)
Numerical id	12
Author	yark (2760)
Entry type	Example
Classification	msc 16N20

## Examples of semiprimitive rings:

### The integers $\mathbb{Z}$ :

Since  $\mathbb{Z}$  is commutative, any left ideal is two-sided. So the maximal left ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are the maximal ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , which are the ideals  $p\mathbb{Z}$  for  $p$  prime. So  $J(\mathbb{Z}) = \bigcap_p p\mathbb{Z} = (0)$ , as there are infinitely many primes.

### A matrix ring $M_n(D)$ over a division ring $D$ :

The ring  $M_n(D)$  is simple, so the only proper ideal is  $(0)$ . Thus  $J(M_n(D)) = (0)$ .

### A polynomial ring $R[x]$ over an integral domain $R$ :

Take  $a \in J(R[x])$  with  $a \neq 0$ . Then  $ax \in J(R[x])$ , since  $J(R[x])$  is an ideal, and  $\deg(ax) \geq 1$ . By one of the alternate characterizations of the Jacobson radical,  $1 - ax$  is a unit. But  $\deg(1 - ax) = \max\{\deg(1), \deg(ax)\} \geq 1$ . So  $1 - ax$  is not a unit, and by this contradiction we see that  $J(R[x]) = (0)$ .