



planetmath.org

Math for the people, by the people.

well-definedness of product of finitely  
generated ideals

Canonical name	WelldefinednessOfProductOfFinitelyGeneratedIdeals
Date of creation	2013-03-22 19:12:56
Last modified on	2013-03-22 19:12:56
Owner	pahio (2872)
Last modified by	pahio (2872)
Numerical id	6
Author	pahio (2872)
Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 16D25
Related topic	WellDefined
Related topic	ProductOfIdeals
Related topic	ProductOfFinitelyGeneratedIdeals

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with nonzero unity. If

$$\mathfrak{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_m) = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\mu) \quad (1)$$

and

$$\mathfrak{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n) = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_\nu) \quad (2)$$

are two finitely generated ideals of  $R$ , both with two , then the ideals

$$\mathfrak{c} := (a_1b_1, \dots, a_ib_j, \dots, a_mb_n)$$

and

$$\mathfrak{d} := (\alpha_1\beta_1, \dots, \alpha_i\beta_j, \dots, \alpha_\mu\beta_\nu)$$

are equal.

*Proof.* By (1) and (2), for every  $i, j$ , there are elements  $r_{ik}, s_{jl}$  of  $R$  such that

$$a_i = r_{i1}\alpha_1 + \dots + r_{i\mu}\alpha_\mu, \quad b_j = s_{j1}\beta_1 + \dots + s_{j\nu}\beta_\nu. \quad (3)$$

Multiplying the equations (3) we see that

$$a_ib_j = (r_{i1}s_{j1})(\alpha_1\beta_1) + (r_{i2}s_{j1})(\alpha_2\beta_1) + \dots + (r_{i\mu}s_{j\nu})(\alpha_\mu\beta_\nu),$$

whence the generators  $a_ib_j$  of  $\mathfrak{c}$  belong to  $\mathfrak{d}$  and consequently  $\mathfrak{c} \subseteq \mathfrak{d}$ . The reverse containment is seen similarly.