MAT473 Homework 3

Throughout we assume that R is a commutative ring with identity  $1 \neq 0$ .

1. Recall that  $S^{-1}R$  is defined to be the set of equivalence classes in  $R \times S$  with the equivalence relation  $(r,s) \sim (r',s')$  if there exists an element  $t \in S$  such that t(rs'-r's)=0. Prove that the multiplication  $(r_1,s_1)\cdot (r_2,s_2)=(r_1r_2,s_1s_2)$  is a well-defined operation on  $S^{-1}R$ . Let  $(r,s) \sim (r',s')$  and choose t so that t(rs'-r's)=0. Then we compute:

$$(r,s)(a,b) = (ra,sb)$$
  
 $(r',s')(a,b) = (r'a,s'b).$ 

I claim that  $(r'a, s'b) \sim (ra, sb)$ . Indeed,  $t(r'asb - ras'b) = t(r's - rs')ab = 0 \cdot ab = 0$ . So multiplication is well-defined on  $S^{-1}R$ .

2. Define  $\Phi$  to be the function which takes a subset of R to a subset of  $S^{-1}R$  in the following way:

$$\Phi(I) = \{ (x, s) \mid x \in I, s \in S \}.$$

- Prove that if I is an ideal in R, then  $\Phi(I)$  is an ideal in  $S^{-1}R$ . Suppose that I is an ideal in R. Let  $(x,s), (y,s') \in \Phi(I)$  and  $(r,s'') \in S^{-1}R$ . By definition,  $x,y \in I$ . Then (x,s) + (r,s'')(y,s') = (xs' + sry, ss's'') is in  $\Phi(I)$  since  $xs' \in I$  and  $sry \in I$ . Also  $(0,1) \in \Phi(I)$  since  $0 \in I$ .
- Prove that if P is a prime ideal that does not intersect S, and S has no zero divisors, then  $\Phi(I)$  is a prime ideal in  $S^{-1}R$ . Suppose that P is a prime ideal not intersecting S and that S has no zero divisors. Suppose that  $(x,s)(y,s') \in \Phi(I)$ . Then  $(xy,ss') \in \Phi(I)$ , i.e., there is an element  $r \in I$  such that  $(xy,ss') \sim (r,s'')$  for some s''. This implies there exists a  $t \in S$  such that t(xys''-rss')=0. Since S has no zero-divisors,  $xys''=rss' \in I$  since  $r \in I$ . Since  $s'' \notin I$ , this implies  $xy \in I$ , so either  $x \in I$  or  $y \in I$ .
- 3. Suppose that  $S \subset R$  is a multiplicative set in R. Prove that the homomorphism  $\phi: R \to S^{-1}R$  is injective if and only if S contains no zero-divisors. Suppose that  $\phi$  is injective and that  $s \in S$  such that rs = 0 for some  $r \in R$ .

$$(0,1) = \phi(0)$$
$$= \phi(rs)$$
$$= (rs, 1).$$

Since  $s \in S$ , there is an element (1, s) in  $S^{-1}R$  with the property that (1, s)(s, 1) = (s, s) = (1, 1) (the latter equality due to the fact that t(s - s) = 0 for any t we choose). Multiplying both sides of the equation by this element yields

$$(0,1)(1,s) = (r,1)(s,1)(1,2)$$
$$(0,s) = (r,1).$$

Hence,  $\phi(r)=0$ , which implies r=0. Thus, s is not a zero-divisor. Next, suppose that S has a zero divisor t such that tr=0 for some non-zero  $r\in R$ . Then I claim that (r,1)=(0,1) in  $S^{-1}R$ . Indeed,  $t(r\cdot 1-0\cdot 1)=tr=0$ . So  $\phi(r)=(r,1)=0$ . Hence,  $\phi$  is not injective.

Name:

MAT473 Homework 3

4. Let p be a prime integer, and consider the ring  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $S = \mathbb{Z} \setminus p\mathbb{Z}$ . The ring  $S^{-1}R$  is called the localization of  $\mathbb{Z}$  at p. Find all of the ideals of this ring, and describe the maximal ideal (there is only one). We proved in class that  $\Phi$  from problem 2 is a bijection between ideals in R not intersecting S and ideals in  $S^{-1}R$ . Let  $n\mathbb{Z}$  be an ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n\mathbb{Z} \cap S = \emptyset$ . Then

$$n\mathbb{Z} \cap (\mathbb{Z} \setminus p\mathbb{Z}) = \emptyset$$

$$\Rightarrow n\mathbb{Z} \setminus n\mathbb{Z} \cap p\mathbb{Z} = \emptyset$$

$$\Rightarrow n\mathbb{Z} \setminus np\mathbb{Z} = \emptyset$$

$$\Rightarrow n = kp\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

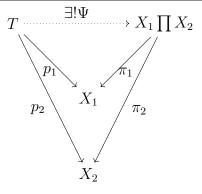
So the ideals in  $S^{-1}R$  are the ideals generated by a multiple of p. These are all contained in  $p\mathbb{Z}$ , so this is the unique maximal ideal.

- 5. This problem is to help us look ahead. Let  $\varphi(n)$  denote the number of units in  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . (From previous homework, we know this is the same as computing the number of integers  $1 \leq k < n$  that are relatively prime to n.)
  - (a) Compute  $\varphi(p^k)$  when p is prime and k is a non-negative integer. Write the element  $m \in \mathbb{Z}/p^k\mathbb{Z}$  as  $\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} a_i p^i$  where  $a_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$ . Then m is a unit if and only if  $a_0 \neq 0$ . This yields  $(p-1)p^{k-1}$  elements.
  - (b) Compute  $\varphi(n)$  for  $n \in \{6, 10, 12, 18, 24, 36\}$  and make a conjecture about the relationship between  $\varphi(n)$  and the prime power decomposition of n. Good guess:  $\varphi(n) = \prod_i \varphi(p_i^{k_i})$  when  $n = \prod_i p_i^{k_i}$ .

Here I'll recall the universal property that defines a product, and introduce a new one that defines the coproduct.

**Definition:** Let  $X_1, X_2$  be objects in a category  $\mathcal{C}$ . Define  $X_1 \prod X_2$  to be the object with the following universal property: There are morphisms  $\pi_i: X_1 \prod X_2 \to X_i$  such that if there is any other object T with morphisms  $\varphi_i: T \to X_i$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , then there is a unique morphism  $\Psi: T \to X_1 \times \prod X_2$  such that  $\pi_i \circ \Psi = \varphi_i$ .

This is conveniently captured in the diagram to the right, and is read to mean that you start with the object  $X_1 \prod X_2$  and its morphisms to  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  set in stone. Any time there is an object T with morphisms as in the diagram, there is a morphism  $\Psi$  that can fill in that dotted arrow so that the diagram commutes, meaning any two ways to get to the same place produce the same morphism.



6. Prove that if  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are rings, then the product ring  $\{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in R_1, r_2 \in R_2\}$  is actually the object  $R_1 \prod R_2$ . I.e., verify that it satisfies the universal

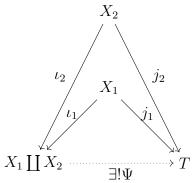
Name:

MAT473 Homework 3

property. Clearly we have maps  $f_i: R_1 \times R_2 \to R_i$  given by  $f_i(r_1, r_2) = r_i$ . Now suppose that T is a ring with homomorphisms  $p_i: T \to R_i$ . Then define  $\Phi: T \to R_1 \times R_2$  via  $\Phi(t) = (p_1(t), p_2(t))$ . We verify:  $\pi_i(\Phi(t)) = p_i(t)$ , so the diagram commutes. Furthermore, if  $f(t) = (f_1(t), f_2(t))$ , then  $\pi_i(f(t)) = f_i(t)$ , so in order for the commutativity to hold,  $f_i(t) = p_i(t)$ . Hence,  $\Phi = f$ , so  $\Phi$  is the unique morphism making the commutativity hold.

7. Consider now the category  $\mathcal{C}$  whose objects are positive integers and so that  $\operatorname{Mor}_{\mathcal{C}}(n,m) = \begin{cases} \{m/n\} & \text{if } n \mid m \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ . Given two integers n,m, compute  $m \prod n$  in this context (i.e., what integer has the desired universal property).

If you really like the last problem, awesome. You can try your hand at a new one. This is just for the superfans. Try to write what you think the universal property of the coproduct should be given just the diagram:



Then, compute  $m \coprod n$  for objects m, n in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Suppose that  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . I claim that  $m \coprod n = \gcd(m, n)$ . First, since  $\gcd(m, n) \mid m$  and  $\gcd(m, n) \mid n$ , we have morphisms  $\pi_m : \gcd(m, n) \to m$  and  $\pi_n : \gcd(m, n) \to n$  (encoded as  $m/\gcd(m, n)$ ) and  $n/\gcd(m, n)$ ). Now suppose that there is an integer t and morphisms  $p_m : t \to m$  and  $p_n : t \to n$ . By definition, then,  $t \mid m$  and  $t \mid n$  (and they are encoded as m/t and n/t). If this is the case, then  $t \mid \gcd(m, n)$ , so there is a morphism  $\Phi : t \to \gcd(m, n)$  (encoded as  $\gcd(m, n)/t$ ). Note that  $\pi_m \circ \Phi$  is encoded as  $(m/\gcd(m, n))(\gcd(m, n)/t) = m/t$  and similarly for n. Thus,  $\pi_\star \Phi = p_\star$ , and since the morphism sets here are singletons,  $\Phi$  is unique.

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